

MBA NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Oct. 6, 2009

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Boston and Lenox attorneys appointed co-chairs of Massachusetts Bar Association's Family Law Section

Boston attorney Thomas J. Barbar and Lenox attorney Veronica J. Fenton have been appointed by Massachusetts Bar Association President Valerie A. Yarashus to serve a second term as co-chairs of the association's Family Law Section, for the 2009-10 year. This year's appointments began Sept. 1.

The MBA's Family Law Section is designed to improve the Probate and Family Court's accessibility and efficiency for the benefit of lawyers, judges, staff and the public by keeping its members current with educational seminars, updates on legislative activity and bench/bar networking opportunities.

Barbar, a resident of Boston's South End, is a principal with the family law department at Deutsch Williams, Brooks, DeRensis & Holland PC in Boston, where his practice concentrates on probate and domestic relations. Previously, Barbar was a solo practitioner in West Roxbury. He has testified at the Statehouse on behalf of the MBA regarding family law bills, as well as been a panel participant and chair for probate and family law issues for the Boston Bar Association and the MBA. Barbar is also serving on the MBA's 2009-10 Budget and Finance Committee.

Fenton is a solo practitioner in her hometown of Lenox. Her practice concentrates on family law including divorce, custody, modification, paternity and adoption. An active member of the Family Law Section for nearly a decade, she is serving her seventh year on the association's Executive Management Board. Fenton is also serving her third year on the Joint Alimony Task Force of the MBA and BBA. She has also been on the faculty for MBA education programs and the planning committee for the MBA's Family Law Conference. Previously, Fenton was a law clerk for Judge Charles J. Bowser Jr. in the Probate and Family Court, was an associate at the Boston office of Bingham McCutchen LLP and legal counsel for the Department of Social Services.

The MBA's 17 sections and Young Lawyers Division provide lawyers with up-to-date information on specific areas of law, monitor law-related legislation, sponsor professional education programs and provide information on the law for the general public.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.