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August 13, 2013

Dear Executive Council Members:

The Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section is heading to Lisbon on September 18 to 22, 2013 for our out-of-state Executive Council meeting. We will experience 5 days of Portuguese culture, sights, sounds, food, wine, meetings and opportunities to meet and mingle with our colleagues and the residents of Lisbon. Our home base is the five-star Four Seasons Ritz Hotel which overlooks Eduardo VII Park.

Lisbon is a city dating back to Roman times with beautiful historic neighborhoods spread over seven hills. Its people are gracious, well educated and reserved. English is widely spoken and is part of the curriculum from the first grade on. Portugal is a seafaring nation with a history of exploration and colonial dominance that once rivaled that of Spain. The city is blessed with wonderful architecture, excellent museums, grand plazas, small winding streets and surprising vistas.

I have attached the following items:

- A registration form
- A revised schedule
- A detailed description of the events, day by day, including the options for tours.

Please complete the Registration Form indicating the events in which you are interested, and return the form to The Florida Bar no later than August 22.

There are so many things to do in Lisbon, I purposely decided not to pack all of them into our group tours. Instead, I have scheduled two tours and several meals where we are all together. We start Thursday morning with a guided tour focused on Portugal's history of exploration and discovery with visits to Jeronimos Monastery, the Maritime Museum, Belem Tower and the Discoveries Monument. Friday morning, we'll have our Executive Council meeting at the hotel, during breakfast, and attend a panel discussion moderated by Julie Williamson with Lisbon attorneys and business professionals exploring the effects of the economy on their practices and ethics. On Saturday, we'll venture over to Sintra, a lovely town about 30 minutes from Lisbon, for a guided tour of the Monserrate Palace and the National Palace of Sintra. (Note: the Portuguese royalty loved their palaces!) After lunch, we'll stop in Cascais, a seaside resort, and then continue along the scenic Estoril coast with views of the Atlantic.

I encourage you to register for both Friday and Saturday evening events. On Friday, we'll start with a reception on the terrace of the Palace do Rocha

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Conde d'Obidos (Cruz Vermelha) overlooking the Tagus River and port. Cocktails will be followed by a fado show featuring some of Portugal's most highly regarded fadistas. The group will consist of Armenio de Melo (Portuguese guitar), Teres Tapadas (singer), Joao Vaz (Portuguese viola and singer), with Vitor Deus as master of ceremonies. I have attached bios for each of our performers. Fado is often described as Portuguese blues. Whether that is an accurate analogy I'll leave it to you, but I hope you find the music and voices as mesmerizing as I do. At the conclusion of the fado concert, we'll proceed to dinner in a grand space decorated with 18th century tiles. We will also have access to other parts of the palace during the reception.

Saturday evening will be a leisurely dinner of classic Portuguese cuisine with a modern twist at a wonderful restaurant with outstanding views of Lisbon. I've met with the couple who own the restaurant to plan the courses and wines. We'll conclude our visit to Lisbon on a high note.

You will have the opportunity to customize the balance of your days in Lisbon by signing up for small guided tours that interest you. If you love museums, we're offering tours of the Gulbenkian Museum and National Tile Museum. If you're fascinated by architecture, sign up for the architecture tour, the tour of Queluz Palace or the walking tour of the Chiado, Baixa and Rossio neighborhoods. If you would like a bit more history than our group tours on Thursday and Saturday, then register for the tour on the history of the Jews in Portugal. If you are seeking some adventure, the sidecar ride is for you. You'll be driven up and down the winding streets of Lisbon in a replica of a 1940s open motorcycle sidecar. Those who would prefer to chill out are welcomed to join the port and wine tasting tour. Of course, you always have the option of taking an afternoon off to relax or shop.

I look forward to sharing Lisbon with you!



Peggy Rolando
Chair, RPPTL Section

Professor Arménio de Melo – Portuguese Guitar (Guitarra Portuguesa)

ARMENIAN DE MELO, born in 1954 is a native of Santa Maria de Lamas, Portugal.

He began playing Portuguese Classical Guitar at age 13 studying under the guitarist Manuel dos Santos and at age 15 became professional, taking part of the fabulous set of Professor Martin d'Assunção: Armenian Melo studied at the Gregorian Institute of Lisbon possessing the Complementary Course Music, the Academy of Amateurs, possessing Bachelor of Musicology, and was a professor at the Academy of Amateurs. Presently Professor Arménio de Melo is Chair of Portuguese Classical Guitar at the Lisbon Conservatory of Music and teaches Portuguese Guitar, Viola of Fado and Fado singing. He has performed in Stockholm for then Prime Minister Olaf Palme during a United Nations Concert, in Spain at the Festival of Jazz in Seville and Granada, Japan International Music Festival 2003 and in Portugal numerous recitals such as Lisbon Capital of Culture, Theater of S. Louis (1996), 98 Stage Expo Promenade and Camões Theatre, Personals Lusophone Praça da Ribeira (producer and performer), Ibero-American Port (producer and performer) (1998) and Amalia, Musical Filipe La Feria since 2000.

