



National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks

IMPACT Newsletter

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President's Message

By: Eddy Emmons, NCBC President

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Editor's Note

The NCBC IMPACT

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Eddy Emmons

President

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Committee. Suggestions and comments
are always welcome.

Please email **Jan Zari**, Impact Editor at

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Greetings all!

In just a few days, we will embark on the 39th Annual Educational Conference. Over 600 of our colleagues will assemble at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. NCBC has created an excellent educational program for this conference. There are 34 breakout sessions, 19 exhibitors, and in our Information Sharing program, there are four hands-on labs. We are especially proud of our pilot LEAD Academy program which will take place on Monday, August 5. Congratulations to all who were accepted! As always, we are grateful to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and the Federal Judicial Center for their contributions and participation.

When the selection committee and I arrived in December 2016, we conducted our hotel site visit and were impressed with the magnificent skyline and fantastic attractions Chicago has to offer. We believe this is an excellent venue for a conference, and I hope those who attend feel the same way and have a wonderful time in Chicago.

The Northern District of Illinois Clerk of Court, Jeff Allsteadt, Chief Deputy, Sharon Zurowski, and the entire Illinois Northern Clerk's Office staff have the enormous task of preparing the event and hotel for everyone, and their efforts show. Thank you all!

The educational program has been a year in planning, and I would like to recognize the Education Committee for their hard work and dedication. Those members are:

- Eileen Garrity - Chair (MAB)
- Sharon Zurowski - Co-Chair (ILNB)
- Barry Lander - MSU Liaison (CASB)
- Rich Marshall - FJC Liaison
- Autumn Porter (NYSB)
- Jan Zari (CACB)
- Jeffrey Peirce (NJB)
- Matt Brittain (NCMB)
- Patty Nelson (TXWB)
- Sheri Brolick (MIWB)
- Tommie Wills (AZB)
- Sandi Brask (CACB)

For those of you who will be attending, safe travels and I look forward to seeing you!

Introducing our 2019 NCBC Conference Plenary Speakers: The Second City Works and Randy Fox

The 2019 NCBC Conference in Chicago is blowing in fast. The Illinois Northern Bankruptcy Court cannot wait to welcome us to the “Windy City.” Every year, we try to tie our speakers in with the city in which our conference is held. This year we sure hope you enjoy our first plenary which will be presented by “Second City” Works. Our closing plenary will be presented by Randy Fox a former NCAA Women's' Basketball Official who is going to WOW us with our Best Year Ever.

The Second City WORKS

Learning works best when you're laughing. **Second City Works** uses the improv methods pioneered on their stages to help people find better ways to communicate, collaborate, and innovate – all while building comfort with risk and change. We will experience, through a combination of interactive exercises, facilitated debriefs, and practical application, how these improv skills can be used in our daily lives.

Randy Fox uses his officiating, leadership, and life experiences to deliver a ultra high energy presentation. This truly can be your best year ever, the question is, as Randy states “are you ready? With a twenty-year career as a corporate leader and an accomplished NCAA Basketball Official, Randy uses his unique perspective on effective leadership and teamwork to help others achieve great results.



His focus is team-building and advocating for the potential in all of us in order to turn everyday people into superstar leaders. Randy's presentation is built on heartwarming stories, humor, and engaging content that inspires organizations and individuals to maximize their potential and performance on their journey to success.

NCBC Annual Conference 2019 Transportation Options



Transportation Options to and from [Chicago O'Hare International Airport](#)

Transportation Options to and from [Chicago Midway International Airport](#)

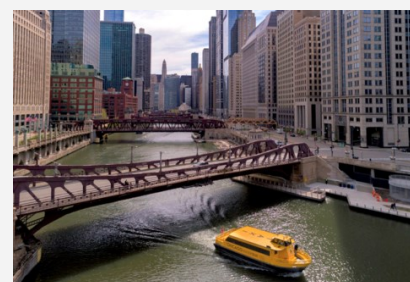


Taking the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) around town is a very popular choice. Below are several links that will help you plan your trip and get your ticket to ride!

<https://www.transitchicago.com/>

<https://www.transitchicago.com/howto/>

<https://www.ventrachicago.com/howitworks/>



Another fun and unique way to get around town is the Chicago Water Taxi. With stops all over town the [Chicago Water Taxi](#) uses all three branches of the Chicago River to commute and explore Chicago.

Whether you are looking to split the cost of a ride or you prefer to ride solo these ride sharing apps are for you. Visit these sites to find out how to sign up to ride or download their apps.

<https://www.uber.com>

<https://www.lyft.com>

Building the Bridge to a Better Bankruptcy Community: Chicago 2019

By: Eileen Garrity and Sharon Zurowski, NCBC 2019 Education Committee Chair and Co-Chair

NCBC and the Education Committee would like to thank Jeffrey Allsteadt (Clerk, ILNB) and Sharon Zurowski (Chief Deputy, ILNB) (Co-Chair of the 2019 Education Committee) and the whole ILNB Team for hosting and planning this year's conference.

The conference officially begins on Tuesday, August 6th and ends at noon on Thursday, August 8th. Over a dozen court-trained sessions will be represented this year and those courses are:

- **Action! Lights, Camera, Cellphone? Creating Video on Your Mobile Device**
- **Decision Making: The Military Decision Making Process Model for Everyday Use**
- **Meet Smart: Making Meetings Productive, or Fewer Meetings, More Meetings**
- **Personal Online Information Causes and Cures**
- **Reframing in Leadership – Choice, Collaboration and Change**
- **Keys to Effective Communication**
- **Instantly! Improve your Memory**
- **Leading with your Strengths**
- **Who's Behind the Curtain**
- **The Power of Empathy: The New Superpower**
- **A Motion to What? Bankruptcy Law Made Easy...Or Your Money Back!**
- **Phishing – Don't Take the Bait!**
- **Talent Tuesday LIVE!**



We will also welcome trainers and staff from the Federal Judicial Center, the Administrative Office, FedAdvantage, FBI, UST and BNC. We are thankful for all they do for our membership and the Bankruptcy community. Their offerings include:

