JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP PROGRAM SCHEDULE

February 4 - 6, 2016
Manchester Grand Hyatt (1 Market Place)
Grand Hall D, Lobby Level, San Diego, CA

All events will be held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego,
Grand Hall D, Lobby Level, unless otherwise noted

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February 2016

Dear Judicial Clerkship Program Participant:

On behalf of the ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline, I welcome you to the 16th annual Judicial Clerkship Program. The Council is pleased to collaborate with the ABA Judicial Division on this important program.

Over the next three days you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and to develop your skills while interacting with both judges and law clerks. You will learn that becoming a judicial law clerk offers invaluable experience and unique opportunities that will stay with you throughout your legal career. I hope that your experiences in this program will encourage you to pursue a judicial clerkship upon your graduation.

The Judicial Clerkship Program is one of the finest of the American Bar Association’s Midyear Meeting events. I hope you enjoy your Judicial Clerkship Program experience, and I look forward to meeting all of you.

Sincerely,

Kenneth G. Standard, Chair
Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline
MESSAGE FROM
Chair, ABA Judicial Division

February 2016

Dear Judicial Clerkship Program Participant:

Welcome to the 16th annual Judicial Clerkship Program, which is organized and hosted by the Judicial Division and the Council on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline of the American Bar Association. The Judicial Division is a proud collaborator in this extremely valuable program and we hope you have an extremely positive educational experience.

The Judicial Division is dedicated to improving the American judicial system and to encouraging all stakeholders who have a strong interest in this goal to work collaboratively toward this common objective. The Judicial Division has over 4,000 members, including judges from federal, state, local and tribal courts at the trial and appellate levels, as well as members from the state and federal administrative law judiciary. Our membership also includes lawyers who practice in all of these courts, court administrators, legal academicians and law students.

Over the course of just three days, the Judicial Clerkship Program will strengthen law students’ legal research, analysis, drafting, and editing skills. It will give them a rare opportunity to experience the judicial decision-making process and the working relationship between a judge and a law clerk. The Clerkship Program is an honorable addition to students’ résumés and qualifies them as priority applicants for the ABA Section of Litigation’s Judicial Intern Opportunity Program—a program that places minority and financially disadvantaged law students in courts across the United States.

The Program’s benefits continue when Judicial Division judges maintain contact with, mentor, hire, and refer students, and numerous students have received clerkships as a result of the Program.

On behalf of the Judicial Division, I thank everyone who has made the Judicial Clerkship Program a success. We are extremely grateful to LexisNexis® for its generous, enthusiastic, and ongoing support, which has been invaluable since the Program’s inception. This amazing experience would not be possible without the hard work of the staff and member-leaders of the Judicial Division and the Council on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline to whom I also extend my thanks. I also wish to thank all of the ABA leaders and Judicial Division judges who have participated in the Program.

The Judicial Division looks forward to future programs that enhance the lives and careers of minority law students and to doing our part to diversify the legal profession.

Very truly yours,

Michael G. Bergmann
Chair, ABA Judicial Division
REGISTRATION

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS (lunch provided)

Program Co-Chairs
Hon. Leo I. Brisbois, U.S. Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, District of Minnesota Gerald W. Heaney Federal Building and United States Courthouse and Customhouse, Duluth, MN
Hon. Heather A. Welch, Judge, Marion Superior Court Civil 1, Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN

Entity Chairs
Michael G. Bergmann, Chair, ABA Judicial Division, Chicago, IL
Kenneth G. Standard, Chair, ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline, New York, NY

ABA Leadership
Introduced by the Hon. Heather A. Welch
Paulette Brown, President, American Bar Association, Morristown, NJ

Introduced by the Hon. Leo Brisbois
Linda A. Klein, President-Elect, American Bar Association, Atlanta, GA

Introduced by the Hon. Heather A. Welch
Jack L. Rives, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, American Bar Association, Chicago, IL

LexisNexis Representative
Allison M. Hunt, LexisNexis Client Manager, Federal Judiciary, LexisNexis, Washington, DC

LAW STUDENT INTRODUCTIONS
12:55 – 1:25 pm  KEYNOTE ADDRESS  

Keynote Speaker  
Hon. Eric C. Taylor, President of California Judges Association, Los Angeles Superior Court, Los Angeles, CA

Judge Eric C. Taylor was appointed to the Inglewood Municipal Court in 1998, where he served as Presiding Judge. He was subsequently elevated to the Superior Court, and was appointed Supervising Judge of the Southwest District. Over the years, Judge Taylor has served on numerous other court committees in Los Angeles – including the Legislative, Civil Grand Jury, Bench-Bar Outreach, Compensation, and Court Security. He recently served on the Court’s Executive Committee.

