



Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association

By: Jonathan M. Bierfeld, Esq., President

On March 24, 2022, we held our Ninth Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Dinner for the first time since November 2019. At the dinner, we announced two new officers: Christian Haman was elected Secretary; Ryan Really was named Vice-President.

The highlight of the evening, though, was the announcement of the winner of the annual Alexander L. Paskay Professionalism Award. The award is given to the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professional who has most exemplified the following traits throughout the year: outstanding effectiveness in presentation of matters in court; a reputation for thorough preparation; civility and courtesy to other parties; appropriate courtroom demeanor; ethical conduct and professionalism at the highest level; and long-term service to the Bar.

Since we have not had an opportunity to present this award for the last couple years, we were hoping to have the opportunity to present the award to someone who had exemplified these qualities consistently for several years. The winner of this year's award who most exemplified the above qualities was Paula Luce.

Paula recently retired after 29 years of service in the Tampa and Fort Myers Divisions. Anyone who has practiced in the Fort Myers division knows that Paula basically ran both courtrooms during the last few years. She will be greatly missed, and I can't think of anyone who is more deserving of the award.

Going forward, we are looking into starting up our monthly meetings again and looking into CLE credit for the upcoming speakers.

It was good to see everyone at last month's dinner. Pictures are below.