- **Cultivating a Personal Growth Mindset**
- **Dark Web/Cyber Crime**
- **National Update of NextGen Implementation Effort & Development Effort going Forward**
- **The Inner Workings of the BNC**
- **Transitioning to Outlook and Office 365**
- **Court Access to NewSTATS DATA**
- **Outlook 2016**
- **Putting the Fun in Fundamentals!**
- **Retirement Planning: Projections vs Reality**
- **The Benefits of Having a Strong Professional Relationship between UST and Clerk's Office**
- **What Customers Really Want**
- **Effective Listening**
- **Human Resources**
- **Microsoft Word 2016 Top Ten Tips**
- **Too Much of a Good Thing. How "Positive" Behaviors Can Become Bad Habits**
- **Understanding Court Security and Court Security Funding**
- **When – The Importance of Timing**
- **Planning for a Successful Retirement**
- **SharePoint**
- **Taking Control of Your Finances**
- **JIFMS Communications, Tips and Upgrade Path**

For the latest agenda and course descriptions, be sure to check out the NCBC 2019 conference website at: <http://www.ncbcweb.com/2019-home>.

See you in the Windy City!

InfoShare 2019

Exhibitor Descriptions

Automatic Docketing Interface (ADI) – North Carolina Middle & Florida Northern

ADI is a resource used with CM/ECF that facilitates automatic docketing. When using ADI in a stable application, once testing has been completed, docketed entries are 100% accurate and require no personnel time. QC programmed into the ADI application verifies that events are properly docketed, and notices are queued for the BNC. Two methods of creating ADIs will be discussed by Florida Northern and North Carolina Middle.

Bankruptcy Best Practices Working Group – Administrative Office

The AO's Best Practices Working Group's mission is to assist courts in improving their operational practices through the development of innovative recommendations, identifying and analyzing technology solutions to improve business processes, and assisting courts in adopting these technology solutions and new business processes. Group members publish best practices papers on the JNet and are also always looking for topics of interest to courts. Stop by and learn more about how the group might help your court with operational practices and technology solutions!

Bankruptcy Caseload Explorer – Administrative Office

The AO's Judiciary Data and Analysis Office will provide a demonstration of the recently launched Bankruptcy Caseload Explorer. The new dashboard, which completes the caseload explorer suite, provides data on bankruptcy cases filed, terminated, and pending by chapter and pro se status going back to 2007. The dashboard also includes data on adversary proceedings and weighted filings.

Bankruptcy Unclaimed Funds Locator (UCFL) – Virginia Eastern

The JFinSys [Bankruptcy Unclaimed Funds Locator](#) (UCFL) application and web site consists of a public search web interface that allows public users to obtain information about unclaimed funds held by participating bankruptcy courts. The web site is updated with unclaimed funds data via a nightly process for courts that are using JFinSys and have elected to use the UCFL site. That site's search functionality has been enhanced to allow for universal searches for a specific, multiple, and all participating courts in addition to improved search functionality through use of the Creditor Name and/or Debtor Name fields. A new architecture is coming soon that will provide greater scalability, build in greater redundancy, and improve response times.

Benefits Committee – NCBC

The Benefits Committee is responsible for researching benefits needs of members and evaluating available programs.

The Chambers Automation Program (CHAP) – Utah

Effective use of technology and the ability to provide excellent customer service continue to be top goals for Bankruptcy Courts. The Chambers Automation Program (CHAP) Suite of tools has been leveraged to meet court customer service goals both internally and externally. The CHAP Suite includes CHAPWeb (a browser-based version) and the ChapMobile App (available for any mobile device). Come see the exciting new tools for courtroom services included in CHAPWeb 3.0 and 3.1.

Community Outreach – California Southern

As part of the district's community outreach program, the Bankruptcy Court Southern District of California has produced a video of a mock trial as Cinderella sues her step-mother, Lady Tremaine for back wages. Bankruptcy Court staff served as performers and production staff. Oh, and many of the parts are portrayed by "Muppet-like" puppets? The video and documentation will be used for community outreach programs in San Diego schools for grades 1-4. We will be screening the video in its entirety in our breakout session. The schedule for screenings are available at our table.

CourtSpeak – North Carolina Eastern

North Carolina Eastern Bankruptcy's digital audio program, CourtSpeak, is the AO-approved software program for automatically docketing courtroom audio recordings to PACER. CourtSpeak software is the optimum solution for courts because it allows batch processing and upload of all the days audio files. It is compatible with FTR, VoicelQ, DCR-Liberty, and CourtSmart. Approval by at least one judge in your current district is required before implementing the CourtSpeak program and additional information may be found at <http://cs.nceb.circ4.dcn>.

InfoShare 2019

Exhibitor Descriptions (Continued)

Creditor Matching Tool – Illinois Northern

The Creditor Matching Tool is designed to extract creditors from selected documents filed and matched with creditors already entered into CM/ECF database. The program identifies which creditors are already in the database by extracting from the source document for the case in question, and automatically highlights creditors that need to be added while omitting any duplicates. Creditors are then added by copying and pasting in the CM/ECF database.

Education Committee – NCBC

Come by and learn how we go about the process of selecting the Educational Offering at each year's conference. Sign up if you are interested in participating in next years committee or upcoming years.

Expert Panel on Unclaimed Funds – Missouri Eastern

The Expert Panel on Unclaimed Funds, a subsidiary of the Financial Managers Working Group, has been hard at work over the last year, providing guidance and assistance in standardizing forms and instructions for the withdrawal of unclaimed funds; identifying issues related to the financial processing of these funds; and proposing changes to the Guide to Judiciary Policy. Stop by this table to learn more about these efforts and when and how you can begin putting these new forms and practices into use.

Federal Judicial Center (FJC)

Learn more about the programs and services that the FJC offers for executives, supervisors and managers, and court employees. FJC staff will be available to answer questions.

Impact Newsletter – NCBC

Come meet and greet the NCBC Impact Editor and members of the NCBC Impact Editorial Committee! Share your feedback, new ideas, and innovations and get featured in a future edition of the Impact!

