



THE FLORIDA BAR

The Government Lawyer Section

REPORTER

Fall 2008

*"No Higher Calling"*

## Student Loan Forgiveness Rolls On

By John J. Copelan, Jr. and Ryan Ignatius

The Florida Bar Government Lawyer Section Recruitment and Retention Committee was appointed by past immediate Chair Bob Krauss to educate and study legislation in order to create loan repayment assistance plans for public service and governmental lawyers in the State of Florida. Realizing that the State should not lose its law school graduates to private practice due to high student loan debt, this Committee has focused on how the State can provide financial incentives to recruit and retain law school graduates for public service.

Last October the federal College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA) was signed into law (20 USC § 1087e). This new law helps public service lawyers by lowering monthly loan repayments based on income and ultimately cancels remaining loan debt after 10 years of public service. To meet the requirements for loan forgiveness a borrower must: (1) make 120 qualifying monthly payments on an eligible loan on or after Oct. 1, 2007; (2) be employed in a public service job as defined in the Act during the of the qualifying monthly payments; (3) be employed in a public service job at the time the Secretary of Education forgives the loan; and (4) make qualifying payments under the repayment options enumerated in the Act. In the administration of this new law, the U.S. Department of Education published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, seeking comments by August 15, 2008 on their proposed regulations.

Recognizing this comment period as an opportunity to further the interests of young lawyers and public service employers in the State of Florida, the Recruitment and Retention Committee, chaired by Department of Children and Families General Counsel John J. Copelan Jr., worked closely this summer with Carolyn Snurkowski, incoming Chair of the Government Lawyers Section, to advocate for our State, its attorneys, and law students by submitting comments to the U.S. Department of Education. After gathering feedback at the Annual Meeting of the Florida Bar in an open forum from law students, attorneys, law school administrators, and the Executive Committee, the Government Lawyers Section's comments identified the most important issue that needed to be addressed through rulemaking: the proposed

rules' lack of a "certification process." The proposed rules do not provide new attorneys or prospective public employers any way to "certify" that a particular "public service" position qualifies under the Act. Thus, one could work for 10 years in a position that you assumed qualified only to find out that your loans will not be forgiven. In order for government employers to provide an incentive for recruitment and retention of new attorneys, the U.S. Department of Education needs to establish a way to certify positions on the front-end of the process.

In addition to the Florida Bar Government Lawyers Section comments, former Department of Children and Families Secretary Bob Butterworth also submitted rulemaking comments on behalf of the Department, a large

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### 2009 Section Calendar

January 16, 2009

**Government Lawyer Section Executive Council Meeting in conjunction with The Florida Bar Midyear Meeting**  
Miami

February 9, 2009

**Practicing Before the Legislature**  
Tallahassee

March 12-13, 2009

**State/Federal Government Certification Review**  
Renaissance Orlando Hotel Airport



THE GOVERNMENT LAWYER SECTION REPORTER

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Statements or expressions of opinion or comments appearing herein are those of the editor and contributors and not of The Florida Bar or the Section.

**ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE DUE**  
**February 15, 2009**

Articles formatted in Word Perfect 5.0 or 6.0 or Microsoft Word may be submitted on computer disc with hard copy attached (or e-mailed to *shall@flabar.org*). Please contact Summer Hall at 850/561-5650.

**FORGIVENESS ROLLS ON**

*from preceding page*

employer of attorneys, pertaining to the proposed rules lack of a certification process. Like the Recruitment and Retention Committee, Secretary Butterworth believes that a way to certify one's job with the U.S Department of Education is a critical component that will enable law graduates and government employers to reap the benefits of the Act. Advocating on behalf of all attorneys in the nation, the American Bar Association's comments also focused heavily on this same issue.

After the promulgation of these rules, another priority of the Recruitment and Retention Committee is to further investigate the possibility of the State legislature implementing a "gap coverage" program. Under such program a recent law school graduate's payments could be further reduced during the 10 year repayment period. Such a program would not only make public and governmental service attractive, but would let the State stand-out at the forefront of recruiting public service attorneys. Recruitment and Retention Committee Vice Chair Clark Jennings is heading up this legislative drafting subcommittee.

