



PRACTICING AS A NEW LAWYER IN FEDERAL COURT: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

July 19, 2018, 12:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Alfred A. Arraj Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room

AGENDA

12:30 p.m.

Welcome

Daniel Graham, FFA Board Member, Perkins Coie, LLP

12:35 p.m.

Panel Presentation: United States District Court Judicial Officers

Honorable William J. Martinez, U.S. District Court

Honorable John L. Kane, U.S. District Court

Honorable Kristen L. Mix, U.S. District Court

Daniel Graham, Esq., Perkins Coie, LLP, moderator

1:30 p.m.

Welcome from the Clerk's Office

Jeffrey Colwell, Clerk of Court, United States District Court

1:55 p.m.

Panel Presentation: Pro Bono Work in the U.S. District Court

Cheyenne A.E. Moore, Esq., Messner Reeves, LLP

Parker J. Smith, Esq., Taylor Anderson, LLP

Anna-Liisa Mullis, Esq., Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

Elisabeth (Lisi) L. Owen, Esq., Levin Sitcoff, PC, moderator

2:40 p.m.

Break

2:50 p.m.

Practice Tips for New Lawyers from the Judges Through Their Staff

Edward Butler, Legal Officer, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

3:15 p.m.

Introduction to Practice in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court

Honorable Kimberley H. Tyson, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado

3:45 p.m.

Lawyers Who Think: Ethics and Conduct Federal Practice

Kendra N. Beckwith, Esq., Messner Reeves, LLP

Thomas J. Overton, Esq., The Overton Law Firm

**Join us at the Renaissance Hotel after the event (918 17th Street)
for Refreshments and Conversation**



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ABOUT THE FFA

The Mission of the FFA

The Faculty of Federal Advocates (FFA) is an organization of attorneys dedicated to improving the quality of legal practice in the federal courts in Colorado by enhancing advocacy skills, professionalism, and the integrity of practice.

Membership

Membership in the FFA is free for law clerks, law students, and new lawyers who have passed the bar within the last two years (since January 2016 for 2018 membership). Annual dues for lawyers admitted prior to January 2016 is \$100.

If you didn't sign-up on registration, go to www.FacultyFederalAdvocates.org to sign-up for membership.

2018 Board of Directors

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Dana J. Collier Smith, *Executive Director*



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UPCOMING EVENTS

The District Court by the Numbers

The Honorable Michael E. Hegarty

July 26, 2018

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

Alfred A. Arraj Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room

Colorado Goes to the Supreme Court

Colorado Solicitor General Fred Yarger

Robert Fishman, Ridley, McGreevy & Winocur, PC

Andrew Nathan, Nathan Dumm & Mayer, PC

August 9, 2018

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

Alfred A. Arraj Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room

Hold the Date:

September 13, 2018

CLE Brown Bag

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

Alfred A. Arraj Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room

October 19, 2018

FFA Bankruptcy Bench Bar Roundtable

1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Westin Denver Downtown

Sign-Up online and learn more at

www.FacultyFederalAdvocates.org

or email Dana Collier Smith at dana@facultyfederaladvocates.org



PRACTICING AS A NEW LAWYER IN FEDERAL COURT: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

TOP FIVE TIPS FOR NEW PRACTITIONERS

1. Learn the Local Rules. The United States District Court for the District of Colorado has a set of Local Rules (civil, criminal, patent, AP, attorney) that you must follow. The Court updates and revises the Local Rules, so you must review them regularly.

Link to Local Rules:

<http://www.cod.uscourts.gov/CourtOperations/RulesProcedures/LocalRules.aspx>

2. Review Practice Standards. In addition to the Local Rules, each Judge maintains his or her own practice standards. The Judges will expect you to be familiar with and follow their practice standards. You can find the practice standards on the District of Colorado's website.
3. Observe Hearings and Trials. Attending hearings or trials is a great way to learn how the Judges in the District run their courtrooms. Before participating in your own hearing or trial, try to attend a similar hearing or trial conducted by the Judge who is presiding over your case.
4. Join the Civil Pro Bono Panel. Taking a panel pro bono case is a great way to gain experience in federal court.
5. Become an FFA Member and Attend FFA Events. FFA events will provide you with insight from the District of Colorado Judges, as well as insight from established practitioners. Attending FFA events is an easy way to improve your practice.

USDC - COLORADO CIVIL PRO BONO PANEL

- The FFA Supports the United States District Court – Colorado Civil Pro Bono Panel
- About the Panel:
The Plan is a program consisting of volunteer attorneys willing to represent individuals of limited financial means (not strictly limited to the “indigent”) in civil matters whenever requested by the Court and without compensation. As a means to assist attorneys in providing pro bono services, the court has established a panel of attorneys who are members in good standing of the Bar of the district court and who have agreed to accept pro bono appointments to represent pro se litigants (plaintiff or defendant) in civil cases.

The following are some of the unique aspects of the Panel program:

- Individual lawyers, law school clinical programs, or law firms can join the Panel.
 - Participants can specify how many cases will be accepted per year, and no more than that amount will be assigned – either on an individual basis, or as a law firm.
 - If a law firm joins the program, it can assign to the individual cases that it accepts any attorney or attorneys from within the firm that it chooses, as long as the attorneys are members of the District Court bar and in good standing.
 - A Panel member (Individual or Law Firm) can specify which types of cases/causes of action he/she/it will accept, from the following categories:
 - Civil rights cases
 - Consumer rights/ credit reporting/ foreclosure cases
 - Employment discrimination claims
 - FOIA/Privacy Act cases
 - Prisoners' rights cases (42 U.S.C. § 1983 or Bivens)
 - Social Security appeals
 - Other categories
- Reimbursement: The FFA provides reimbursement to attorneys up to \$3,000 for approved fees and costs for Pro Bono Panel Cases. An additional \$3,000 might be available per case for pre-approved expert fees. We encourage practitioners to seek discounts from providers for pro bono services and to donate funds back to the fund in the event of a favorable settlement.