Judicial Voice Recorder (JVR) – Utah

JVR (Judicial Voice Recorder) – Come and see the progress on our JVR product development. JVR is a court developed, open source, multi-channel, multimedia digital case recording and playback system that will be free to all Federal courts. JVR is portable and can be used on a single PC with a microphone or in a large courtroom with multiple microphones and video/teleconferencing audio sources. JVR uses existing recording and mixer hardware to track who is speaking and their microphone location which automatically adds timestamps and notes to a timeline. JVR has a data factory and can import CM/ECF or other data for use during the recording. JVR will eventually be available for all court types including District and Bankruptcy. This session will include technical discussions regarding: Audio Infrastructure and software, Audio Codecs, Audio driver, Informix database, C++, Java and JavaFx.

Judiciary Financial System (JFinSys) – Virginia Eastern

The Judiciary Financial System (JFinSys) is the successor to the Financial System (FinSys)--both of which were developed and are maintained and supported by the Virginia Eastern Bankruptcy Court (VA-EB) through its JFinSys Development and Deployment (VA-EB) Team. JFinSys is a financial system addressing accounting requirements for bankruptcy courts. It processes and maintains funds that are received via cash register applications, CM/ECF (Current and NextGen), and Pay.gov. JFinSys is used by bankruptcy courts to record, track, and manage transactions associated with bankruptcy cases. Funds are disbursed in accordance with Judiciary policy. VA-EB and the AO are incorporating JFinSys into the Judiciary Integrated Financial System as the Bankruptcy Court Debt Management Module. A new JFinSys Registry Module is in the process of being released to the courts.

LEAD Academy and Mentorship Program – NCBC

Visit one table to learn about two of the NCBC's most popular benefits.

- **The LEAD Academy!** Now in its inaugural session, the LEAD Academy is a new four-month program designed for non-supervisory NCBC members to gain essential leadership skills.
- **The Mentorship Program!** There isn't anything better than learning the ropes from someone who has already made a difference. Our mentors have a willingness to share their skills, knowledge, and expertise with you to help you achieve your goals.

Stop by and see what NCBC can do to help you fulfill your career goals.

InfoShare 2019

Exhibitor Descriptions (Continued)

NCBC 2020 Information Booth

Come learn about the plans that are underway for NCBC's 2020 conference. Great city, epic venue, and guaranteed nice weather. You will not want to miss it.

Rhode Island Bankruptcy Legal Clinic (RIBLC) – Rhode Island

The Rhode Island Bankruptcy Legal Clinic (RIBLC) is a free bankruptcy clinic formed to assist current and potential pro se debtors in chapter 7 and/or chapter 13 cases. One of the goals of the RIBLC is to reach out to debtors at or before case filing, to prevent unnecessary filings and to give debtors a first-hand look at the importance of working with an experienced bankruptcy attorney. The RIBLC provides debtors with the opportunity to pre-schedule an appointment to meet with an attorney for a free half-hour consult. Volunteer attorneys staff the RIBLC from 11:00 AM-12:00 PM twice a month.

Scholarship and Award Programs - NCBC

Come learn more about two of the advantages of your NCBC membership. Scholarship opportunities are available each year to assist with the cost of conference registration or tuition assistance. Learn how to apply for scholarships. Stop by the Scholarship and Awards InfoShare table to meet some Scholarship recipients and hear their experience. Put the NCBC scholarship program to work for you.

The Awards program provides an opportunity for you to nominate a co-worker for their outstanding public service, administrative excellence, or distinguished achievements. This is a great opportunity to let the entire NCBC community learn about the great work going on in your court and to let your court be recognized on a national stage. Stop by the Scholarship and Awards table during the InfoShare session to meet the Scholarship and Awards committee members and to learn more about how you can be an active participant in the NCBC awards program.

Strengths Champions – Illinois Northern

The Illinois Northern Strengths Champions will be available to share and explain how awareness, appreciation and application of a person's unique talents is a game changer in a person's interactions at work, how they view their work and the potential for greater work/life outcomes. We will be sharing the history of our "strengths journey" and how we are striving to keep the "strengths conversation" alive in our court unit and throughout the judiciary. We will be sharing highlights from our monthly WebEx "Talent Tuesday," and providing resources about CliftonStrengths and the "brand new" CliftonStrengths 34 Report.

Stop by our table to enter our raffle, where a drawing will be held, and four attendees will receive a special prize.

2019 Education Committee

By: Eileen Garrity,
NCBC Education Committee Chair

Many thanks to all the committee members who put in so much time working on choosing this year's educational offerings. We all hope you enjoy this year's conference! We hope you will stop by the NCBC Education Committee table at InfoShare to talk with some of the members of this year's committee and sign up if you are interested in joining the committee for next year's conference.

The educational planning is pretty much an all-year process. We start forming the committee shortly after the end of the previous conference. Please stop by and see us at our table at InfoShare!

I would like to thank this year's committee members:

- Sharon Zurowski, Co-Chair, ILNB (Host Court)
- Barry Lander, MSU Liaison, CASB
- Dr. Richard Marshall, FJC Liaison
- Jan Zari, 2020 Host Court Representative, CACB
- Jeffrey Peirce, NJB
- Matt Brittain, Benefits Liaison, NCMB
- Patty Nelson, TXWB
- Tommie Wills, AZB

Autumn Porter, NYSB, Sheri Brolick, MIWB and Sandi Brask, CACB, all served on the Education Sub-Committee for InfoShare.