As part of a final note, the Recruitment and Retention Committee would also like to thank Ken Goldsmith, ABA Legislative Counsel, for his comments and insight in discussion of the new federal act and Tony Musto, Recruitment and Retention Committee Vice Chair and Professor

at St. Thomas School of Law, who heads up the subcommittee on law school involvement. In addition, the Committee would like to recognize Florida Coastal School of Law Student Bar Representative R. Brian Strickland and the other Student Bar Loan Reimbursement Committee members who presented a comparative survey of state loan forgiveness programs at the Committee's last meeting.

The Recruitment and Retention Committee would like to invite all interested Bar members, law school administrators and student bar leaders to participate in this important effort. Please contact John Copelan at 850-488-2381 or John\_Copelan@dcf.state.fl.us for further information about participating in the Recruitment and Retention Committee and updates on our next meeting. Because the final U.S Department of Education rules will be published in November, the Committee anticipates a meeting to be scheduled right after adoption to discuss the implemented rules, draft state legislation that the legislative subcommittee has been working on, and any further developments.

*John J. Copelan, Jr. is the Chair of the Florida Bar Government Lawyer Section Recruitment and Retention Committee and General Counsel of the Department of Children and Families.*

*Ryan Ignatius is a legal intern with the Department of Children and Families Office of the General Counsel and a student at the Florida State University College of Law.*

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# Fourth District Court of Appeal Rules Monetary Damages Cannot Be Awarded as Supplemental Relief in Sunshine Law Actions

By Amy Taylor Petrick, Assistant County Attorney, Litigation Division,  
Palm Beach County Attorney's Office

The Fourth District Court of Appeals recently ruled that monetary damages cannot be awarded as supplemental relief to an action for declaratory and injunctive relief arising out of a Sunshine Law violation claim. In *Dascott v. Palm Beach County*, 2008 WL 2663742 \*1 (Fla. 4<sup>th</sup> DCA July 9, 2008), a former employee of Palm Beach County sought declaratory and injunctive relief against the County under the Sunshine Law and the Declaratory Judgment Act, as well as supplemental relief in the form of back pay and benefits, resulting from the County's failure to comply with the Sunshine Law requirements during the employee's pre-termination hearing.

The County moved for partial summary judgment as to the issue of damages, contending that the Sunshine Law does not allow for damages against a public agency. The County further contended that no sovereign immunity waiver existed for monetary claims against a public agency alleged to have violated the Sunshine Law. The County pointed out that back pay, while typically a form of equitable relief, was identified in the case of *Gallagher v. Manatee County*, 927 So.2d 914, 919 (Fla. 2d DCA 2006), as a kind of monetary relief for which there must be a source of sovereign immunity waiver. Since neither the Sunshine Law nor the Declaratory Judgment Act provides an express waiver of sovereign immunity, the County requested that the trial court grant partial summary judgment in its favor on the claim for monetary damages.

Dascott countered that the Declaratory Judgment Act, Chapter 56, Florida Statutes, provided the requisite statutory authority for awarding monetary relief against the government for Sunshine Law violations,

even though the Declaratory Judgment Act is silent on the matter of sovereign immunity waiver. Dascott argued that awarding monetary relief is an inherent part of the court's power, regardless of the sovereign immunity doctrine, and complained that an order denying monetary relief would render the Sunshine Law a "right without a remedy."

The trial court granted the County's motion for partial summary judgment and Dascott appealed. On appeal, the Fourth District Court of Appeal concluded that monetary damages were not recoverable against the County for the Sunshine Law violation, because the Sunshine Law specified the remedies available and did not authorize the remedy of monetary damages. Dascott, 2008 WL 2663742 at \*1. The Fourth District explained that, "remedies sought in an action brought under a statute which creates a statutory right or duty are generally limited to those specified within the statute" and declared itself without the power to "construe the unambiguous Sunshine Act 'in a way which would extend, modify, or limit, its express terms or its reasonable and obvious implications ...[so as to] be an abrogation of legislative power.'" *Id.* (citing *Murphy v. N. Sinha Corp.*, 644 So. 2d 983, 986 (Fla. 1994)).

