



Federal Bar Association

HOW TO BE A CHAPTER CIVICS LIAISON

1. Familiarize yourself with the FBA's civics page located at <http://www.fedbar.org/civics.aspx>. The civics page offers some great ideas for courtroom and classroom activities geared to students of all ages. It also contains links to videos and photos of the recent civics efforts throughout the country.
2. Know these dates:

December 1, 2017 is the launch date for the Federal Judges Association ("FJA")/FBA Civics Essay and Video Contest - "What Does Equal Protection under the Law Mean to Me?" Entries must be received February 28, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. Winners will be announced by March 30, 2018.

January 12, 2018 is the deadline for chapters to submit the first quarter civics survey. A copy of the survey is attached to this document and can be found on the FBA's civics page. Please submit the survey to Julia Baldini at jbaldini@fedbar.org.

February 13, 2018 is the first quarter national civics education conference call at 4:00 p.m.

April 9, 2018 is the deadline for chapters to submit the second quarter civics survey.

May 2018 is the target month for this year's Administrative Office ("A.O.)/FBA Open Doors to Federal Courts project. The theme of this year's national project is "Teen Discourse and Decisions –TD²" TD² is a three-hour program designed to sharpen tools for civil discourse and decision making. Materials will be circulated to chapters in mid-March.

May 8, 2018 is the second quarter national civics conference call at 4:00 p.m.

July 6, 2018 is the deadline for chapters to submit the third quarter civics survey.

August 7, 2018 is the third quarter national civics education conference call at 4:00 p.m.

September 17, 2018 is Constitution and Citizenship Day. The theme for this year's federal courts' national initiative is "Federal Courts - Guardians of the Constitution." Chapters throughout the country will be encouraged to sponsor a special naturalization ceremony in their community focusing on this theme. More than 40 courts participated in last year's program, and we hope to increase that number with your help. To get a list of court contacts and an online how-to guide for hosting a naturalization ceremony, please contact the A.O.'s National Outreach Manager Rebecca Fanning at Rebecca_Fanning@ao.uscourts.gov.

3. Create a civics plan that works for your chapter. Some chapters conduct week-long court camps. Some chapters bring schoolchildren to the courthouse or accompany judges and FBA members to teach civics in local schools. Other chapters find it more feasible to plan a single naturalization ceremony or simply sponsor the essay contest. Whatever your resources, we (the FBA and the Administrative Office) are here to help.
4. For free national publicity and the eternal gratitude of the FBA, send a blurb and pictures after each event to jbaldini@fedbar.org with a cc to sperlman@fedbar.org