Essential Chicago Musts

By: Monica Yepes, NCBC Editorial Committee

Here are some **ESSENTIAL CHICAGO MUSTS** (visit iconic landmarks & attractions to must-haves bites):

EAT CHICAGO CLASSIC FOODS –

- Eat Chicago-style pizza...deep dish! Piping hot and oozing with cheese, with a thick tall golden pastry-like crust, abundantly topped with mozzarella cheese, chunky tomato sauce, and baked to perfection in under an hour. Try these tried and true favs: [Lou Malnati's](#), [Giordano's](#), [Pequod's](#), [Pizzeria Uno](#) and [Pizzeria Due](#).
- Stack seven toppings on a hot dog...the Chicagoan way! (All-beef hot dog on a steamed poppy seed bun, topped with yellow mustard, relish, tomato wedges, chopped onions, a pickle spear, hot peppers and celery salt) TIP: In Chicago, remember don't order ketchup on your hot dog! Order up here: [Portillo's](#), [The Wiener's Circle](#), [SuperDawg](#), and [George's Hot Dogs](#).
- Master the Italian stance as you sink your teeth into an Italian Beef sandwich, a historic icon and Chicago specialty. Thin slices of seasoned roast beef overflowing out of a long Italian roll dripping with juice, order it either hot (with giardiniera peppers) or sweet (with sweet peppers); dipped wet (a quick dunk), juicy (wetter), or soaked (even wetter!). [Al's Beef](#) in Little Italy claims to be the inventor of the sandwich and has won countless awards since its founding in 1938, like being named on the best Sandwiches in America by Esquire and Top 10 Sandwiches in America by Travel + Leisure. Another popular place is [Mr. Beef on Orleans](#). Big on flavor, quick on service (order fast), bring cash and a big appetite.
- Taste a Chicago tradition for more than 50 years, said to have been many last meal requests, deemed a good remedy for a hangover, and a stop for several past U.S. Presidents and Politicians who visit the city. A legendary cafeteria style diner to lunch on a Rueben or beef pastrami, [Manny's Cafeteria and Delicatessen](#).
- Devour handfuls of the caramel-and-cheese mix from world famous [Garrett Popcorn Shop](#).
- Tackle and devour a prime cut at [Chicago's top steakhouses](#).
- Savor a delicious colorful scoop of summer – Chicago's own [Original Rainbow Cone](#).

EXPERIENCE CHICAGO'S CULTURE –

- Gaze up at a Titanosaur, the largest land creature known to man, at **The Field Museum**. Don't forget to say hi to SUE, the most complete and best preserved *T-Rex* ever discovered. [The Field Museum of Natural History](#) – Since 1921, a State-of-the-Art Science Museum with the world's largest Tyrannosaurus Rex. 1400 S Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60605; (312) 922-9410.
- Meander the **Art Institute of Chicago**, **Ferris Bueller-style** to see the largest collection of Impressionist art outside the Louvre. Don't miss the photo op next to the famous Lion Statues at Art Institute of Chicago – Founded in 1879 and located in Grant's Park, one of the oldest and largest art museums in the United States. [Art Institute of Chicago](#), 111 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60603; (312) 443-3600.
- Watch rare and local aquatic creatures in stunning habitats at the **Shedd Aquarium**, which opened in 1930, famous for its 5-million-gallon state of the art indoor public aquarium, variety of habitat & views of Lake Michigan. [Shedd Aquarium](#), 1200 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60605; (312) 939-2438.
- Marvel at the wonders of the universe at **Adler Planetarium**, the first planetarium in the Western Hemisphere. Founded in 1930 by Chicago business leader Max Adler, a public museum dedicated to astronomy and astrophysics with high-tech exhibits & shows, and magnificent lakefront views. *Bonus: photo op!* Take in the Chicago Skyline from the [Adler Planetarium](#) 1300 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60605; (312) 922-7827.



Essential Chicago Musts (Continued)

By: Monica Yepes, NCBC Editorial Committee

EXPLORE THE CITY SIGHTS & LANDMARKS –

- Take in "landscape art under glass" at [Garfield Park Conservatory](#), one of the largest conservatory's in the country. [Garfield Park Conservatory](#), 300 N Central Park Ave., Chicago, IL 60624; (773) 638-1766. Free Admission.
- Watch a light and water show on summer nights at [Buckingham Fountain](#) (jets shoot to a height of 150 feet!) [Buckingham Fountain](#) – A Chicago Landmark in the center of Grant Park dedicated in 1927, it is one of the largest in the world. Built in a rococo wedding cake style and inspired by the Latona Fountain at the Palace of Versailles, France. Free.
- Stand outside one of the world's tallest buildings at [The Ledge](#), an all-glass balcony at Willis Tower's [Skydeck Chicago](#). The Ledge at Skydeck Chicago – Iconic 110-story skyscraper featuring panoramic expansive views of Chicago extending to four states, from its 103rd story Skydeck with clear observations boxes. [Skydeck Chicago/Willis Tower](#) 233 S. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL 60606; (312) 875-9696.
- Catch a game, take a tour, or take a pic at the marquee at [Wrigley Field](#) – Iconic Wrigley field is one of Chicago's most storied landmarks with its retro-charm of its ivy-covered walls and manual scoreboard that millions of baseballs fan visit each year. Home of the Chicago Cubs, first opened in 1914, it is the 2nd oldest baseball stadium. [Wrigley Field](#) - 1060 W. Addison St., Chicago, IL 60613; (773) 404-2827.
- Enjoy some laughs at [Second City](#) – The most famous comedy venue and full-time training ground for Saturday Night Live. Every night live since 1959! Some of its famous alum include some big-name entertainers and comedians like John Belushi, John Candy, Dan Aykroyd, John Candy, Bill Murray, Martin Short, Steve Carell, Mike Meyers, Stephen Colbert, and Tina Fey, just to name a few. [Second City](#), 1616 N. Wells St., Chicago, IL 60612; (312) 455-4000.
- Amaze at the fireworks and at a 196-foot Ferris wheel that rule the skies at [Navy Pier](#) all year round. Centennial Wheel, the Ferris Wheel located at Navy Pier – A former naval ship dock and training center transformed into lakefront playground with a 3,300-foot-long pier on the Chicago shoreline of Lake Michigan. Destination with carnival rides, restaurants, shops & fireworks. [Navy Pier](#), 600 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60611; (312) 595-5300.
- You'll recognize this one. [Cloud Gate](#) (a.k.a. the "Bean"), it's the iconic, bean-shaped huge sculpture in [Millennium Park](#) that mirrors and distorts the surrounding Chicago skyline. When people see this selfie, they'll know you're in Chicago. [Millennium Park](#), 201 E Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60602. Free.
- [Grant Park](#) – Grant Park is a sprawling stretch of 319-acre land often called "Chicago's front yard", hugged by Lake Michigan to the east and the Loop District in the other directions, it houses many cultural landmarks including Millennium Park, Buckingham Fountain, and the Art Institute of Chicago. The park is host to many large-scale events and festivals like Lollapalooza and Taste of Chicago. [Grant Park](#), 301 S. Columbus Dr., Chicago, IL 60605; (312) 742-3918. Free.
- Stroll along [Magnificent Mile](#) – Chicago's premier commercial district. Vibrant bustling area home to upscale shops, luxe fashion outlets, cool restaurants, and posh hotels. Landmarks include the historic Chicago Water Tower, the neo-Gothic Tribune Tower, the terra cotta Wrigley Building skyscraper and the 100-story John Hancock Center, which has a rooftop observation deck with fine dining and panoramic city views. Magnificent Mile Association, 625 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.
- Walk, Run, or Ride along "[The 606](#)", The Bloomingdale Line, an elevated railroad, now greenway recreational trail and park, running east – west on the northwest side of Chicago. Free.
- See Chicago's most iconic architecture from the water on an architecture boat cruise (TripAdvisor users ranked the [Chicago Architecture Foundation Center River Cruise](#) as Chicago's #1 tour!).
- Soak up the outdoors at the [Chicago Riverwalk](#) - An outdoor wine garden, fishing, kayaking and more — Eat, drink, play and explore a waterside wine patio, pier fishing, kayaking and more along the Riverwalk's lush 1.25-mile pedestrian stretch, which runs along the south bank of the Chicago River from Lake Shore Drive to Lake Street.
- Indulge in a little more sun and some pristine stretches of sand along Lake Michigan at a few of [Chicago's best beaches](#): [North Avenue Beach](#), a people watching haven, conveniently located next to the Lakeshore path for running, biking and rollerblading. [Oak Street Beach](#) a short stroll from Magnificent Mile, enjoy a game of beach volleyball, frolic in the water, or build a sand castle, all while enjoying the city skyline.



