

# MBA NEWS

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## **Boston attorneys appointed co-chairs of Massachusetts Bar Association's Taxation Law Section**

Boston attorneys Thomas G. Collins and Lisa Rico have been appointed by Massachusetts Bar Association President Valerie A. Yarashus as co-chairs of the association's Taxation Law Section, for the 2009-10 year. Their terms began Sept. 1.

The MBA's Taxation Law Section has been a driving force behind estate tax reform in Massachusetts. It acts as a forum for members to foster important ties with the government, Internal Revenue Service, and the Department of Revenue while suggesting legislation, providing services to the section and the bar and acting as the liaison between the section's membership and the MBA House of Delegates.

A resident of Needham, Collins is a partner at McCarter & English, LLP in Boston, where he focuses on tax-exempt financing and business tax planning. Collins co-authored the chapter on "Tax-Exempt Bonds" in Commerce Clearing House's Federal Tax Service, and is a frequent lecturer. An American Bar Association member, Collins has served as the chair of the Committee on Low-Income Taxpayers of the ABA's Section of Taxation, as vice chair of the Public Construction Financing Committee of the ABA's Section of Public Contract Law and as a member of the ABA's Commission on Homelessness and Poverty. Collins is also a member of the National Association of Bond Lawyers.

Rico, an Ashland resident, is a partner in McCarter & English's Private Clients Group and a member of the firm's Public Finance Group, focusing on estate planning probate and tax law. She also provides tax advice to partnerships and other pass through entities. She has authored numerous materials on estate planning issues. Rico is co-vice chair of the Estate Planning and Administration for Business Owners, Farmers and Ranchers Committee of the ABA's Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Section and was previously on both the ABA Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Section's Income and Transfer Tax Planning Group's Task Force as well as its Business Planning Group's Task Force.

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.*