

Celebrating Traditions Old and New

November is here. My children (who are both adults) are already talking about Thanksgiving dinner. What are we serving? Who is making what? Where are we eating and what time? When I was growing up, my family celebrated Thanksgiving more as an excuse to get together than a long-standing tradition. My parents came from Cuba in 1950s and soon learned about the "turkey holiday" in November. Mind you, we got together with relatives and celebrated, but the menu was slightly different than a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

We did not have turkey but roast pork, black beans and rice instead of mashed potatoes, and flan instead of apple pie. That changed over time and my mother, who liked turkey, would make both, and we added more traditional side items as we got older and invited friends over that were not Hispanic.

November has many days dedicated to food, from National Cinnamon Day to Calzone Day, Deviled Egg Day and Donut Day. We can definitely find a way to eat our way through November.

It is also time to celebrate Veterans Day. Starting out as Armistice Day in 1919 to commemorate the end of World War I, it became Veterans Day in 1954. President Eisenhower signed a bill changing the name of the holiday and making it a day to honor all veterans who served our country. Each year on November 11th, we express our gratitude as a nation to all who served in the Armed Forces. To those of you who are members of the LBA and who are veterans, we thank you for your service.



Congratulations to our Lawlapalooza winner, Subpoena Colada! They raised more than \$3,600 for the night. The total amount raised set a record of more than \$7,500 for the Judge Ellen Ewing Foundation. Proceeds from the event support a Louisville law student to work at the Legal Aid Society. All the bands were fantastic, and it was a great event. See page 17 for a recap of the event complete with photos!

There are several programs in November for our members to participate in:

- November 6-7: The Carl A. Warns, Jr. & Edwin R. Render Labor & Employment Law Institute, co-sponsored with the UofL Brandeis School of Law at the Bar Center. See details on page 20.
- November 13: The annual LBA Member Appreciation and Awards Luncheon at the Ice House. See details on page 10.
- November 14: The DIY Law Firm Marketing: What is the Best Investment to Make for Your Firm's Long Term Future (which is part of Beyond the Bar: Running Your Practice – a solo/small firm monthly CLE series). See details on page 11.

November is also a good time to reflect on the last few months and plan for the future. We put up holiday decorations for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. We plan our holiday travel to see family and friends or just take time off to relax and spend quality time at home. We shop and buy gifts and send packages. We watch holiday movies and play music that by the time the holidays end, we are relieved we can turn it off. These traditions vary from family to family but we all have them and should enjoy them. Life is really too short.

On October 18th, seven million people across the country, including several attorneys in Louisville, participated in the "No Kings" events across the U.S. The attacks on the Rule of Law are due to continue. Recent attacks on judges and elected officials have many worried about their safety. ICE raids continue to spread across the country. The National Guard has been deployed into cities without any unrest or violence. A dozen eggs cost over \$8.00 in February and gas prices continue to be high. All of this and a government shutdown. 2025 has been a year which I honestly never thought would occur in the United States.

2026 has got to be better.



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Maria A. Fernandez
LBA President