Mentorship Committee and LEAD Academy Update

By: Carolyn Baker, NCBC Mentorship Chair
Jamie Smith, NCBC LEAD Subcommittee

Be On The Lookout



Be on the lookout for the Mentorship Committee and LEAD Academy at this year's InfoShare Session! This shared table will feature exciting news about NCBC's Mentor Program and the LEAD (Leadership, Excellence, Achievement & Development) Academy Pilot Program. Come pay us a visit, grab a treat and learn more about these two exciting opportunities. Great things lay beyond the horizon, and we're thrilled to share them with you!

Historian's Corner

By: Jeff Davis, NCBC Co-Historian

1989

Thirty years ago, the *Impact* detailed a number of initiatives to modernize filing and record access. Jeff Apperson, Clerk of the Western District of Kentucky, pens an article challenging the readers to imagine an office without files. The issue discusses many local technology initiatives including UNISYS BANCAP ("Bankruptcy Court Automation Project"), used for docketing in the Southern District of Florida; PC BANCAP, used in the Northern District of Mississippi; and a new version of NIBS ("National Interim Bankruptcy System"); used in the Middle District of Florida and 60 other bankruptcy courts; that allowed for an "on-line" inquiry of case information. The issue also mentions that the District of Massachusetts has implemented PACER, which worked with BANCAP and allowed the public to access case information 24 hours a day by dialing into the court's computer.

NCBC Member Spotlight: Aaron Bowles, ILNB



Name: Aaron Bowles

Position: Case Administrator

Court: Illinois Northern
Bankruptcy Court

**How long have you been with
the Federal Judiciary?**

I started at the Bankruptcy Court in May of 2016. So, 3 years and counting. Prior to that, I worked for one of the Cook County Bankruptcy Trustees.

**How long have you been a member of the NCBC, and how do
you get involved?**

My first experience with NCBC was the 2017 conference in Denver, Colorado. I really enjoyed meeting other bankruptcy court professionals and getting to know how other courts were structured. I also attended the 2018 New York City conference. I couldn't believe we were staying right in Times Square!

What has been your favorite NCBC Conference experience?

Denver's conference was my favorite. The dinner at the Colorado History Museum was memorably good and the museum was in such a great location too.

**How would you like to be more involved with the NCBC in the
future?**

I expect that Chicago's conference this year will be the best conference yet. As part of the planning committee, I have learned so much about the inner workings of the conference, and experienced firsthand what it takes to put an event like this together. I will be responsible for the daily morning walks while the conference is going on. I'm really looking forward to showing everyone the City!

We Want to Feature YOU!

Please contact [Jennifer Mahar](#), NCBC Editorial Committee member, to be featured in the next NCBC Member Spotlight!

LEAD Academy Reaches Mid-point

By: Sandy Smith, LEAD Sub-Committee Chair

The NCBC's pilot Lead Academy has an overarching goal to cultivate the next generation of leaders. We recognize that leadership opportunities abound in our courts, from formal supervisory roles to chairing a committee, to taking on sensitive operations in a clerk's office, and becoming an active and important part of court operations. Participants in the LEAD Academy will work to "to lead from where you are."

The LEAD Academy began with participant applications and acceptance last spring. The nearly 50 participants selected are now immersed in the Mentor Connect phase. The Academy follows a blended learning approach, where participants follow a prescribed program of books, articles, videos, and other activities. They are currently working with NCBC mentors throughout this process, which will take an estimated 30 hours. They have also taken the StrengthsFinders test and will cover the results during an in-depth workshop. All Mentor Connect activities foster individual self-awareness and personal development.

The next big step comes in August, the Monday before the NCBC gathering in Chicago. A full-day leadership conference will provide active practice in applying leadership skills introduced in Mentor Connect. Skills to be taught include:

- The individual's responsibility to present a willing attitude;
- The need to work cooperatively within a team;
- Building trust among your peers and with your supervisors;
- Leading a project successfully; and
- Leading with your strengths.



Sandy Smith, California Eastern Bankruptcy, has served as the LEAD Academy chair during the planning process. The LEAD Academy workshop faculty includes:

- Beverly Griffeth-Bryant, Illinois Northern Bankruptcy Court;
- Lisa Haney, Tennessee Western Bankruptcy Court;
- John Kohler, Wisconsin Western Bankruptcy Court;
- Barry Lander, California Southern Bankruptcy Court; and
- Gina Walton, Washington Western Bankruptcy Court.

