

# Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar Fellowship Program

Thank you for your interest in our Fellowship program. The mission of the Fellowship Program is to attract and retain young lawyers to the Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar (RPPTL). One method of achieving this goal is by providing subsidized Fellowships to qualified individuals interested in becoming active in the substantive work of the Section. The Fellowship program allows these individuals to be substantially involved in the Section work, receive leadership training and work closely with leading attorneys in their field. It is our desire that through this program the Section will cultivate and develop future leaders to continue the strong presence of the RPPTL Section as a leader in The Florida Bar. Our Fellowship program is also designed to supplement and support the efforts of the membership diversity committee and the membership development committee of the Section.

The Fellowship Program is open to all lawyers who are members of the RPPTL Section and (a) have been admitted to the bar for fewer than 10 years or (b) are younger than 36 years of age. This program will award a maximum of 4 Fellowships per year. Applicants should be able to demonstrate that a substantial portion of their practice is focused in the area of Real Property, Probate or Trust law.

Fellowships are provided for a two-year term. The RPPTL Section has over 50 active committees and an Executive Council with more than 225 active members. The Executive Council (and the Section committees) meet on a quarterly basis, beginning in June each year, at locations throughout the state of Florida. The quarterly meetings usually run from Thursday through Saturday and include substantive work and social events for networking. Each Fellow will receive a subsidy of up to \$2,500 annually (not to exceed actual out-of-pocket expenses) to help defray the expense of attending RPPTL Section meetings. Each Fellow will also be assigned a social mentor, who is a member of the Executive Council, to assist the Fellow in maximizing his or her experience as a Fellow and attending RPPTL social events. In addition, each Fellow will be assigned a committee mentor to assist the Fellow's active involvement in the committee that most closely fits the Fellow's practice area with the goal of maximizing his or her professional development through the program.

In return for the RPPTL Section commitments, a Fellow is required to attend a minimum of three Executive Council meetings per year, serve as an active member of either the membership development committee or the membership diversity committee and be an active member of at least one substantive committee. As an active committee member, the Fellow will be required to complete one substantive work project on behalf of the committee on an annual basis. This project may include writing an article in his or her area of expertise for ActionLine (the Section's publication), chairing a subcommittee, or drafting proposed legislation on behalf of the committee. To assure these requirements are fulfilled, each Fellow must submit a work plan to the Fellowship committee by October of each year, which outlines the substantive work project they have chosen, and a report at the end of each year.

At the end of the Fellowship term, we are confident all Fellows will find the program helped them to enhance their development personally and professionally. We also sincerely hope that all Fellows will continue to be actively involved in the RPPTL Section committees and work towards becoming a member of the Executive Council.

**Applications must be RECEIVED by July 21, 2008.** Applications can be submitted by mail to the Florida Bar, RPPTL Section Fellowship Program, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300, ATTN: CARMELITA HAWKINS or by email to [RPPTLfellows@flabar.org](mailto:RPPTLfellows@flabar.org). If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Tae Bronner at [tae@estatelaw.com](mailto:tae@estatelaw.com) or (813) 907-6643.