In its holding, the Court did not address the interaction between the sovereign immunity doctrine and the Declaratory Judgment Act in cases where the right upon which the declaratory judgment claim is founded is not a statutory right for which remedies have been specified by the Legislature. The Court distinguished the Dascott case from the case of *DePaola v. Town of Davie*, 877 So.2d 377 (Fla. 4<sup>th</sup> DCA 2004), which it indicated "did not regard the Sunshine Act but held

damages were available as incident to a wrongful termination when seeking a declaratory judgment specifically under section 86.011."

In *DePaola*, a terminated employee sought monetary relief incident to a claim for declaratory relief arising out of an alleged state constitutional violation. The trial court dismissed the entire case, holding that monetary damages were not recoverable for state constitutional violations. The Fourth District Court of Appeals overturned the dismissal, finding that dismissal of a case in its entirety is improper where some of the forms of relief sought are permissible. *Id.* at 380. Consequently, the *DePaola* case did not conclusively resolve whether sovereign immunity had been waived for monetary claims brought under Chapter 86, Florida Statutes. At least one other court has construed *DePaola* as standing only for the premise that declaratory and injunctive relief, but not monetary relief, are obtainable against a sovereign entity under the Declaratory Judgment Act. *Watts v. Florida International University*, 2005 WL 3730879 \*1, \*11 (S.D.Fla., Jun 09, 2005) *reversed in part on other grounds Watts v. Florida International University*, 495 F.3d 1289 (11th Cir. Aug 17, 2007.) Thus, it remains unresolved whether the Declaratory Judgment Act can be an independent basis for a claim for money damages against a sovereign entity.

Nevertheless, the *Dascott* case does resolve the previously unanswered question as to whether monetary damages were recoverable for Sunshine Law claims. One could reasonably conclude that the same analysis would apply to public records claims, as well, since both statutes provide for the specific remedies of injunctive relief and attorney's fees, in the event of a violation.

# Lawyers Earn Board Certification in City, County and Local Government Law and State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice

The Florida Bar recently approved board certification for 207 lawyers in 22 specialty areas of legal practice. Board certification evaluates attorneys' special knowledge, skills and proficiency in various areas of law and professionalism and ethics in practice.

Certified attorneys are the only Florida lawyers allowed to identify or advertise themselves as specialists or experts.

"Florida's board certification program is one of the leaders in the nation in maintaining the highest standards for excellence and professionalism while adding practice areas for greater public access to legal specialists," said Florida Bar President John G. "Jay" White, III. "The program is predicated on experience and integrity, the foundations that are inseparable from our work as lawyers to advance the administration of justice."

Certification is the highest level of evaluation by The Florida Bar of the competency and experience of attorneys in areas of law approved for certification by the Supreme Court of Florida. Florida cur-

rently offers 22 specialty areas of practice for which board certification is available, the greatest number of state-approved certification areas in the nation.

A lawyer who is a member in good standing of The Florida Bar and who meets the standards prescribed by the state's Supreme Court may become board certified in one or more of the 22 certification fields. Approximately 4,200 of Florida's 80,000 lawyers are board certified. Minimum requirements for certification are listed below; each area of certification may contain higher or additional standards.

- A minimum of five years in law practice
- Substantial involvement in the field of law for which certification is sought
- A passing grade on the examination required of all applicants
- Satisfactory peer review assessment of competence in the specialty field as well as character, ethics and professionalism in the practice of law
- Satisfaction of the certification area's continuing legal education requirements

***Congratulations to the following lawyers who have earned board certification in the City, County and Local Government Law specialty:***



Deborah Corinne Blews, Tampa  
Virginia Cassady, Maitland  
Toni L. Craig, Fort Walton Beach  
Michael D. Durham, Sebring  
Iris V. Escarra, Miami  
Lonnie Neil Groot, Tallahassee  
Katherine Walker Latorre, Orlando  
D. Andrew Smith, III, Maitland  
James David Stokes, Palm Bay

Board certification is valid for five years. The attorney during that time must continue to practice law and attend Florida Bar-approved continuing legal education courses. Recertification requirements are similar to those for initial certification. Not all qualified lawyers are certified, but those who are board certified have taken the extra steps to have their competence and experience evaluated.