Leadership, like any other skill, develops with individual self-reflection, guided development, and follow-up opportunities. After the workshop participants will create an individual action plan for further leadership development, and continue their work with mentors, court supervisors, and their peers.

Lessons learned from this pilot year will be instructive in moving the LEAD Academy forward into what promises to be a valuable education program for NCBC members.

Michigan State University Judicial Administration Program

The Finish Line!

By: Barry Lander, NCBC/MSU Liaison



46 is the number! 46 NCBC members crossed the finish line and will be graduating at this year's conference in Chicago. This is the culmination of a five year program that included 60 hours of coursework and the capstone project - a sometimes dreaded research-type paper - to complete the course requirements. Although a few will miss the ceremony in Chicago, their accomplishment will be acknowledged along with those present for the ceremony.

MSU's Cathy White and I want to thank everyone who assisted the students through the years by supporting their attendance at conferences, helping them get through online courses, and by responding to the many online surveys gathering data for their papers. As students in the LEAD Academy may know by now, "It takes a village to be a successful team" and the NCBC membership is one great team!

We hope you'll join us for the graduation at this year's NCBC Conference in Chicago on Wednesday morning as your fellow members receive their Judicial Administration certificates as our last graduating class.

Michigan State University Judicial Administration Program

Alumni Spotlight: Kathleen Chamberlin

By: Heather Burse, NCBC Editorial Committee

The MSU Alumni Spotlight is a feature of the IMPACT that allows NCBC members across the nation to get to know graduates of the MSU Judicial Administration Program. In this issue, we talk to MSU Alum Kathleen Chamberlin.

Name Kathleen Chamberlin
Title: Operations Manager
Court: Washington Eastern Bankruptcy Court
MSU Program: Judicial Administration Non-Credit Certificate
Graduation Date: June 2013 in Baltimore, Maryland



How has your participation in the MSU program impacted your career?

I started with the Eastern District of Washington Bankruptcy Court in 2011 as a Case Administrator. In 2012, I was promoted to Case Administrator III—Team Lead and then to Case Management Supervisor in 2013. In 2017, I became the Operations Manager. My Clerk of Court took a chance on hiring someone with no legal or court experience and I was determined to prove she made the right decision. Participation in the MSU program gave me the confidence to pursue opportunities for professional growth such as training programs offered through the FJC, participation in the NCBC Mentorship Program as a mentee and mentor, and most recently, selection as a member of the Bankruptcy Noticing Working Group.

What other benefits has the program brought into your life?

I came from the private industry and city government with little to no idea about how the federal court system operated. The MSU program gave me history and insight into the workings of the judiciary and made me proud to be a part of it. It also offered a network of other judiciary employees I could connect with and learn from.

What was the time commitment for your program? How did you integrate that into your lifestyle?

My youngest had graduated and was heading off to college, so the timing was perfect. I wanted to challenge myself and complete it in a year, so I dove right in and did it. With my empty nest, it was easy to integrate into my lifestyle. It was a fun way to connect with my kids in college by discussing our classes and assignments.

What format (or formats) did you use to complete your program? What did you like best about each one?

I used the online format, which allowed me the flexibility I needed. If I had decided to take longer to complete the courses, I think taking an MSU course at NCBC would have been a great way to meet the other MSU participants and course instructors in person.

What tips or ideas can you share about finding a work/life balance that is conducive to achieving success in this program?

Although the MSU program is ending, there are many opportunities and programs to take advantage of and I would share the following tips for any program you decide to take. First, don't stress about it. It will fall into place for you. Second, use your resources! There are many in the judiciary, locally and nationwide. Third, take the time to enjoy the interaction with your colleagues because those are contacts you will take with you long after the program is completed.

Are there any last thoughts or maybe a piece of advice you'd like to share with us?

You get out of your job what you put into it. Put yourself out there, be engaged, and take advantage of the opportunities for personal and professional growth that are available to us.

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

JUDICIAL
ADMINISTRATION
PROGRAM



Executive Edge Podcast

Episode 6: How to Be a Courageous Follower and Demonstrate Intelligent Disobedience

Episode 7: Cracking the Inspiration Code

From: Federal Judicial Center

EXECUTIVE EDGE

A podcast from the
Federal Judicial Center

The Federal Judicial Center's *Executive Edge* is an audio podcast designed to bring cutting edge thinking about public and private-sector leadership to the attention of judiciary executives. Each episode includes a conversation with one or more thought leaders whose research and expertise are relevant to the work of executives

in the federal courts. New episodes are released every other month.

In [episode 6](#), host Michael Siegel interviews [Ira Chaleff](#) author of *The Courageous Follower: Standing Up to and for Our Leaders* and *Intelligent Disobedience: Doing Right When What You're Told to Do is Wrong*. They discuss the dynamic partnership between leaders and followers and explore how courageous followers can exhibit intelligent disobedience to help leaders achieve legitimate goals.

In [episode 7](#), host Lori Murphy interviews [Kristi Hedges](#), author of *The Inspiration Code: How the Best Leaders Can Energize People Every Day*. According to the author's research, to inspire and motivate others, leaders must consistently and intentionally be present, personal, passionate, and purposeful. Tune in to learn how court leaders can inspire others through transformative and impactful conversations.

Episode 6 can be streamed or downloaded at this link: <http://fjc.dcn/content/338102/executive-edge-podcast-episode-6-how-be-courageous-follower-demonstrate-intelligent-disobedience>

Episode 7 can be streamed or downloaded at this link: <http://fjc.dcn/content/338858/executive-edge-podcast-episode-7-cracking-inspiration-code>

Listeners can now [subscribe](#) to *Executive Edge* to have future episodes pushed to their mobile device.

For more information about *Executive Edge*, please contact Senior Education Specialist Michael Siegel, 202-502-4107, mesiegel@fjc.gov.

For general information on leadership and management education for judiciary executives, visit the Center's [Executive Education](#) web page.

