



The FBA Newsletter

Federal Bar Association, Dallas Chapter

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www.fedbar.org/dallas.html

Winter 2017

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Upcoming FBA Events

January 27, 2017

Inaugural Northern District of Texas Bench Bar Conference (Registration Required)

Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas at Las Colinas,
4150 North MacArthur Boulevard, Irving, TX 75038

February 28, 2017 at Noon

Dallas Chapter Young Lawyer's Brown Bag Lunch with Judge O'Connor

Earle Cabell Federal Courthouse, 1100 Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas 75242

March 18, 2017

FBA 2017 Midyear Meeting (Registration Required)

Capital Hilton, 1001 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036

April 4, 2017 at Noon

Dallas Chapter Young Lawyer's Brown Bag Lunch with Judges Fitzwater and Boyle

Earle Cabell Federal Courthouse, 1100 Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas 75242

April 20, 2017

FBA Capitol Hill Day (Registration Required)

Washington, DC

President's Message



With the inaugural Northern District of Texas Bench Bar Conference fast approaching, I wanted to take a second to thank those of you who have already registered for the event. Because of active, dedicated members like each of you, the Dallas Chapter is able to put on worthwhile CLEs regarding federal practice for our local legal community. With nearly forty confirmed speakers and panelists from throughout the Northern District, this first-time conference is shaping up to be a successful testament to our Chapter's efforts and goals. None of this would be possible without

the tireless efforts of our Executive Committee (listed to the left) and the Bench Bar Committee, which includes the following FBA members: Jill Bindler (Gray Reed & McGraw), Joe Cleveland (Brackett & Ellis), Richard Guiltinan, (U.S. Attorney's Office, Committee Co-Chair), Carolyn Hill (Attorney at Law), Ann Howey (U.S. District Clerk's Office, N.D. Tex.), Jason Jordan (Haynes & Boone), Karen Mitchell (U.S. District Clerk, N.D. Tex.), Rebecca Rutherford (Law Clerk to Chief District Judge Barbara M.G. Lynn), Joshua Smeltzer (U.S. Department of Justice), Marc Taubenfeld

(McGuire, Craddock & Strother), and Ben Thomas (Sidley Austin). If you know one or more of these committee members, please reach out to them at Bench Bar to tell them what you think of the Conference and to share any ideas for improvements going forward.

If you have not yet registered for Bench Bar, please consider attending. Details, including the Conference Agenda, are below. If you would like to get more involved in the Federal Bar Association, or if you would like to participate on the Bench Bar Committee going forward, please contact me (cthomas@velaw.com or 214.220.7815) or Mackenzie Wallace, President-Elect (Mackenzie.Wallace@tklaw.com or 214.969.1404).

-Cort Thomas

Inaugural Northern District of Texas Bench Bar Conference

The Dallas and Fort Worth Chapters of the FBA invite you to join us on Friday, January 27, for the inaugural Northern District of Texas Bench Bar Conference. This full-day event at the Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas at Las Colinas will feature presentations from judges and leading practitioners from throughout the Northern District and beyond.

As detailed in the attached agenda, the program will include panel discussions on judicial advocacy, legal writing and argument, and civility in the legal profession as well as breakout sessions for civil practice, criminal practice, intellectual property, and bankruptcy topics. Author and historian Talmage Boston will provide a keynote address on the "Ten Commandments of Presidential Leadership."

The event has been approved for 7 hours MCLE credit, including 2 hours of Ethics credit.

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To register, please visit the event website: <http://www.fedbar.org/Chapters/Dallas-Chapter/Calendar/Dallas-Chapter-and-Fort-Worth-Chapter-2017-Northern-District-of-Texas.aspx>. Please note that the registration deadline is fast-approaching. In order to attend the Conference, you must pre-register by **Friday, January 20**.

Post-Bench Bar Reception

Immediately following the conclusion of the CLE presentations on January 27, the Texas Lawbook will host a reception for all Bench Bar attendees at the Four Seasons in the nearby Lantana Room. One complimentary drink coupon will be provided to each attendee, and light refreshments will be served. We are very grateful for the Texas Lawbook's generosity in sponsoring the event and hope that you will join us and other conference attendees and presenters as we wait out DFW traffic at the reception.

Courthouse Attorney Lounges

The Northern District of Texas has announced that attorney lounges are now available for use at the federal courthouses in Dallas and Fort Worth. The information for each facility is included below.

Attorney Lounge/Conference Room Available in the Dallas Courthouse:

- *Location:* Room 124 (first floor, south/west side of the building, just before the business center)
- *Hours of Operation:* 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- *Access:* This room is always locked. Please contact the Dallas Clerk's Office for the code.
- *Resources Available:* charging stations, computer stations with internet access, free Wi-Fi, phone, copier, conference area with a large LED presentation monitor (HDMI input), single serve coffee maker, small refrigerator

Attorney Lounge/Conference Room Available in the Ft. Worth Courthouse:

- *Location:* Room 202
- *Hours of Operation:* 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- *Resources Available:* computer station with internet access, copier/printer, private conference room, coffee machine, small refrigerator

The photos on the left are the attorney lounge in Dallas, and the photos on the right are the attorney lounge in Fort Worth.



Additional photos are posted on the following websites: <http://www.txnd.uscourts.gov/dallas-attorney-lounge> and <http://www.txnd.uscourts.gov/fort-worth-attorney-lounge>. The Northern District of Texas Court Advisory Committee is owed a special thanks for their advice on configuring and furnishing these great spaces.