Applications for certification in City, County & Local Government Law or State and Federal Government & Administrative Practice needed to be filed by October 31, 2008, for the May 15, 2009 exams. For more information, please visit The Florida Bar Web site at [Floridabar.org/certification](http://Floridabar.org/certification) or contact The Florida Bar's Legal Specialization & Education Department at 850/561-5842.

***Congratulations to the following lawyers who have earned board certification in the State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice specialty:***



W. Douglas Beason, Tallahassee  
Alison L. Becker, Tampa  
Diana Kay Bock, Tampa  
Patricia Buchanan Wright, Pensacola  
Michael G. Cooke, Tallahassee  
Edward P. de la Parte, Jr., Tampa  
Donna Erlich, Tallahassee  
Charles M. Fahlbusch, Fort Lauderdale  
Francine Marie Ffolkes, Tallahassee  
Charles R. Fletcher, Tampa  
John J. Fumero, Delray Beach  
Rodney Marcum Johnson, Pensacola  
Tina Furlow, Tallahassee  
Julie Gallagher, Tallahassee  
Betsy Hewitt, Tallahassee  
Clark Richard Jennings, Tallahassee  
Catherine M. Linton, West Palm Beach  
Douglas Manson, Tampa  
Stephen S. Mathues, Tallahassee  
James Francis McAuley, Tallahassee  
Ellen McGreevy Leonard, Tampa  
Kenneth J. Metzger, Tallahassee  
Eric H. Miller, Tallahassee  
Michael A. Palecki, Tallahassee  
Ella Jane Peebles Davis, Tallahassee  
James Hardin Peterson, III, Tallahassee  
L. William Porter, II, Havana  
P. Michael Ruff, Tallahassee  
Jose G. Rolon-Rivera, Boca Raton  
Nona Ruth Schaffner, Tallahassee  
Floyd Robert Self, Tallahassee  
Lawrence E. Sellers, Jr., Tallahassee  
Angelia June Sheridan, Orlando  
Eric Briggs Tilton, Tallahassee  
Keith P. Vanden Dooren, Tallahassee

# ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS UPDATE

by Jerry Hammond and Lagran Saunders of the Office of the Attorney General, Opinions Division

*The following is a synopsis of several recently issued Attorney General Opinions that may be of interest to governmental agency attorneys. To read a complete version of any of these opinions please visit the Florida Attorney General's website: [www.myfloridalegal.com](http://www.myfloridalegal.com). Click on "AG Opinions" to view a searchable database of opinions dating from 1974. Government attorneys may also call the Opinions Division of the Attorney General's Office to discuss any of these opinions or other questions they may have by calling (850) 245-0158.*

**2008-05:** public employee who takes early retirement under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program and does not meet the age and service requirements to qualify for normal retirement or has not attained the age of 59½ with six years of creditable service, not eligible to participate in the group insurance program immediately after retirement under the provisions of section 112.0801, Florida Statutes.

**2008-06:** a building code administrator or inspector may also serve as a commissioner for a county mosquito control district without violating the constitutional dual officeholding prohibition.

**2008-07:** city council member posting comments on a privately maintained electronic bulletin board or blog or serving as webmaster for such a site must not engage in exchange or discussion of matters that foreseeably will come before the board or commission for official action.

**2008-09:** city may allow its elected officials and its employees to opt out of the city's group health insurance plan and, in lieu thereof, receive compensation in the amount of the unused premium; absent a limitation in the city's charter or personnel rules, the city may restrict participation to its elected officials.

**2008-10:** individual currently serving as an unsalaried member of a city's planning and zoning commission, who was an unopposed candidate for the city council, is not required to resign at the time of his election to the city council, but must resign prior to assuming office, at which time he will be sworn in and his city council term will begin.

