



Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

January 2023

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NEXT MEETING

Friday, January 27 at
12 Noon
at Marina Jack

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JANUARY SPEAKER: James A. Prozzi

Topic: "The Supreme Court and Three Pending Decisions That Could Remake the American Workplace"

The Supreme Court has three cases ready for decision during its current Term that could affect the American workplace. These cases involve three different federal laws: the Wage and Hour Law, the National Labor Relations Act, and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, as well as the Equal Protection Clause of the Constitution.

As Prozzi, a forty-three-year labor lawyer and eleven year (and counting) adjunct law professor, states, the Supreme Court potentially could remake the private sector workplace in answering the following three questions:

- Is a supervisor paid more than \$200,000 per year entitled to another \$100,000 in overtime pay because he was not paid "on a salary basis"?
- Can a union be sued in state court for property damage caused by a strike, or was the union's conduct "arguably protected" under the NLRA and a state court action therefore subject to federal preemption?
- Could a Supreme Court decision finding that affirmative action in higher education is discriminatory mean that corporate diversity efforts are also discriminatory?

About Jim Prozzi:

Jim Prozzi is currently an adjunct professor of law at Stetson University College of Law, teaching Employment Law. He spent his entire legal career, from 1977 until 2020, practicing labor and employment law on behalf of management. He started with an experienced sole practitioner in Pittsburgh, and after ten years, joined the Pittsburgh office of Jackson, Lewis, the country's second-largest labor and employment "boutique" firm. During these years of active practice, Jim's labor law work included union negotiations and arbitrations, as well as National Labor Relations Board elections and hearings. His employment law practice during those years included numerous trials (jury and non-jury) as well as a sub-specialty of advice and litigation in the area of Federal Wage and Hour law. He has argued more than 30 cases before the Federal Courts of Appeals.

Amicus Personae – Stanley A. Bass
Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Stanley A. Bass was admitted to the New York and Illinois bars. He attended Bronx High School of Science and CCNY, where he served as president of the Modern Jazz Society for 3 ½ years. After taking a class in American Constitutional Law, he decided to pursue a career as a civil rights lawyer. Upon graduation from the University of Chicago Law School, he was admitted to the Illinois bar, and then served as a law clerk to the first African American U.S. District Judge. He then became a sole practitioner, helping to establish the first Federal Defender Program in Chicago. Upon receipt of a Ford Foundation grant to the University of Chicago Law School to establish a Center for Studies in Criminal Justice, he was retained to set up a Civil Legal Aid Service in the Cook County Jail. In addition to helping inmates with ordinary civil issues, Mr. Bass pursued a law reform agenda, challenging practices and procedures in Chicago's criminal justice system, such as imprisonment of indigents unable to pay fines. See *Williams v. Illinois*, 399 U.S. 235 (1970).

Subsequently, Mr. Bass was invited to join the NAACP Legal Defense Fund in New York City, where he supervised a nationwide litigation program to protect the rights of prisoners, with special emphasis on the rights of pre-trial detainees in decrepit local jails, who are presumed by law to be innocent. These litigations resulted in several more arguments in the U.S. Supreme Court, bringing the total to five.

Later on, upon the establishment of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct, Mr. Bass joined its legal team, and conducted its first public hearing of a judicial disciplinary proceeding. The judge charged with misconduct was found guilty and eventually removed from office by the New York Court of Appeals.

During this period, Mr. Bass also served two terms as a public member of the New York State Board for Psychology, which set standards and conducted disciplinary hearings.

In 1984, Mr. Bass was selected by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit to serve as Staff Counsel, with responsibility to conduct confidential settlement conferences in civil matters. After 27 years of service there, Mr. Bass finally retired and moved to Sarasota, Florida, where he joined ARAS.

Loss of a Good Friend of our Association

Last month marked the sudden passing of our long-time administrative assistant Judy Dean. Many of you knew of her from the emails and notices she sent on behalf ARAS these past six years. She was a good person and very loyal to ARAS. Judy was always available to assist the officers and members whenever an issue or problem arose within her purview. She was invaluable to your Treasurer and President, who worked directly with her on a regular basis. Judy Dean will be missed.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED ATTORNEYS OF SARASOTA

Notice is given that the Annual meeting of the members of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota will be held at 12:00 noon on January 27, 2023.

Election of Directors by Members: The terms of the following Directors expire at the 2023 annual meeting:

Milly Collins

Joel Helmrich

Michael Krasnow

Judith Starr

Stephen Sturm

Harold Zabin

Six members will be elected for two-year terms to fill these vacancies. Any of the Directors whose term is expiring may be elected for another term. The Nominating Committee will present its nominations for these Directors at the Annual Meeting.

Michael Krasnow

Secretary, ARAS

It's Time to Pay 2023 Dues

The Board of Directors has been able to maintain the \$55 annual amount for the past 8 years. Please mail your 2023 dues payment and/or your luncheon payment of \$28 payable to the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc. If choosing to mail your payments, please send to Ben Berman, 4223 Mackay Falls Terrace, Sarasota, Florida 34243. We are pleased to accept your payment by check or through our online payment option. Please get your luncheon payment to Ben prior to Wednesday of the luncheon week. After that Wednesday, no refunds can be given since the venue will have been notified of your intention to attend.

Make payments on our website: \$28 for lunch and/or \$55 for 2023 dues using PayPal at

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

Please note the following dates for the next six luncheons:

Friday, February 24

Friday, March 24

Friday, April 28

Monday, May 22

Friday, June 23

Friday, September 22

We look forward to seeing you at Marina Jack at noon on the above dates.

Ideas for Future Programs?

The Program Committee is always receptive to ideas for future programs. If any member has a topic or a speaker to suggest, please contact Judith Starr at jrstarr@tampabay.rr.com. Any member interested in participating in the Program Committee should contact Judith Starr at the address above.

NEWLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have items of interest to the members, please forward them to

Milly Collins at milly4747@live.com or

Joel Helmrich at jhelmrich@gmail.com

HISTORY BOOK CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the History Book Club will be January 25 from 10 until noon at the Selby Library. We will be discussing STRONGMEN: MUSSOLINI TO THE PRESENT (W.S. Norton & Co. 2021), available from Amazon. If you can join us please drop a note to tdubbs@labaton.com. Hope to see you there.