

Every year in the Western District of Oklahoma, federal and state prisoners file hundreds of pro se civil rights actions challenging the conditions of their confinement, the conduct of prison officials, and various administrative decisions affecting their incarceration. Although many of these cases are resolved at an early stage, some of them involve more extensive proceedings— discovery, briefing of summary judgment motions, and trial.

In these more complex cases, the federal judges sometimes appoint counsel. For the last several years, the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Federal Bar Association has assisted the court in finding capable and committed attorneys to represent prisoners in these cases.

This continuing legal education program will provide an overview of the FBA's program, as well as the applicable procedures and controlling law. Accepting a court appointment in these cases offers interested attorneys an opportunity to provide much-needed assistance to these clients and to the court and to further the profession's highest ideals. These court appointments also provide younger lawyers with valuable opportunities to gain experience in federal court litigation involving interesting and important issues of constitutional law.

If you are interested in appointments in these cases, we hope you will consider joining us for this program at the United States Courthouse in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 200 N.W. 4<sup>th</sup> on Friday, December 1, 2017.

The FBA anticipates that the program will be approved for 3.0 hours of continuing education credit. There is no charge for admission.

**THE PRO BONO CIVIL RIGHTS PANEL  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA:  
AN INTRODUCTION AND AN OVERVIEW**

**I. Overview of the FBA's Pro Bono Program (9:00 -9:15)**

Matthew Panach; Fuller, Tubb, & Bickford, PLLC, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**II. Prisoner Litigation in the Western District of Oklahoma (9:15-10:00)**

United States Magistrate Judges for the Western District of Oklahoma

**Break (10:00- 10:15)**

**III. Overview of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and other statutes and cases concerning prisoner litigation (10:15- 11:00)**

Stephen L. Geries; Collins, Zorn, & Wagner, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**IV. Representing and Communicating with Incarcerated Clients (11:00-11:30)**

Tony Lacy, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Western District of Oklahoma

**V. Case studies of Pro Bono Representation (11:30-12:15)**

The Honorable Robert E. Bacharach, United States Circuit Judge;

Michael Brooks, The Brooks Law Firm, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Reagan Bradford; Lanier Law Firm, Oklahoma City Office

**Reception (12:15-1:00)**