Professor Arménio de Melo has endless discography records as a producer, writer of original fado and is recognized as Portugals foremost performer and teachers of Classical Portuguese Guitar and Viola with numerous original Fado songs attributed and 11 Cds's to his credits

music tracks - <http://www.allmusic.com/album/a-spirit-of-fado-vol-5-instrumental-fado-mw0000606562>

CD - <http://www.cduniverse.com/productinfo.asp?pid=7824438&style=music>

TERESA TAPADAS – Singer

Teresa Tapadas was born in Torres Verdas Portugal in 1977.

She began her career in 1994, after being a solo singer in the folklore group "Os Camponeses". Despite her short career, she sings regularly with great names such as António Pinto Basto, Margarida Bessa or Carlos Zel. The newspaper "O Independente" has recognized her as "one of the best voices of the new fado singer's generation". The absolute confirmation of her talent was in 2000 when she was distinguished with the Award "Revelation" from the Grand Night of Fado in Porto; the preminent body which recognizes upcoming Fado singers in Portugal. Among the highlights of her career are participation in the show "Raízes Rurais, Paixões Urbanas", directed by Ricardo Pais and Mário Laginha, and in Semana do Ribatejo Fadista at Expo-98, in Lisbon, taking part in the cast of Ribatejan Nights at the invitation of Antonio Pinto Basto in mainland Portugal while also performing in the Azores, Germany, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg, Peru and the USA. In 2000 she participated in the Tribute to Amalia Rodrigues, promoted by TVI at Oporto Coliseum and the special show welcoming Pope John Paul II in Fatima. At the invitation of John Braga she was integrated in the show "Land of Fado" at the New Jersey Center of the Performing Arts in Newark, New Jersey. In the same year she toured in the United States in California with the show Fado Nights, which first premiered in Lisbon. She has recorded the Cd "La Couplet y El Fado", accompanied by the National Orchestra of Moldova. It is a bold challenge and the next step in the confirmation of her brilliant career with the recording of "My Grain of Paradise"; her first solo CD. Teresa joins Brazil, Spain, Cape Verde, Ireland, Suica, Canada to the list of the countries where she has toured. Teresa continues to regularly perform on television and in concerts held throughout the year at events in Portugal, Europe other countries.

Live performances -

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F30Wvh4_xXc <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGnEhs2LCIO>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILUJ6Ild41A&list=PLnuhgUa1VfaahAgT_BRoVldTsu2r57sZW

CD available – <http://pesquisa.fnac.pt/Teresa-Tapadas/ia143776>

João Vaz – Portuguese Viola (Guitar) and Singer

João Vaz has been performing Fado both as guitarist and singer from a young age. He regularly accompanies artists on stage and in Fado Houses in Portugal. João Vaz plays the Portuguese Viola and sings Fado with a remarkable tenor voice which interprets the true essence of traditional Fado music in its purest form. João Vaz will sing several Fados and accompany Professor Arménio de Melo on Portuguese Viola during the performance of Teresa Tapadas.

Video – <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0yyNmjhZYU>

Vitor Deus – Presenter – Maser of Ceremonies

Vitor Deus is a member of the Confrades of Poetry of Portugal and has written since the age of 15 numerous Fados that have been performed by Fado singers throughout Portugal. He will present the performers, giving the audience narratives on the songs and music being performed to help understand both the meaning of the words and enable the audience to understand the true essence of Fado and its importance in Portugal's history and society as a musical genre unique to Portugal.

Fado Performance at Palace do Rocha Condes do Obidos (Cruz Vermelho) Lisbon. 20 September 2013

Program: Approx. 45 minutes performance

Fado songs are usually performed by a solo singer, male or female, traditionally accompanied by a wire-strung acoustic guitar and the Portuguese *guitarra* – a pear-shaped cittern with twelve wire strings, unique to Portugal, which also has an extensive solo repertoire. Fado has been recognized in 2011 by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

Accompanied by Professor Arménio de Melo on the Portuguese Guitar and João Vaz on Viola, Teresa Tapadas will perform both traditional Fado music as well as music written by professor Arménio de Melo. Vitor Deus, poet and song writer, will present the audience with short narratives of the Fado being performed during the event and introduce the performers to your audience.