

Federal Circuit Bar Association  
BENCH & BAR®



## *2020 Annual Dinner*

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*A Virtual Tribute to Former FCBA Executive Director Jim Brookshire  
on the Occasion of His Retirement, and a Celebration of the  
35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Federal Circuit Bar Association®*

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**November 20, 2020 | 4:30 – 5:30 PM ET**

# 2020 Annual Dinner Program



## **INTRODUCTION**

### **WELCOME REMARKS & INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESENTATION OF COLORS**

Deborah M. Miron, Executive Director, Federal Circuit Bar Association®

### **WELCOME REMARKS FROM THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT**

Sonal Mehta, President, Federal Circuit Bar Association®

### **WELCOME REMARKS FROM THE COURT**

The Honorable Sharon Prost, Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

### **FEATURED SPEAKER**

Nina Totenberg, Legal Affairs Correspondent, NPR

### **VIDEO TRIBUTES TO JAMES E. BROOKSHIRE**

Deborah M. Miron, Executive Director, Federal Circuit Bar Association®

### **LIVE TRIBUTES TO JAMES E. BROOKSHIRE**

The Honorable Sharon Prost, Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit  
The Honorable Timothy B. Dyk, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

### **COURT GIFT PRESENTATION**

Peter R. Marksteiner, Circuit Executive and Clerk of Court for the Federal Circuit

### **ASSOCIATION & FCBA STAFF GIFT PRESENTATION**

Deborah M. Miron, Executive Director, Federal Circuit Bar Association®

### **ACCEPTANCE SPEECH**

James E. Brookshire, Esq., Retired

### **FEDERAL CIRCUIT BAR ASSOCIATION® 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE**

Deborah M. Miron, Executive Director, Federal Circuit Bar Association®

### **HUTCHINSON WRITING CONTEST AWARD PRESENTATION**

Allen Sokal, Partner, Insigne LLP

**2020 Hutchinson Writing Contest Awardee:** Boyang Zhang, University of Texas School of Law

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Sonal Mehta, President, Federal Circuit Bar Association®

## **FCBA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Letter from the President**

### **Sonal Mehta, President, Federal Circuit Bar Association®**

In 1985, a group of private and public practitioners dedicated to the legal community of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit set out to create a Bar Association that would pursue the higher interests of both Bench and Bar in the administration of justice. In the 35 years since its inception, the commitment from the Court and from our membership have allowed the Federal Circuit Bar Association® to grow into a forum for national and international dialogue of immense interest and importance; for robust scholarship, educational programming, and thought-leadership across industries; and for critical charitable, pro bono, and public service contributions.

Even with their vision for the organization, our founders surely could not have foreseen that, under the leadership of its first two Executive Directors George Hutchinson and Jim Brookshire and the association's talented staff, the Federal Circuit Bar Association® would evolve to have a truly global impact while also serving as a force for good at a very personal level for pro bono clients, scholarship recipients, and individual members that participate in the organization's many committees and programs. Nor could they have foreseen the unique challenges facing the Federal Circuit Bar Association® and all of us in this 35<sup>th</sup> year. Yet I know they would be, as I am, deeply comforted to know that the organization is guided through these troubling times by our new Executive Director Deborah Miron. Deborah brings with her not only tremendous experience from her time as former Chief Administrative Judge and Director of Regional Operations for the Merit Systems Protection Board, Deputy Assistant General Counsel for the Navy, and past President of our own organization, but a calm and confident voice of leadership through uncertainty.

In the months ahead, Deborah, the association staff, the Board of Directors, and our committee leadership will be working together to continue the many traditions we have developed over the years — including continuing with our active calendar of programs, our pro bono, policy, and amicus initiatives, and our celebrations of community — all at a distance. And, this year, we are pleased that you have joined us for this special event to commemorate Jim's long and distinguished tenure with the organization, Deborah's new position, and the organization's special anniversary.

I look forward to the day that we can all get together in person to celebrate these milestones. In the interim, I ask that you all join me in looking back on the last 35 years with pride and gratitude for all that our community has contributed, and in looking ahead to the next 35 years (and beyond) of our continued commitment to the Court and our community.

# James E. Brookshire Biography

James E. Brookshire continues a career engaging complex policy and judicial challenges, advancing the rule of law and its institutions nationally and globally, encouraging civil discourse, and fostering high level dialogue.

Until recently, Mr. Brookshire served as the Executive Director of the Federal Circuit Bar Association® in its extraordinary and on-going mission to serve all sectors of the Circuit community. Opportunities there included working alongside the most skilled private and corporate practitioners and the finest judicial officers across the Nation and around the world — all committed to excellence in the legal system and the profession. Earlier, at the United States Department of Justice, he worked with federal agencies and the Executive Office of the President, argued (including en banc arguments) before the United States Court of Claims, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the United States Court of Federal Claims, and participated in briefings with the Solicitor General before the United States Supreme Court. His negotiation and mediation efforts worked to forge consensus on complex matters among all three branches of the United States Government and other stakeholders, facilitating enactment of over 15 pieces of national legislation. He has been honored to sit as ex officio on the Advisory Council of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Mr. Brookshire has served on boards and as president in both bar and charitable and educational outreaches. Serving as president of the historic Rotary Club of Washington D.C. left him with the firm commitment to “service above self.” That philosophy rests at the heart of Rotary and has guided Mr. Brookshire in other interests and at Forum LLC, his current outreach.

Peggy Anne Brookshire graces Jim’s life as his wife of nearly five decades. She is his best friend and full partner; and, her strength and insight anchor their life and family. Their adult children, Jonathan David Brookshire and Mary Elizabeth Brookshire Hilton, are now themselves making extraordinary contributions to innovation and education, along with their spouses, Sareena Dalla Brookshire and Brian Hilton, respectively. To this remarkable family are now added four wonderful grandchildren, Katherine, William, Abigail, and Henry.

## James E. Brookshire Endowment



### Federal Circuit Bar Association BENCH & BAR®

In honor of James E. Brookshire upon his retirement as its longest serving full time Executive Director (2003-2020), the Federal Circuit Bar Association® Charitable and Educational Fund announces an endowment to promote respect for the rule of law, high level thought, and civil discourse among members of the bench and bar on complex legal and policy matters affecting the Federal Circuit community.

The James E. Brookshire Endowment is housed within the Association's Charitable and Educational Fund. The Fund is an IRS recognized 501(c)3 not for profit organization. If you are remitting by check, please issue it to: Federal Circuit Bar Association® Charitable and Educational Fund. Thank you.

To make a donation to the James E. Brookshire Endowment, please go to <https://fedcirbar.org/About-FCBA/Endowment>.

# 2020 Annual Dinner Sponsors



*The Federal Circuit Bar Association® expresses its appreciation to the following sponsors for their generous support of this program:*

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Federal Circuit Bar Association  
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*Thank you for virtually attending the  
2020 Annual Dinner! We look forward  
to seeing you in person in the future!*

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