**2008-11:** city may not ban riders in the beds of pickup and flatbed trucks without proper restraint, as the Uniform Traffic Control Law addresses such use and would preempt local regulation.

**2008-12:** a completed report of a disciplinary or internal affairs investigation from the employing agency, as used in section 943.1395(6)(a), Florida Statutes, refers to the report submitted by the employing agency to the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission pursuant to section 112.533(2)(a), Florida Statutes; the resulting investigation by the commission must be completed within six months.

**2008-13:** property owner who resides in and receives a homestead tax exemption on a primary residence with her spouse does not qualify for a homestead tax exemption on a separate residence that she owns and maintains as the permanent residence of a 19-year-old child who she claims is naturally dependent upon her for support.

**2008-14:** rental amounts in a lease agreement with a telecommunication company are not "proprietary confidential business information" under section 202.195, Florida Statutes.

**2008-15:** service on statutory bodies having only advisory powers does not constitute an "office" for purposes of the dual officeholding prohibition in Article II, section 5(a), Florida Constitution.

**2008-16:** composition of a school advisory council must reflect the ethnic, racial, and economic balance of the geographic area served by the school; there need not be a precise percentage or ratio of each community category equal to the percentage of the general population served.

**2008-17:** governing body of a health care district, as real party in interest, may enter into closed attorney-client sessions under section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes, to receive information and give advice to attorneys representing the interests of a non-profit created by the district with the district as its sole member and a hospital established and operated by the non-profit regarding settlement negotiations or strategies related to litigation expenditures.

**2008-18:** community citizens police academy made up of citizens and established to provide promote citizen involvement is not made subject to the Government in the Sunshine Law by the attendance and participation of two or more elected officials; however, if more than one city council member attends classes or programs, no discussion or debate may take place among the council members on issues that may foreseeably come before the board or commission they represent.

**2008-19:** under section 196.183(1), Florida Statutes, owner of tangible personal property is required to file a return for each site in the county where the owner of such property transacts business and is entitled to up to \$25,000 exemption for each return filed; however, a single return must be filed, and therefore a single exemption granted, for all freestanding equipment not located at the place where the owner transacts business.

**2008-20:** emergency medical services transportation licensee may release records of emergency calls which in-

# ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS UPDATE

clude patient's name, address, and pertinent medical information to local law enforcement agencies that do not provide regulatory or supervisory responsibility over the emergency medical services licensee.

**2008-21:** city not required to notice disposal of city-owned property within its community redevelopment area which were acquired prior to creation of the CRA and for purposes other than redevelopment.

**2008-22:** city may grant economic development ad valorem tax exemption pursuant to section 196.1995, Florida Statutes, for a period of up to 10 years even though the term of the exemption extends beyond the time the city is authorized to grant such exemptions.

**2008-23:** patrol trip sheets of a police officer are not generally exempt from the disclosure provisions in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.

**2008-24:** school board is not required to release home addresses and other protected personal information of the spouses of law enforcement personnel who are employed by the school board exempt from disclosure under section 119.071(4)(d)1., Florida Statutes, to and the school board is not required to report such information to the certified bargaining representative of employees.

**2008-25:** mosquito control district authorized to reimburse expenses incurred by district commissioners for expenditures on office supplies and equipment purchased to perform the business of the district.

**2008-26:** county may not use tourist development tax revenues to finance the construction, furnishing and equipping of a hotel adjacent to the county-owned and county-operated convention center; however, parking facilities, kitchens and catering facilities constructed as part of a convention center may be permissible if they

constitute an extension, remodeling or improvement of the convention center.

**2008-28:** a sheriff may not voluntarily reduce his salary below that established by Chapter 145, Florida Statutes.

**2008-29:** property appraiser must provide inspection and copying of any list maintained by that office of the names of individuals whose home address is exempt from public records disclosure pursuant to section 119.071(4)(d), Florida Statutes.

**2008-30:** court costs and other statutorily imposed surcharges and fees must be imposed and collected for violation of sections 316.2935 or 316.610, Florida Statutes, when the person cited complies with the provisions of section 318.18(2)(c), Florida Statutes, and has his or her fine reduced.

