The Committee would like to thank all who contributed. The Committee would like to extend special thanks, as well as apologies, to Ann McGrath, whose name was inadvertently left off of the contributors’ list published with the Year in Review. A copy of the Committee’s section of the review can be found on the Committee website.

Now that the 2012 review has been published, it’s time to begin looking ahead to the 2013 Year in Review. Brandi Frederick will once again be coordinating our efforts, this time with the assistance of Chris Skinner.

A call for volunteers to work on the 2013 Year in Review was circulated to the full committee via email on September 20, 2013. The Committee is looking for volunteers to assist in drafting summaries of important customs developments during 2013. Volunteers do not need to already have a topic in mind; the co-editors will work together and with you to identify significant developments to be included in the summary.

If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to the Committee’s Vice-Chairs for publications by October 7, 2013. They are Brandi Frederick, Chris Skinner, and Maureen Thorson.

The committee welcomes contributions to the newsletter, including summaries of committee events and developments from other jurisdictions. If you are interested in contributing, please contact the Committee’s vice-chairs for Publications.

The ABA Section of International Law’s fall meeting will take place from October 15-19 in London at the London Hilton on Park Lane Hotel. The Customs Law Committee is sponsoring two panel discussions at the meeting.

On Friday, October 18 at 2:30 p.m., Melanie Frank will chair a panel on The Wave of New Criminal and Regulatory Customs Enforcement Investigations: Current Enforcement Agenda and Outlook for Importers Globally. The panel will take place in the Harvest Suite.

Also on Friday, but at 4:30 p.m., Committee vice-chair Les Glick will chair a panel entitled Developments in Free Trade Agreements Between North America and Europe: Is a New Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Agreement Within Reach And What Impact Would It Have on NAFTA? The panel will be held in the Coronation Suite.

Any committee members attending the fall meeting should also be aware of a committee meeting, currently planned for the morning of October 18 from 9:30 – 10:30. This will be a great opportunity for American attorneys to meet their European colleagues and vice versa. Interested members should contact Les Glick for additional information on the mini-meeting.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

Co-Chairs: Teresa M. Polino, Christine H. Martinez

Vice-Chairs: Brandi Frederick, Leslie A. Glick, Gregory Kanargelidis, Peter A. Quinter, David Salkeld, Christopher H. Skinner, Maureen E. Thorson, Sidney N. Weiss

Contact information is available on the ABA’s website at:

ABA SIL Customs Law Committee Webpage
Spotlight on Committee Leadership

Vice-Chair David Salkeld

David Salkeld is an attorney in the international trade group at Arent Fox, LLP and practices in the area of customs regulations and compliance and export controls and sanctions. His client work covers a range of traditional customs issues, such as classification, valuation, and marking, as well as helping clients address customs penalties and other enforcement actions. David also assists clients in preparing for government customs audits and developing import compliance programs.

Prior to joining Arent Fox, David was an attorney with US Customs and Border Protection’s (CBP’s) Office of International Trade (formerly Office of Regulations and Rulings) for five years. While at CBP, he authored various administrative rulings focusing on classification issues and country of origin marking requirements. David also helped develop border security and immigration regulations. Previously, he was an analyst at the Department of Commerce’s Import Administration where he worked on antidumping and countervailing duty proceedings.

Besides being a member of the International Law Section, David is a member of the American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI), and the Customs Lawyers Association (CLA).

“These are exciting times in import/customs compliance because of the “Trade Transformation” changes the agency is making. Coupled with the National Export Initiative changes, there is the promise of real reform/changes to the import/export laws of the U.S. I look forward to working with the committee to monitor these changes.”

David enjoys foreign travel and world history, and loves to travel whenever possible.

Vice-Chair Brandi Frederick

Brandi is a partner in The Frederick Firm in Birmingham, Alabama, and through her customs and international practice is able to advise and assist clients in all aspects of import compliance and transactions with CBP, including valuation, classification, FTAs, FTZs, country of origin marking and labeling, customs rulings, drawbacks, appeals, and represent clients in litigation in the Federal courts in Alabama and the U.S. Court of International Trade. After passing the Customs Broker License exam in 2010, she obtained her Customs Broker License in 2012.

Some of Brandi’s interest in international trade first came from her love of traveling. Her first international trip was her move to Japan (just days after graduating from college) where she spent more than a year teaching English as a second language and where she became fluent in Japanese.

When she is not working or traveling, Brandi loves to sing, read, bake homemade gluten-free brownies, and relax on the beautiful gulf coast of Florida’s panhandle with her husband and cat. She enjoys exceptional food and wine and is an SEC football fanatic – “Roll Tide!”

As a vice-chair of publications this year, Brandi is looking forward to several projects: the YIR Article for THE INTERNATIONAL LAWYER and updating the ABA’s book on U.S. Customs. She invites all members (new and experienced) to get involved, attend the Fall and Spring meetings, and volunteer to work on the newsletter, YIR Article and book, saying: “Even if you don’t know what you can do, don’t worry, we’ll find something for you.”