

AGREEMENT

By and between,

THE BRUSSELS BAR

And

THE FLORIDA BAR

WHEREAS :

The Florida Bar (le Barreau de Floride) and The Brussels Bar (l'Ordre français des avocats du barreau de Bruxelles), wishing to establish a special relationship and moved by a common concern over the future of the international legal profession, deem it desirable to establish close links between the two Associations, and specifically :

- to enable members of both Bar Associations to become acquainted with the ever more permanent and constructive legal relationships arising from the economic and social interaction between the two countries and their citizens;
- to improve the client legal-services under American law and French law through enhanced reciprocal understanding of the legal systems and court procedures of the two countries.

This common stance is also in response to the following professional needs :

- to foster increased circulation of lawyers, facilitating the practice of the profession between the two countries, and enabling exchanges and meetings, particularly in the area of professional training among young or aspiring lawyers;
- to facilitate relationships between the two Associations, through the exchange of information on matters relating to professional ethics and professional training, particularly in areas which will assist each Association's members and their respective clients to understand the laws and legal systems of the other Association's state or country;
- to foster long term personal and professional contact between members of the two Associations ;
- to enable common ideas or initiatives to be formed on matters relating to the defense of the principles of the profession and other matters requiring such an approach.

Now therefore, both Associations agree as follows :

ARTICLE 1.

THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

ARTICLE 1.1

The Florida Bar and the Brussels Bar shall endeavor to organize meetings from time to time between delegations of their respective members to exchange points of view and information relating chiefly to legal practice, the professional rights of lawyers and their professional organizations.

ARTICLE 1.2

The Florida Bar and the Brussels Bar shall exchange information on trends, procedures and developments regarding entry into the legal profession and initial and on-going training required by the profession in their respective jurisdictions.

ARTICLE 1.3

Each Association shall keep the other informed of relevant developments pertaining to the practice of the legal profession.

ARTICLE 1.4

Both Bars Associations shall exchange the information necessary to enable them to inform their members of the conditions, restrictions and requirements for qualifying as Foreign Legal Consultants in the other jurisdiction, particularly regarding the professional and ethical standards prevailing in the host jurisdiction. Both Bars Associations shall assist the members of the other Association to become affiliated members of the other Association, subject to compliance with the requirements for affiliated membership in each other's Associations.

ARTICLE 1.5

Each Association may distribute information regarding this Agreement to their members and invite comments and suggestions from their members for exchange between the Associations.

ARTICLE 2

ARTICLE 2.1

The Florida Bar contemplates coordinating a program in order to welcome young lawyers from the Brussels Bar who are competent in the use of the English language and who wish to acquaint themselves with, or deepen their knowledge of, American law through work experience terms in recognized law firms in Florida. Such lawyers shall also be encouraged to attend events and pursue continuous training arranged for lawyers of that jurisdiction.

The Brussels Bar contemplates coordinating a program in order to welcome young lawyers from the Florida Bar who are competent in the use of the French language and who wish to acquaint themselves with, or deepen their knowledge of, Belgian law through work experience terms in recognized law firms in Belgium. Such lawyers shall also be encouraged to attend events and pursue continuous training arranged for lawyers of that jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 2.2

The two Associations (based upon their respective hosting capacity) shall inform each other of the number of places to be offered each year, where appropriate, and the members to whom the study-visits are awarded. The structure and organization of these study-visits (reception, accommodation, registration, fees, remuneration, etc.) shall be mutually decided.

ARTICLE 3

AMENDMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement may be amended by joint agreement between the parties hereto by means of an appendix.

ARTICLE 4

PERMANENT COMMITTEE

A group of permanent members from both Bar Associations shall be created in order to facilitate greater cooperation and follow-up between the Brussels Bar and the Florida Bar.

ARTICLE 5

EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement is drawn up in both the French and English languages with both versions having equal validity. This Agreement shall become effective once signed by an authorized representative of each Bar Association, both of which are parties to this agreement.

ARTICLE 6

PERFORMANCE

The Chairs of the Brussels Bar and the Florida Bar hereby agree to facilitate the enactment and administration of the aforementioned provisions.

Done in Brussels, on June 19, 2015

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink are located at the bottom of the page. The signature on the left is a stylized, cursive 'S' followed by a long horizontal stroke. The signature on the right is a more complex, cursive signature with multiple loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.