**2008-31:** a physician assistant licensed pursuant to Chapter 458 or 459, Florida Statutes, may refer a patient for involuntary evaluation pursuant to section 394.463, Florida Statutes, provided the physician assistant has experience regarding the diagnosis and treatment of mental and nervous disorders and such tasks as are within the supervising physician's scope of practice.

**2008-33:** public records identifying correctional officers placed on administrative duty are subject to inspection and copying, as they are not confidential and exempt pursuant to section 112.533(2)(a), Florida Statutes, as either a complaint filed against an officer or as information obtained pursuant to the investigation of such a complaint.

**2008-34:** county may impose existing zoning and land use regulations upon the siting of a proposed sports shooting range; however, no newly created or amended zoning or land use regulations may be enforced against existing ranges.

**2008-35:** organization authorized to sell "instant bingo" game tickets may only do so at locations at which real time bingo games are conducted; machines that dispense "instant bingo" tickets after insertion of money violate section 849.16, Florida Statutes.

**2008-36:** historically designated apartment buildings may be considered "open to the public" under section 196.1961, Florida Statutes, if the facades of apartment buildings are the historically significant aspect of the buildings and this historical aspect of the building may be visited and observed by the public.

**2008-37:** timely receipt of the initial police report by the records custodian of a law enforcement agency triggers the 24-hour time requirement for the agency to submit a copy of that report and other related reports to the nearest certified domestic violence shelter pursuant to section 741.29(2), Florida Statutes.

**2008-38:** city may amend its charter to abolish the charter offices of City Clerk and City Treasurer only if such amendment is approved by referendum.

**2008-40:** community residential home which falls within the provisions of section 419.001(2), Florida Statutes, is not exempt from the provisions in the Florida Building Code requiring such homes to meet specified standards for construction.

**2008-41:** city is authorized by section 112.0801(1), Florida Statutes, to offer retiring employees a one-time opportunity to participate in the city's employee group health and life insurance program without an opportunity to renew participation in the program in the future.

**2008-42:** a qualified interpreter may attend collegial body executive sessions to interpret for hearing impaired board members without violat-

# ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS UPDATE

ing the terms of section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes.

**2008-43:** Santa Rosa Island Authority has no authority to offset lease fees payable to the authority from commercial leaseholders equal to ad valorem taxes collected against commercial leaseholders as such action would amount to an exemption from taxes.

**2008-44:** trustee of a Florida Land Trust created pursuant section

689.071, Florida Statutes, is entitled to claim homestead exemption from taxation on real property so long as the trustee satisfies the residence and other requirements of section 196.031, Florida Statutes.

**2008-45:** simultaneous service on the Florida New Motor Vehicle Arbitration Board pursuant to section 681.1095(3), Florida Statutes, and service on the board of directors of Workforce Florida, Inc., pursuant to

section 445.004, Florida Statutes, would violate the constitutional prohibition against dual office-holding.

**2008-46:** revenues generated by section 939.185, Florida Statutes, may be used to fund an alternative sanctions coordinator position created pursuant to sections 984.09 and 985.037, Florida Statutes; ultimately, it is the county's discretion to fund a "local requirement" designated by the chief judge of the circuit.



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# Claude Pepper 2008 Award Winner

*Congratulations to this year's winner of The Florida Bar  
Claude Pepper Outstanding Government Lawyer Award*



Patricia R. Gleason, Cabinet Affairs and Special Counsel for  
Open Government

Governor's Office  
Tallahassee, Florida

The award was presented to Ms. Gleason during The Florida Bar Annual Convention,  
June 2008 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club.