INAUGURAL NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BENCH BAR CONFERENCE

January 27, 2017

Four Seasons Resort and Club
4150 North MacArthur Boulevard
Irving, Texas 75038

MCLE Credit: 7 hours
(including 2 hours of ethics)
Sponsored by the Federal Bar Association
Dallas & Fort Worth Chapters

Northern District of Texas Bench Bar Conference January 27, 2017

AGENDA

- 8:00-9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION**
- 9:00-10:00 a.m. JUDICIAL ADVOCACY PANEL**
Practical Strategies for Effective Advocacy Before Judge and Jury
District Judge Sidney A. Fitzwater
Chief Bankruptcy Judge Barbara J. Houser
Magistrate Judge Jeffrey L. Cureton
Magistrate Judge Hal R. Ray, Jr.
Joseph F. Cleveland, Jr., Brackett & Ellis (moderator)
- 10:00-10:45 a.m. APPELLATE PRACTICE PANEL**
How to Position Your Case for a Successful Appeal
Fifth Circuit Judge Jennifer Walker Elrod
Fifth Circuit Judge Catharina Haynes
Jeremy Kernodle, Haynes & Boone
Allyson Ho, Morgan Lewis
- 10:45-11:45 a.m. CIVILITY & ETHICS PANEL (1 hour MCLE Ethics Credit)**
Can Courts Require Civil Conduct?
Fifth District Court of Appeals Justice Douglas Lang (moderator)
Dean Royal Furgeson, Jr., UNT Dallas College of Law
District Judge Jane J. Boyle
Magistrate Judge E. Scott Frost
Dawn Estes, Estes Thorne & Carr
- 11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. BREAK**
- 12:00-1:00 p.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS (1 hour MCLE Ethics Credit)**
The Ten Commandments of Presidential Leadership
Talmage Boston, Winstead PC
- 1:00-1:45 p.m. eDISCOVERY PANEL**
Discovery in a New Era: New Technology, New Media, and New Rules
Magistrate Judge Irma C. Ramirez
Monica Latin, Carrington Coleman
Eric J. Schwarz, Ernst & Young LLP
- 1:45-2:45 p.m. LAW CLERK PANEL**
A View from Inside Judicial Chambers - Insights on Effective Strategies for Litigating Cases in District Court
Rebecca Rutherford (clerk to C.J. Lynn) (moderator)
Ben Thomas, Sidley Austin (former clerk to J. Fitzwater)
Grant Schmidt, Fish & Richardson (former clerk to J. Lindsay)
Elizabeth Cuneo, Gibson Dunn (former clerk to J. Boyle)
Sheria Smith, Dep't of Education (former clerk to J. Godbey and J. Horan)
- 2:45-3:00 p.m. BREAK**



3:00-3:55 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

BANKRUPTCY BREAKOUT

Expectations and Strategies When Your Civil Lawsuit Gets Pulled into the Bankruptcy World

Bankruptcy Judge Robert L. Jones
Bankruptcy Judge Stacey G.C. Jernigan
Bankruptcy Judge Mark X. Mullin
Marty Brimmage, Akin Gump (moderator)

IP BREAKOUT

Hot Issues in Intellectual Property in the Northern and Eastern Districts

Chief District Judge Barbara M.G. Lynn
District Judge Rodney Gilstrap (E.D. Tex.)
District Judge David C. Godbey
Jon Suder, Friedman, Suder & Cooke

CRIMINAL BREAKOUT

A Panorama View of Criminal Practice in the Northern District

Magistrate Judge Paul D. Stickney
Magistrate Judge Renee H. Toliver
Jason Hawkins, Federal Public Defender
Chad Meacham, First Assistant U.S. Attorney

CIVIL BREAKOUT

Civil Practice Points Every Lawyer Should Know

District Judge Sam A. Lindsay
Magistrate Judge Clinton E. Averitte
Magistrate Judge D. Gordon Bryant, Jr.
Magistrate Judge Kimberly C. Priest Johnson (E.D. Tex.)
Hon. Jeff Kaplan (Ret.), JAMS-Dallas (moderator)

3:55-4:05 p.m.

BREAK

4:05-4:40 p.m.

BEST TIPS FROM BREAKOUTS

4:40-4:45 p.m.

CLOSING REMARKS

4:45-6:30 p.m.

RECEPTION SPONSORED BY THE TEXAS LAWBOOK

One complimentary drink coupon will be provided to each attendee. Light refreshments will be provided.



THANK YOU!

Special thanks to the following groups who made this year's Bench Bar Conference possible:

Northern District of Texas Bench Bar Committee

Jill Bindler, Gray Reed & McGraw
Joe Cleveland, Brackett & Ellis
Richard Gultinan, U.S. Attorney's Office (Co-Chair)
Carolyn Hill, Attorney at Law
Ann Howey, U.S. District Clerk's Office, N.D. Tex.
Jason Jordan, Haynes & Boone
Karen Mitchell, U.S. District Clerk, N.D. Tex.
Rebecca Rutherford, Law Clerk to Chief District Judge Barbara M.G. Lynn
Joshua Smeltzer, Department of Justice
Marc Taubenfeld, McGuire, Craddock & Strother
Ben Thomas, Sidley Austin
Cort Thomas, Vinson & Elkins (Co-Chair)

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Jeffrey Glassman, Tax Section Liaison
Robert Banowsky, Law Student Liaison
Jason Bloom, Immediate Past President
United States District Judge David Godbey, Court Advisor
United States Bankruptcy Judge Harlin Hale, Court Advisor
United States Magistrate Judge David Horan, Court Advisor
United States District Clerk Karen Mitchell, Court Advisor

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Jeffrey Kearney, Director
Matthew Walton, Director

