CHAIR

Margaret Ann Rolando Shutts & Bowen, LLP 201 S. Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1500 Miami, FL 33131-4328 (305) 379-9144 mrolando@shutts.com

CHAIR-ELECT

Michael A. Dribin Harper Meyer Perez Hagen O'Connor Albert & Dribin LLP 201 S. Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 800 Miami, Florida 33131 (305) 577-5415 mdribin@harpermeyer.com

DIRECTOR, PROBATE AND TRUST LAW DIVISION

Deborah Packer Goodall Goldman Felcoski & Stone P.A. 327 Plaza Real, Suite 230 Boca Raton, FL 33432 (561) 395-0400 dgoodall@gfsestatelaw.com

DIRECTOR, REAL PROPERTY LAW DIVISION

Michael J. Gelfand Gelfand & Arpe, P.A. 1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Ste. 1220 West Palm Beach, FL 33401-2323 (561) 655-6224 mjgelfand@gelfandarpe.com

SECRETARY

Andrew M. O'Malley Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker & Mueller, P.A. 712 S. Oregon Avenue Tampa, FL 33606-2543 (813) 250-0577 aomalley@cowmpa.com

TREASURER

S. Katherine Frazier Hill Ward Henderson 3700 Bank of America Plaza 101 East Kennedy Boulevard Tampa, FL 33602 (813) 221-3900 skfrazier@hwhlaw.com

LEGISLATION CO-CHAIRS

William Thomas Hennessey, III Gunster Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 777 S. Flagter Dr., Suite 500E West Palm Beach, FL 33401-6121 (561) 650-0663 whennessey@gunster.com

Robert S. Swaine Swaine & Harris, P.A. 425 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, FL 33870-3702 (863) 385-1549 bob@heartlandlaw.com

DIRECTOR, AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Debra L. Boje Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 401 E. Jackson St., Ste. 2500 Tampa, FL 33602-5226 (813) 222-6614 dboje@gunster.com

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

Wm. Fletcher Belcher 540 Fourth Street North St. Petersburg, FL 33701-2302 (727) 821-1249 wfbelcher@gmail.com

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Yvonne D. Sherron The Florida Bar 651 E. Jefferson Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300 (850) 561-5626 ysherron@flabar.org



www.RPPTL.org

October 22, 2013

Dear Executive Council Members:

The Reptiles are back in Sarasota after a hiatus of 9 years. This wonderful city offers excellent cultural venues, beaches, restaurants and shopping. We are staying at the elegant Ritz Carlton which is a short drive to the Ringling Museum, downtown and Longboat and Lido Keys. As is customary, our Executive Council weekend will include a blend of committee meetings, educational opportunities, social events and some leisure time to enjoy the hotel and surrounding area. The hotel is offering our group a 15% discount off any a la carte (non-package) services; so sign up for a facial or massage with the spa coordinator. I have attached the following items to this letter:

- a schedule of committee meetings and events for November 21-24;
- a registration form for Section events; and
- a spa treatment request form that allows you to directly link to the spa menu and instructions for booking directly with the hotel's spa coordinator, Susan.

Thursday. We have a full slate of committee meetings starting on Thursday. The At Large Members will meet on Thursday afternoon. That evening, we'll gather at the hotel for a reception with an open bar and an assortment of appetizers. Sarasota's excellent restaurants await your business after the reception. The camaraderie will resume in the Hospitality Suite.

Friday. The committee meetings continue from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on Friday. At 3:00 pm, come on over to the training session on the new Section Website. It's mandatory for all committee chairs, vice chairs and technology wizards, but all are invited to attend. The members of the RPPTL PAC will gather on Friday afternoon to hear the latest from our very own political commentator, Pete Dunbar. Friday evening will start with cocktails followed by a dinner at the Ritz Carlton. The Hospitality Suite will open after dinner.

<u>Saturday</u>. Our Saturday Roundtable meetings will start at 8:00 am, and the Executive Council meeting will begin promptly thereafter at 10:00 am. Lunch will be provided at noon.

Saturday evening will be a special treat. We will have a private dinner at the Circus Museum at The Ringling surrounded by circus wagons and memorabilia. This museum appeals to kids and adults. The museum collection includes beautifully carved parade wagons, performers' wardrobes and performing props. There are also colorful 19th and early 20th century circus posters, old photographs and John & Mabel Ringling's personal railroad car "Wisconsin". The museum also features an incredibly detailed model of a traveling circus, depicting not only the acts performing under the Big Top but also the in-house services, like the circus bank, post office, barber shop, kitchen, blacksmith shop and stables. If you are a history buff or a fan of circuses or Americana, you will not want to miss this evening. Docents will be available for brief talks about the exhibitions.

<u>Sunday</u>. We'll close the weekend with a continental breakfast on Sunday morning before we head home to prepare for Thanksgiving festivities.

I look forward to seeing you at the Ritz Carlton in Sarasota.

Peggy Rolando

Chair, RPPTL Section

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