In 2003, Judge Taylor was previously elected to the CJA presidency after serving on its board for 2 years. While President, he served on the Statewide Judicial Council. Chief Justice Ronald George appointed Eric to the Judicial Council’s Access and Fairness Committee from 2000-03. Judge Taylor helped to revitalize CJA, overhauling its publications, increasing its presence in Sacramento, and traveling to over 25 counties to increase and solidify membership and to give judges a strong voice throughout the State. Prior to that, he chaired CJA’s Public Information and Access and Education Planning Committees, and established and has since served on the editorial board of its main publication, “The Bench.”

Prior to the bench, Judge Taylor worked as a civil litigator as Deputy County Counsel for Los Angeles County. He also practiced litigation as an associate with Sonnenschein, Nath and Rosenthal, and Pettit and Martin. He served as an extern to the California Supreme Court’s Justice Allen E. Broussard whom he credits as being his mentor. Judge Taylor is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and received his undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College. He serves on the boards of the Dartmouth Alumni Association of Southern California, the Coalition for at Risk Youth assisting foster children, and the Cate Preparatory School. He is the son of a Civil Rights era Freedom Rider, John C. Taylor, and grandson of California’s first Black registered nurse, Ella Mae Ferneil.
SCHEDULE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

1:25 – 1:30 pm  CLOSING REMARKS AND OPENING PANEL INTRODUCTION

1:30 – 3:30 pm  OPENING PANEL  “WHAT DO JUDICIAL CLERKS DO?”
The panel will discuss the differences and similarities of clerking for trial courts, intermediate appellate courts, and courts of last resort. A question and answer session will follow the presentation

Moderators
Hon. Leo I. Brisbois, U.S. Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, District of Minnesota Gerald W. Heaney Federal Building and United States Courthouse and Customhouse, Duluth, MN

Hon. Heather A. Welch, Judge, Marion Superior Court Civil 1, Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN

Panel

Hon. Andre Davis, Senior Judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, Richmond, VA

Col. Linda Strite Murnane, Ret. Colonel, United States Air Force, Leidschendam, The Netherlands

Hon. Philip R. Martinez, Judge, U.S. Western District Court of Texas, El Paso, TX

Robert Saunooke, Attorney, Law Offices of Robert O. Saunooke, Miramar, FL

Christina Cooley Smith, Senior Staff Attorney, Count of Appeals of Georgia, Atlanta, GA

3:30 – 3:45 pm  15-MINUTE BREAK
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

3:45 – 4:15 pm      INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH EXERCISE

Your judge is assigned to draft the court’s opinion on the constitutionality of a statute; the judge in turn asks his/her clerks to research the issue, discuss the research with the judge, and ultimately, prepare an outline of an opinion. The issue is characterized by conflicting opinions from lower courts. Law students (in the role of the clerks) will be divided up into small groups with several judges assigned to each group.

Introducing
Research Exercise

Hon. William D. Missouri, Ret. Circuit Administrative Judge, 7th Judicial Circuit, (Calvert, Charles, Prince George's & St. Mary's Counties), Upper Marlboro, MD

4:15 – 5:00 pm     RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT: Small Group Session #1

The judges will discuss the research assignment with the clerks and instruct them to find and read each conflicting opinion of the lower courts.

5:00 – 5:30 pm     LEXIS NEXIS OVERVIEW

Kenneth C. White, Solutions Consultant, Federal Judiciary LexisNexis, Washington, DC

5:30 – 6:00 pm     RESEARCH EXERCISE: Law Students

Clerks will begin the process of finding and reading opinions, utilizing computers provided by LexisNexis.

