



# THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION

## Northern District of Ohio Chapter

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### Federal Bar Association Chapter Wins National Honors

CLEVELAND, OHIO – For the second consecutive year, the Northern District of Ohio Chapter of the Federal Bar Association received two national awards: the “2012 Chapter Activity Presidential Excellence Award,” the top honor given by the national association to local chapters; and the “2012 Meritorious Newsletter Award.”

The Presidential Excellence Award recognizes the Chapter for its “superior chapter activities in the areas of administration, membership outreach and programming.” The award is based on a number of criteria including attraction and retention of members, quality of and participation in chapter events, involvement of federal judges in chapter activities, activities for young lawyers, and opportunities for continuing legal education. The Chapter enjoys participation by several federal judges, lawyers in private practice, staff from the U.S. Attorney’s Office and the Federal Public Defender’s Office

The Meritorious Newsletter Award recognizes the Chapter’s *Inter Alia* quarterly newsletter, which has been consistently recognized by FBA over the past six years. *Inter Alia* received the “Meritorious” award in 2011, 2008 and 2006, and was named “Outstanding Newsletter” in 2010, 2009 and 2007. The newsletter is distributed throughout the year to more than 10,000 lawyers admitted to practice in the federal courts of the Northern District of Ohio.

Immediate Past President Diana Thimmig accepted the awards on behalf of the Chapter at the FBA Annual Meeting in San Diego. “The Northern District of Ohio Chapter is fortunate to have so many dedicated attorneys and judges who work

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diligently to provide outstanding opportunities for our members,” Thimmig said. “We are proud to be identified as one of the best chapters in the country.”

Membership in the Northern District – Ohio Chapter has continued to grow steadily, thanks in part to strong participation by students at area law schools, whose membership dues are underwritten by Stout Risius Ross, Inc. Chapter membership has increased about 12 percent over the past year.

Thimmig extended special thanks to Lori Riga of the Federal Public Defender’s Office, who chairs the membership committee, and to Catherine Garcia-Feehan, law clerk to the Honorable David A. Katz, who chairs the newsletter committee.

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The Federal Bar Association – Northern District of Ohio is a professional organization for attorneys and members of the judiciary who practice in the federal system or have an interest in federal law. FBA is committed to strengthening the federal legal system and administration of justice by serving the interests and needs of the federal practitioner, both public and private, the federal judiciary and the public they serve. The Northern District of Ohio Chapter has more than 600 members. More information is available at [www.fba-ndohio.org](http://www.fba-ndohio.org).

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