

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
BANKRUPTCY PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
By: Jonathan Tolentino, Esq., President**

The Seventh Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Dinner was held this past October 25th at The Edison by the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association. As the host of the dinner, I was able to see the event develop and was very pleased with how the event turned out.

The event honors Judge Alexander Paskay and brings together the members of the SWFLBPA. In attendance were the Honorable Judge Caryl E. Delano and Chief Judge Michael G. Williamson. Since the dinner is traditionally held towards the end of October, it also serves as the last opportunity for area bankruptcy professionals to meet and enjoy each other's company in an informal setting before the holidays. I have always enjoyed this event for this reason.

As you may know, Judge Paskay was particularly fond of the Fort Myers Division of the Middle District of Florida Bankruptcy Court which is known for its tight knit group of professionals. Each year the Alexander L. Paskay Professionalism Award is given at the dinner to a member of the SWFLBPA who exemplifies traits such as: effectiveness in presentation of matters, a reputation for thorough preparation, civility and courtesy to opposing counsel, appropriate courtroom demeanor, ethical conduct and long-term service to the Bankruptcy Bar. This year's recipient was Robert E Tardif, Jr. – who was deserving and gracious in his acceptance.

The dinner also serves to inaugurate the new officers of the SWFLBPA. For 2019, the Treasurer is Gerard A. McHale, the Secretary is Michael E. Cecil, Esq., and the Vice President is Joseph C. Trunkett, Esq. Mr. Trunkett will be hosting the 2019 dinner and I am sure it will be a great one.

A special thank you is in order to all those that volunteered their time and to those who sponsored the event! I look forward to serving and making this year a great one for the SWFLBPA.