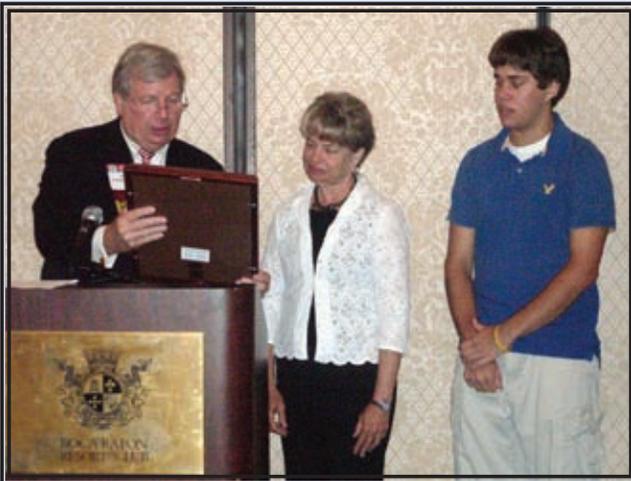
Ms. Gleason joins the prestigious list of past winners:

- 1990 **Navy Lt. Commander Charles Coles Jeffries, Jr.**,
- 1991 **Chriss Walker**, Senior Attorney, Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services Office of Child Support, Tallahassee
- 1992 **John J. Copelan, Jr.**, Broward County Attorney, Ft. Lauderdale
- 1993 **Enoch "Jon" Whitney**, General Counsel for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Tallahassee
- 1994 **Irene M. Quincey**, South Florida Water Management District, West Palm Beach
- 1995 **Joseph Lewis, Jr.**, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs, Tallahassee
- 1996 **Anthony C. Musto**, Office of the Broward County Attorney, Ft. Lauderdale
- 1997 **George B. Barrs**, Office of the Public Defender, West Palm Beach
- 1998 **Jorge L. Fernandez**, Office of the County Attorney, Sarasota
- 1999 **James A. Peters**, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs, Tallahassee
- 2000 **George Lee Wass**, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs, Tallahassee
- 2001 **Deborah K. Kearney**, General Counsel, Department of State, Tallahassee.
- 2002 **Denise M. Nieman**, Office of the County Attorney, Palm Beach
- 2003 **William B. Hammill**, a Civilian Attorney-Advisor with the United States Central Command Stationed at MacDill Air Force Base, St. Petersburg.
- 2004 **Sheryl Wood**, General Counsel for the South Florida Water Management District, West Palm Beach.
- 2005 **Jack Shreve**, Senior General Counsel for Consumer Affairs in the Office of the Attorney General, Tallahassee
- 2006 **W. Anthony Loe**, Broward County State Attorney's Office Homicide Prosecutor
- 2007 **Judson M. Chapman**, General Counsel for Dept. of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Tallahassee
- 2008 **Patricia R. Gleason**, Cabinet Affairs and Special Counsel for Open Government, Governor's Office, Tallahassee

# Claude Pepper Award Ceremony



Pat Gleason gives her acceptance speech after receiving the Claude Pepper Award, the highest award that is awarded to a government lawyer by the Government Lawyer Section.



Frank Angones presents the Claude Pepper Award to Pat Gleason.



Immediate Past Chair, Bob Krauss and Pat Gleason.



L-R: Immediate Past President Frank Angones, Chief Justice Peggy Quince, Pat Gleason, Pat's son, Bob Krauss & Morgan, chair of Claude Pepper Award Committee.



Clark Jennings presents the Chair's Award to Bob Krauss.



L-R: Immediate Past President Frank Angones, Chief Justice Peggy Quince, Pat Gleason, Pat's son.



Bob Krauss presents Allen Grossman with the Meritorious Award.



L-R: John Copelan, Ward Griffin, Bob Krauss, Allen Grossman after receiving awards.



Ward Griffin and Chief Justice Quince.



Chief Justice Peggy Quince.

# *Congratulations to Chief Justice Peggy Ann Quince*



for receiving the

## **2008 Government Lawyer Lifetime Achievement Award**

Past award winners:

**1996 Janet Reno**, former U.S. Attorney General

**2002 Bob Butterworth**, former Florida Attorney General

**2005 Tom Tedcastle**, former General Counsel for Florida State Legislature

# *Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony*



# Government Lawyer Executive Council at Work!



# PROVE YOU'RE AN EXPERT

**Are you ready for the challenge?**

## **Board Certification Applications Due**

**Submit applications July 1 - October 31**

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**Workers' Compensation**



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legal experts dedicated to  
professional excellence.***

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