FJC's Tool Kits for New Chief Judges and New Court Unit Executives

From: Federal Judicial Center

The Federal Judicial Center (FJC) provides online resources for new chief judges and new court unit executives. While new chief judges and new CUEs (or those who soon will take on those responsibilities) will benefit the most from these resources, they are available to everyone on the DCN.

The [New Chief Judges' Tool Kit](#) is designed for chief judges in all courts. It is organized around chief judge's primary responsibilities, and provides peer-to-peer advice, and videos and print resources for each responsibility. For more information about this Tool Kit and Chief Judge leadership education, contact Michael Siegel, Senior Education Specialist, at 202-502-4107 and mesiegel@fjc.gov.

The [New Court Unit Executives' \(CUEs\) Tool Kit](#) is designed for new CUEs throughout the judiciary. It is organized to connect new CUEs during their first three years to educational and support resources from the FJC and the Administrative Office of United States Courts (AO). For more information about this Tool Kit and new CUE leadership education, contact Senior Education Specialist Garbo Cheung-Jasik, 202-502-4103, or gcheung-jasik@fjc.gov.

For general information on leadership and management education for Judiciary executives, visit the FJC's [Executive Education](#) web page.



The FJC welcomes [feedback](#) on the New CUE Tool Kit so it continues to meet the educational needs of new CUEs.

Bankruptcy Court Staff Participate in new FJC Federal Court Leadership Development Program

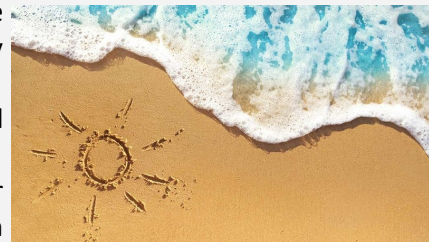
75 aspiring leaders from appellate, district, and bankruptcy courts, circuit offices, and probation and pretrial services offices from across the judiciary were recently selected to participate in the 2019-2020 Class for the FJC's new Federal Court Leadership Development Program (FCLDP). The FCLDP is a twelve-month program designed to help participants develop their leadership knowledge and skills and prepare for future leadership roles. From July 16-18, participants gathered in Tampa, Florida for an in-person workshop which included instruction and exercises in various leadership topics. The program also includes an additional in-person workshop, a 2-3 day site visit to another agency, an in-district process improvement project, along with webinars, readings, and other projects.

Staying Cool this Summer

By: Matt Brittain, NCBC Benefits Committee Chair

The summer season is upon us and that means longer days, warmer weather, and more time spent outdoors. With all the fun that summer brings, it is important to remember to stay healthy during this season. Here are some tips to keep you healthy while enjoying your summer:

- **Drink plenty of water** – Don't neglect hydrating your body. Fluids help your body sweat and keep you cool.
- **Stay active on vacation** – Try planning a vacation that mixes in some fun physical activity for the family. Activities like biking, hiking, swimming, camping, and kayaking are examples of fun activities that also double as exercise. The more fun you have, the less it feels like exercise.
- **Use sunscreen** – Experts recommend using SPF 30 or higher if you plan to be out in the sun for any length of time. Remember to reapply every 2 hours and after swimming. Also remember that you are still exposed to UV rays even on cloudy days. Sunburn can ruin a vacation, so take precautions to prevent it.
- **Wear appropriate clothing** – Wear lightweight and loose-fitting clothing to keep you cooler in the warm weather. If you are out in the sun, wear a hat to protect your head and face, and wear sunglasses to protect your eyes. Look for sunglasses that block both UVA and UVB rays.
- **Keep up with your exercise** – Don't be tempted to neglect exercise just because it's summer or you're on vacation. Keep up with your typical exercise schedule. If you exercise outdoors, try to schedule your workout in the early morning or late evening when temperatures are lower.
- **Eat healthy** – I know, I know, this is a tough one. There are a lot of great foods to be had during the summertime. (I'm not even going to name them. You know what they are.) It can also be tempting to grab quick, not-so-healthy snacks at the pool, beach, and ballgames. Plan in advance and come prepared with healthy snacks that will keep you full and keep the pounds off.



I hope everyone has a great summer. Stay healthy and enjoy the season!

Benefits Committee Update

By: Matt Brittain, NCBC Benefits Committee Chair

The 2019 NCBC Conference is almost here, and I am looking forward to it. This year's conference will be held in the Windy City – Chicago, IL – and promises to be another great one. The NCBC Benefits Committee will be hosting a table at the InfoShare session this year. The InfoShare session will be held Wednesday, August 7 from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM. Be sure to stop by the Benefits Committee's table to meet the committee members and learn more about the many benefits that are available to NCBC members.

On behalf of the NCBC Benefits Committee, I want to thank you all for another wonderful year and I hope to see you in Chicago at the 2019 conference.

Now Available: “Cyber and Physical Risks: International Travel” Video

From: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts



Your safety and the safety of judiciary information can quickly and easily become compromised when traveling internationally. The Cyber and Physical Risks: International Travel video showcases common scenarios encountered while on travel and provides helpful tips for their successful navigation. It was created in partnership with the U.S. Marshals and the Diplomatic Security Service to help judiciary personnel make security-aware decisions while away from the office.

The Cyber and Physical Risks: International Travel video is a valuable resource for any travel—not just international. So, head to the [International Travel Guidance JNet page](#) today!

Questions or comments concerning resources contained in the International Travel Guidance JNet site may be directed to the IT Security Office (ITSO) at AO_ITSO@ao.uscourts.gov.