6:00 – 7:30 pm     ATTENDANCE MANDATORY: JUDICIAL DIVISION WELCOME RECEPTION (cash bar), Seaport Ballroom D, 2nd Level, Seaport Tower
SCHEDULE  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

7:30 – 9:30 am  ATTENDANCE MANDATORY: JUDICIAL DIVISION WELCOME  
BREAKFAST, Grand Hall A, Lobby Level  
Transition to Grand Hall D, Lobby Level for bus boarding instructions

9:30 am  PREP COURT TRAVEL  
California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, 750 B Street,  
San Diego, CA

10:30 am  ORAL ARGUMENTS  
Law students will observe oral arguments in which experienced  
appellate advocates will argue each side of the research  
assignment problem to a panel of experienced appellate judges  
and respond to the judges’ questions.  
Experience includes a box lunch (provided) and Q&A session with judges, law clerks and attorneys

1:30 – 2:30 pm  JUDGE REVIEWS RESUME  
Bring 10-copies of resume; judges will provide pointers

2:30 – 2:45 pm  15-MINUTE BREAK

2:45 – 3:25 pm  RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT: Small Group Session #2  
The group will discuss the research methodology employed to  
find the cases (not the substance of the cases) and discuss  
additional research necessary before the substance of the issues.  
The judges will ask clerks to do further research (perhaps find the  
relevant decisions of the district courts and any law journal  
articles cited in the opinions); clerks should divide the reading  
among themselves

3:25 – 4:15 pm  RESEARCH EXERCISE: Law Students

4:15 – 4:25 pm  10-MINUTE BREAK
SCHEDULE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

4:25 – 4:55pm  RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT: Small Group Session #3
Clerks and judges reconvene in their groups to discuss (perhaps
debate) the substance of the problem. At the conclusion of the
discussion, the judges will ask the clerks to develop an outline of
an opinion resolving the issue. Outlines with different outcomes
might be requested by judges in this group. This period is also
available for judges to discuss other topics with the law students
(clerks), e.g., principles of legal writing, drafting jury instructions,
etc.

4:55 – 5:25pm  GROUP PICTURE (Judges & Law Students)

5:30 – 6:30 pm  ATTENDANCE MANDATORY: RAYMOND PACE AND SADIE
TANNER MOSSELL ALEXANDER AWARD RECEPTION,
Balboa B/C, 2nd Level, Seaport Tower
8:00 – 8:55am  ATTENDANCE MANDATORY, ABA ENTITIES MEET & GREET
(continental breakfast)

Facilitators:  
Hon. Leo I. Brisbois, U.S. Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, District of Minnesota Gerald W. Heaney Federal Building and United States Courthouse and Customhouse, Duluth, MN

Hon. Heather A. Welch, Judge, Marion Superior Court Civil 1, Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN

9:00 – 9:45am  RESEARCH EXERCISE:  Law Students
Clerks, in teams, will develop an outline of an opinion resolving the issue

9:50 – 10:15 am  RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT:  Small Group Session #4
Clerks and judges will reconvene to discuss outlines

10:15 – 11:15 am  “LAW STUDENTS QUESTION THE JUDGES”
Facilitator  
Hon. Frank Sullivan, Jr., Ret. Judge, State of Indiana Supreme Court, Indianapolis, IN

11:15 – 11:45 am  CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION TO SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE WITH FINAL REMARKS

   Transition to Seaport Ballroom E/F/G/H, 2nd Level, Seaport Tower

Noon - 2:00 pm  ATTENDANCE MANDATORY:  ABA SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS LUNCHEON, Seaport Ballroom E/F/G/H, 2nd Level, Seaport Tower
American Bar Association is one of the world’s largest voluntary professional organizations, with nearly 400,000 members and more than 3,500 entities. Founded in 1878, the ABA supports the legal profession with practical resources for legal professionals while improving the administration of justice, accrediting law schools, establishing model ethical codes, and more. Membership is open to lawyers, law students, and others interested in the law and the legal profession. Our national headquarters are in Chicago, and we maintain a significant office in Washington D.C.

ABA Midyear Meeting brings together more than 3,000 ABA members and their families. While the Midyear Meeting does not match the total attendance of the Annual Meeting, the volume of ABA business that occurs is significant levels of achievement. In addition to the House of Delegates convening at the Midyear Meeting to review policy recommendations submitted by various members and entities of the Association, some Section and Association committees also meets to review the business of their entities. The Midyear Meeting also hosts the Nominating Committee of the House of Delegates, which nominates the Association’s Officers and members of the Board of Governors. The Fellows of the American Bar Foundation also hold their Annual Meeting during the ABA’s Midyear Meeting.