



## Finding silver linings

*Regulatory leaders stand up for public protection*

The National Policy Summit on Professional Regulation was inaugurated in July by FARB, the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards. It may be seen as a happy outcome to a less-than-happy Supreme Court ruling against the North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners, which has the potential to affect all professional regulatory boards in the United States. (See [Counsel's Column](#), April 2015.)

The summit, held in Washington, D.C., brought together 22 CEOs from associations and federations of regulatory boards representing health care professions, real estate law, architecture, and engineering to name a few. The purpose of the summit was to coordinate the efforts of each respective organization and identify commonalities of regulation. As one of FARB's governing members, ASWB was a participant, represented by CEO Mary Jo Monahan, who also serves as secretary/treasurer of FARB.

"This was a historic gathering of leadership of the regulatory community," said Monahan. "The ideas exchanged during this collaborative meeting will

strengthen the mission of public protection that all regulatory boards and their associations share." Topics included finding a collective regulatory voice, state-based regulation, and antitrust implications of statutorily created and authorized regulatory boards.

Discussion continued as the attendees moved from the policy summit to the 2015 FARB Leadership Conference, which took place over the next two days. As part of that forum, Monahan facilitated a discussion on board governance and leadership. Her presentation focused on creative and engaging recruitment, nomination, and selection processes. She also reviewed the "governance as leadership" model of board governance that ASWB has used effectively in the past year. She closed the session with a discussion of the working relationship between CEO and board chair, emphasizing that excellent results can be achieved when the partnership of these leaders is built on mutual respect and trust. Also attending the conference were ASWB President Dorinda Noble and President-Elect Jenise Comer.