



December 2004

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601 East Charleston Blvd.
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800-896-4942 702-383-8332
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Happy Holidays!

The 2004 year of NAFUSA draws to an end and the shape of things is very good. Our conferences, our C.L.E. and our camaraderie continue to evolve into a most respected professional organization. Next year we travel to Boston, Massachusetts and the Langham Hotel. October 6-8, 2005. Call 1-800-791-7761 for reservations. Registration materials are forthcoming.

A message from our new President, Jack Selden

Dear Colleagues:

What a terrific meeting in Asheville—beautiful scenery, outstanding CLE and an inspiring keynote address by Janet Reno were just a few of the highlights. Many deserve credit for the success of the meeting, but none more than Margaret Currin and Mahlon Brown. They were tireless in their efforts to make it a wonderful conference and enjoyable experience for all. I know our members join me in expressing appreciation to all who were involved in making it happen.

The current officers and directors have a tough act to follow, but immediately began planning next year's meeting set for October 6-8, 2005 at the beautiful Langham Hotel in Boston. Boston is a great choice of venue; this will be the first NAFUSA meeting to take place there. Special thanks to Don Stern and George Lowe for their continuing work in support of this conference. We are in the process of putting together the program for the Boston meeting and we welcome input and suggestions from the membership. If you have a recommendation or request, please let us know.

We are also in the process of implementing changes and improvements to the NAFUSA website. Building on the good work of Jim Cissell, Jr., we plan to update and modernize the website, including adding secured access for members to update their own biographical information and providing links from member biographical pages to law firm websites for those members who request it. We welcome your suggestions and comments as this process moves forward.

Jack W. Selden
Bradley Arant Rose & White LLP
One Federal Place
Birmingham, Alabama
(N.D. Alabama, 1992-1993)



Parting Shots.

Last year's most successful President, **Margaret Currin:**

Dear NAFUSA Colleagues,

It is with great humility and genuine appreciation that I thank you for your support and many kindnesses during my tenure as your President. As I expressed at the closing banquet, many people contributed to the success of this year's annual meeting. From an exciting golf tournament (for the first time including a women's division) preceding the actual meeting, to the closing banquet with keynote speaker former Attorney General Janet Reno, I sensed a greater camaraderie among both members and spouses than I have at previous conferences.

Those who were in Asheville know that Malcolm Bales, AUSA from the Eastern District of Texas, was the recipient of NAFUSA's 2004 J. Michael Bradford Award as outstanding Assistant United States Attorney. What a wonderful choice by your Awards Committee! Malcolm added greatly to our conference both by his participation throughout the weekend and with his outstanding CLE presentation. I would like to share with you an excerpt from a letter I received from Malcolm following the conference:

"What a wonderful time Betsy and I had in Asheville! I wanted to thank you again for the honor of the award and the grand measure of NAFUSA's hospitality. So many of the former U.S. Attorneys went out of their way to visit with me—the whole trip was a terrific encouragement to me. I will not forget the many kindnesses that we experienced."

As your President for 2004-2005, Jack Selden has some great plans in store—from improving our website to a great conference next year in Boston. I'm already looking forward to that. And I know Jack will appreciate, as I did, hearing your ideas and receiving your offers of assistance.

Best wishes to all, and see you in Boston!

Margaret Currin (E.D. North Carolina 1989-1993)

Our Friend and NAFUSA Board Member **Fred Foreman** (N.D. IL 1990-1993) was recently sworn in as a Circuit Court Judge. He promises to stay involved with NAFUSA. Congratulations are in order.

J. Malcolm Bales, last year's recipient of the J. Michael Bradford Memorial Award continues to receive praise and recognition for the prestigious NAFUSA award. Our new Secretary, **Ed Dowd**, (E.D. MO 1993-1999) recently contributed the following article in a Texas U.S. Attorney publication that also honors Malcolm Bales:

REMEMBERING MIKE BRADFORD

Remember what it was like in September of 1999. There was a huge national uproar over what had occurred at Waco six years earlier. There were congressional investigations. The press was accusing the Department of Justice of a huge cover-up and of possibly starting the fire and killing civilians. The federal judge in Waco was accusing the Department of Justice of not following his orders and demanding that all documents and all evidence of all kinds be delivered to the courthouse in Waco. Congress was demanding an independent special counsel to investigate the Attorney General, the FBI and the Army. There were civil suits pending brought by the families of the Davidians who were killed on April 19, 1993. Janet Reno decided to appoint two people to handle this situation. She appointed Mike Bradford, a former Assistant United States Attorney, a United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas to represent the Department of Justice in these civil lawsuits then pending. She needed someone dependable; someone who was totally honest; someone who

