

Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law Section Profile

By Brian J. Malkin

Section helps food and drug law attorneys explore FDA guidance, legislation with a New York twist



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The Food, Drug & Cosmetic Law Section offers both experienced and novice practitioners excellent opportunities to enhance their professional skills and knowledge.

Section activities provide valuable opportunities to meet and network with in-house, law firm, federal and state regulatory agency, industry self-regulatory body and trade association attorneys from around the country.

The section's hallmark event is its Annual Meeting, which assembles many experts to present on a variety of subjects of interest to food and drug law practitioners in continuing legal

education (CLE) and committee programs. Since 1945, NYSBA has been providing its Food, Drug & Cosmetic Law Section (FDC) members with many advantages, highlighted below.

Educational programs

Take advantage of NYSBA's CLE programs at reduced member rates. CLE programs are an outstanding way to hone your skills and stay abreast of new developments affecting your profession.

Section members are encouraged to suggest topics, to have their organizations serve as hosts, to participate as speakers and to attend the programs.

For example, in 2015, the FDC partnered with the Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section to present a one-of-a-kind CLE program on celebrity chefs, restaurants and food sales on restau-

rant premises, with an emphasis on bringing such businesses to New York.

Leadership opportunities

Everyone, regardless of his or her level of experience as a food and drug law attorney, is encouraged to become a participant in section leadership, including section committees that focus on particular areas of food and drug law and enrolling in valuable training (provided by the State Bar) in the skills needed to succeed in such positions. Just this year, new members of FDC's committees worked together to comment on the federal Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) "Guidance For Industry Compounding for Animal Drugs from Bulk Drug Substances." Members became involved in various issues for biosimi-

lars, including drafting regulations to amend New York's pharmacy laws regarding biosimilars and substitution and the FDA's Guidance on Nonproprietary Naming for Biological Products.

Other new members became involved in committees, spoke at the section's Annual Meeting and other national food and drug law events that included partnerships with the Food and Drug Law Institute and other conference providers in the food and drug law space. ♦

Malkin is section chair. He is a senior counsel at McGuire Woods LLP in Washington, D.C. and leads the firm's FDA regulatory team. His practice includes the interrelation between patent law and food and drug law.