Money Management Tips for Single Parents

By: James De La Torre, CRPC, FedAdvantage

Money management can be a tough skill to master, especially if you're new to the concept or money is tight. Over the years, I have had many conversations with employees who struggle to get their hands around controlling their spending. Single-parent families face unique money management challenges because there is only one parent to provide an income and manage the finances. The simple fact is that raising a child is expensive—according to a 2017 USDA report, it costs, on average, \$233,610 to raise a child to age 17. Making ends meet and juggling budgets and bills can be difficult for a single parent, so keep these 4 tips in mind:

1. **Get Organized:** Organize your unpaid bills, make notes on your calendar for due dates, and keep tabs on your checking account balance. Organization can save you a lot of money when you're able to avoid late fees, overdraft charges and automatic payments for services you no longer use.
2. **Make a budget:** Make a list of your income sources—your paycheck, any child support, alimony, social security payments, other government aid or life insurance payments—as well as a list of expenses. Track your spending for several months to get a feel for what to include in your budget. Then make a plan for paying off debts, paying bills on time and contributing to savings goals.
3. **Build an emergency fund:** Without a second income to fall back on, an emergency fund is vital to your family. Your emergency fund can help you pay for surprise medical bills or car repairs, or it can fund your living expenses if you lose your job. Supplement your emergency fund with adequate insurance to protect against financial disasters.
4. **Stay motivated to budget:** Set a meeting with yourself to pay bills, balance your checkbook and take care of other financial housekeeping items. Watch your savings grow and reward yourself when you hit important savings milestones.



If you are thinking about, going through or recently divorced, these 4 tips can help get you on track:

1. **Cancel joint accounts:** Make sure to cancel any joint accounts held with your spouse. Cancel and reestablish credit cards, cable service, cell phone service, etc. in only your name. Even if you trust your ex-spouse, starting with a clean slate is the best way to kick-start your future.
2. **Plan for childcare expenses:** Do research to determine the best option for your family's lifestyle and budget, and consider an alternative arrangement, such as hiring a family member, sharing a nanny with neighbors or entering a babysitting co-op.
3. **Get the kids involved:** If your kids are old enough, use your financial situation as an opportunity to teach them about money management. Task them with cutting coupons or give them an allowance in exchange for helping around the house.
4. **Make a child support plan:** If you're paying an ex-spouse, make sure to factor it into your budget. If you're on the receiving end, you'll need to make a plan for the loss of money when your ex-spouse's obligation ends. If your ex-spouse experiences an improved financial situation, you may be able to petition the court for an increase in support.

Adjust your lifestyle: You may need to seek a higher-paying job or a part-time side job to supplement your income, or you may even consider going back to school to improve your earning potential. Newly single parents often have to make the choice to downgrade their housing. Moving to more affordable housing can save you a lot of money, as housing will likely be one of your largest expenses.

Learn to say no: After you make your budget, you'll probably discover discretionary spending that can be cut to free up more money for debt repayment or savings. Learn to say no to yourself and your kids so you can trim the fat from your monthly spending. Your kids might not understand your financial situation and it's okay to have an honest discussion about finances with them. Resist the urge to buy your children things to make up for being a single parent.

Save for future goals: Even when money is tight, saving for retirement and your children's education is highly important. Compound interest can have a magical effect on savings over time, but only if you start early. Make a savings plan for these and other future goals so you'll know if you're on track with your budget each month.

James De La Torre has conducted federal benefit and financial planning seminars all over the country. He is a key note speaker at federal conferences and works with federal professional organizations on ways to improve the communication of federal benefits to their membership. Jim has appeared as a guest on "Fed Talk" on the Federal News Radio network, discussing the gaps in federal benefits and the financial impacts employees face. Jim holds a Charter Retirement Planning Counselor's (CRPC) designation from the College for Financial Planning and is a member of the Financial Planning Association. Please direct questions or comments directly to James at jdelatorre@fedadvantage.com.

Website Committee Update

By: Joe Markley, NCBC Web Administrator

The website committee is excited to make a new mobile app available to the participants of this year's annual conference. You will find this mobile app to be much more intuitive and robust than the one we used the past few years.

I want to express my appreciation for the contributions of the dedicated and talented professionals that comprise the website committee:

- Chris Warsinsky (WVNB)
- Dorenda Turner (INSB)
- Eileen Garrity (MAB)
- Jeff Peirce (NJB)
- Kimberly Rubal (CACB)
- Matt Brittain (NCMB)
- Rosette Montes-Hempler (NVB)

Please take time to introduce yourself to me and the other committee members while at the conference. We look forward to meeting you. We thank you for your continued support of the NCBC and ask for your constructive feedback on our website, www.ncbcweb.com, so we can better serve you.



Editor's Note

By: Jan Zari, NCBC Impact Editor



It's August, everyone! Are you ready for Chicago? In the blink of an eye, we are just days away from our annual conference in "The Windy City" and I am excited to see what great things the Northern District of Illinois has in store for all of us!

I'm looking forward in anticipation for all the great things we will be experiencing in just a few short days, including: an interesting and diverse set of educational offerings, exciting and thought-provoking opening and closing plenary sessions, a chance to network and make connections with friends, both new and old, a graduation ceremony for our last-ever set of MSU graduates, our annual awards ceremony recognizing the notable accomplishments of our colleagues across the judiciary, the welcoming of new faces to our NCBC Board and leadership, and much more!

Please be sure to come and say hello to the Editorial Committee at the Information Sharing session in Chicago! Several members of the Committee will be on hand to meet you and discuss all things Impact, and as always, I'd like to thank the members of the Editorial Committee for their hard work and contributions on this issue:

- Jeffrey Peirce, Co-Chair (NJB)
- Monica Yepes (CACB)
- Jennifer Mahar (MIEB)
- Stephen Grant (DEB)
- Deanna Anderson (NYSB)
- Heather Burse (MIWB)
- Davida Carter-El (NYEB)
- Dailin Pena (FLSB)
- Shawna Taylor (KSB)

The city of Chicago is an exciting place with plenty of things to do, see, and eat! Be sure not to miss my all time Chicago favorite, the Chicago Mix at [Garrett Popcorn](#), the cheeseburger with bacon at [Au Cheval](#), the deep dish pizza with the buttery crust from [Pequod's Pizzeria](#), and more! For those not afraid of heights, take a photo at the top of the [Willis Tower](#), take an Instagram-worthy shot at [The Cloud Gate aka "The Bean,"](#) and take a stroll around [Navy Pier](#). There's so much to look forward to!

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, or are looking for ways to get involved with the Impact Newsletter or the NCBC, please feel free to contact me at Jan_Zari@cacb.uscourts.gov. All information from this issue will also be available on our [online blog](#).