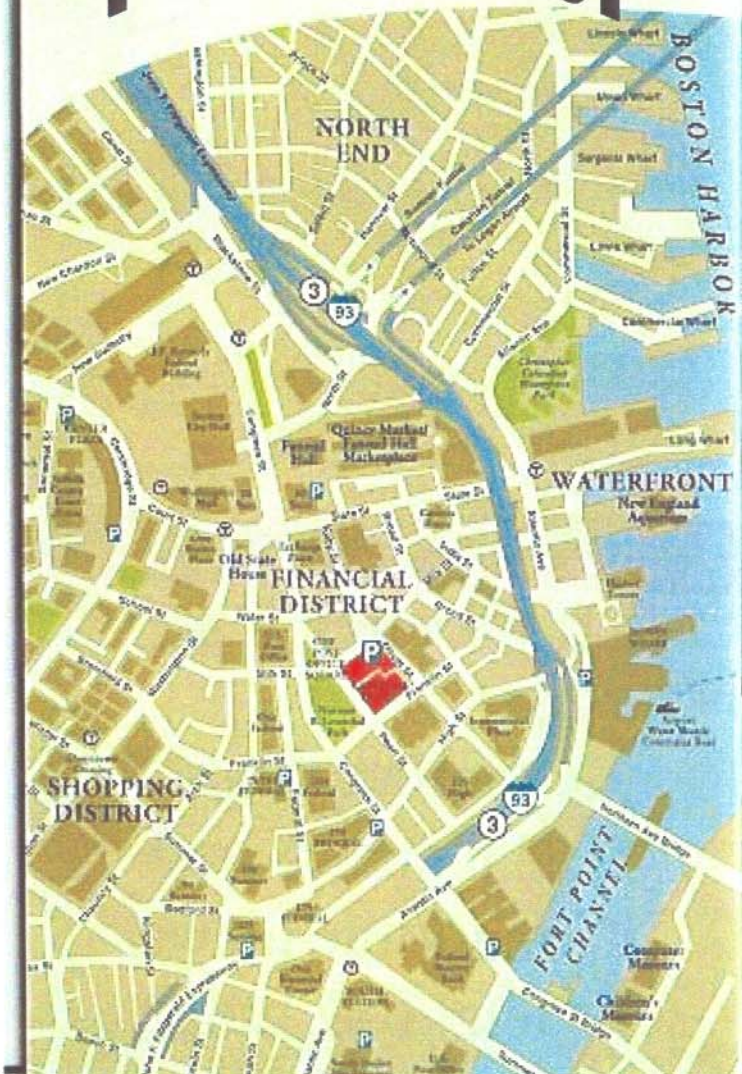


was totally candid; and someone with tremendous judgment. That is why she chose Mike Bradford.

Then she appointed former Senator John Danforth to the Special Counsel to conduct the investigation of the Department of Justice, the FBI, the Army and Attorney General Reno. I was the Deputy Special Counsel under Senator Danforth. I left my job as the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri to handle that investigation with him. I worked very closely with Mike Bradford. The Department of Justice, just like in the civil case, was slow or contentious about providing documents to us. Mike Bradford understood the absolute necessity in a case like this to be totally open with everyone investigating the government. He was also appointed by the Attorney General to be the acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas where the Waco disaster had occurred. He understood the need to get us the documents that we required without any problems. He got it. He knew the case could not be handled like he was representing State Farm Insurance Company, the way some of the DOJ attorneys handled it. The allegations of cover-up and concealment demanded openness and honesty and that's what we got from Mike Bradford. He then tried the case. I sent Willie Epps, an Assistant Special Counsel, to Waco to watch the civil trial to see what evidence we could use for our investigation. When he heard that we were going to be honoring Michael at the National Association of Former U.S. Attorneys he wrote me a heartwarming letter. Michael Bradford protected and restored the reputation of the Department of Justice in the way he handled this incredibly difficult case. He was tall. He was Texas slow talking. He inspired confidence in everything he did. - August 28, 2004

If any of you have any ideas about promoting nominees for the J. Michael Bradford Memorial Award, the deadline is January 14, 2005. Please notify Atlee Wampler at SunTrust Int'l Center, Suite 1700, One Southeast Third Avenue, Miami, FL 33131 Office 305-577-0044, Fax 305-577-8545 Email address: awampler@wbwcb.com

Reservations call 1-800-791-7761



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN...DUES!

Membership fees are due on January 1st for each calendar year. Membership is open to persons who have served as a United States Attorney. You can sign up online at the website: nafusa.com Print out the completed form and mail your payment to:

NAFUSA
Offices of the Executive Director
501 East Charleston Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89104

Check Membership type:

- ◆ Yearly membership \$ 150.00
- ◆ Senior (retired, over 70+) \$ 50.00
- ◆ Lifetime membership \$1,500.00

If you are a registered member and want to renew your membership, simply circle

Our friend **Sid Lezak**, District of Oregon, 1961-1982 recently and healthfully celebrated his 80th birthday.

What a Guy!



With sadness, we relate the death of **Doris Swords Poppler**, Montana's first female U.S. Attorney. Poppler was born and raised in Billings. During World War II she left college to enlist in the U.S. Navy's WAVES-Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service. After she completed her military service, Poppler enrolled in the University of Montana Law School in 1946. She was the only female in her graduating class of 1948. In 1990, she was appointed by President Bush as U.S. Attorney for the District of Montana. She also served as a field representative for the National Indian Gaming Commission and as a member of the Montana Human Rights Commission., chairwoman of the Metra Board and president of the Yellowstone County Bar Association. Earlier this year, she received a lifetime achievement award from the Yellowstone Area Bar Association and a distinguished alumni award from the University of Montana Law School.

"I have always enjoyed challenge and adventure," she commented to a reporter for the Gazette in 1984 in her run for Montana Supreme Court. *"It teaches you marvelous self-discipline and that has been one of the characteristics of my life."*



National Association of United States Attorneys

601 East Charleston Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89104-1508
800-896-4942 702-383-8452 fax



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- ◆ Located on Post Office Square
- ◆ Situated 2.5 miles from Logan Int'l Airport in the heart of downtown Boston.
- ◆ 325 Luxury-appointed suites
- ◆ Four Diamond, 4 Star, top 50 hotels
- ◆ Award winning restaurants

BOSTON HARBOR BOAT CRUISES

The Golf Tournament is
already in place!

Get out those
Calendars and
mark the dates:
Oct 6-8, 2005
BOSTON

*Did you know this news-
letter will be on the web?
Archived issues are
also available.
www.nafusa.org*