West Palm Beach attorney Scott G. Hawkins will be sworn in as the 63rd president of The Florida Bar on June 24th at the Annual Convention being held in Orlando. Tampa attorney Gwynne A. Young will be sworn in as president-elect during the same ceremony.

During his year as president, Hawkins wants to promote professionalism, underscoring the point with the Bar's more than 90,000 members that practicing law is a privilege.

"I want to encourage a reverence for the role of being a lawyer in our culture, in our complicated world where more and more behavior is driven by what is expedient, what's easy," said Hawkins.

The Florida Bar is charged by the Florida Supreme Court with overseeing lawyer regulation in the state. During his term, Hawkins wants to study how the Bar handles the grievance process through which lawyers face discipline if they are found to have violated the rules governing the profession.

"We need to honor our obligation as effectively as we can," said Hawkins. "I want to have a broad, representative group, some of whom are not serving on the Board of Governors, to take a look at the grievance process."

Hawkins grew up in the Tampa area, where his father was a mechanical contractor and his mother an elementary school teacher. At Chamberlain High School, he played on the 1976 championship golf team as well as served as an editor of the school's newspaper and as student body treasurer.
He attended the University of Florida as an undergraduate, earning a degree in economics with honors and becoming president of the Sigma Chi fraternity.

Following graduation, he attended law school at the University of Florida. Then, as a Rotary International Foundation Scholar, he attended the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, earning a master's in business administration.

Hawkins joined his current firm, Jones Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, in 1985 and made partner in four and a half years.

A member of The Florida Bar Board of Governors since 2004, he has served on numerous board committees over the past seven years and was a charter member of Committee on Judicial Independence. During the coming year, he plans to continue the Bar’s traditional support of the judiciary as a co-equal branch of government and work for funding to maintain an efficient court system.

The Florida Bar's Annual Convention is being held June 22 to 25 at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee/Orlando.

In addition to the inauguration of new officers, the convention offers attorneys a chance to network with peers, take Continuing Legal Education courses and learn about the newest services and technology available to the profession in the Lawyers Marketplace.

Media interested in covering convention events are asked to contact Public Information Director Francine A. Walker (fwalker@flabar.org) or Assistant Director Zannah Lyle (slyle@flabar.org) at (850) 561-5666.

[See the President's Page for a photo and more information.]

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EDITORS: Please note The Florida Bar is not an association and "Association" is not part of our name. Proper reference is "The Florida Bar." Local bar organizations are properly termed "associations."

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