



National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks

Special Edition
Issue
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NCBC 2015: It's Showtime!



President's Message

By: M. Regina Thomas, NCBC President



At the St. Louis conference, we asked a simple question "Who's coming with me?" Well....over 600 people from bankruptcy courts around the country said "I am"and we are so very glad you did. On behalf of the Judges and staff of Georgia Northern Bankruptcy, I thank all who attended the 35th Annual Conference and Education Program for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks (NCBC). The results from the post-conference survey confirm what we hoped – that you really liked the plenary speakers, break out session, Omni Hotel, Georgia Aquarium event, and conference app. I think we all learned so much and had a great time, too!

I am proud of and grateful to all of my Georgia Northern Bankruptcy colleagues for making the conference a tremendous success.

We hope you enjoy this special NCBC 2015 issue of the Impact. Special thanks to Impact Editor, Jan Zari and Co-Historian, Jennifer Paro, for making it happen.

Remember to Save the Date for the NCBC/FCCA joint conference to be held in Washington, D.C. August 8-11, 2016!

Thank you for your support of the NCBC and its important mission.



NCBC Atlanta 2015: Conference Recap

From August 10 to August 13, over 600 Clerk's Office staff members from bankruptcy courts across the country gathered in Atlanta, Georgia to attend the 35th annual conference of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks (NCBC). After several years and months of planning by our host court, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia, led by Clerk of Court M. Regina Thomas, attendees were treated to an event-filled week that included many educational opportunities, social and networking events, as well as a chance to learn about one of the largest and most diverse cities in the Southern United States, with a side of southern hospitality, of course.



The Monday before the first official day of the conference gave attendees a chance to pick up their registration materials and get settled into the conference hotel, the beautiful Omni Atlanta Hotel at the CNN Center. Students enrolled in the MSU Judicial Administration program also enjoyed a full day of educational courses in Caseflow Management and Court and Community Communication. Monday evening featured the President's Reception, where attendees got the opportunity to network and meet with fellow Bankruptcy clerks across the country, forming new friendships and reconnecting with familiar faces.



The first day of the conference included a Judges' Panel

after the opening ceremony, moderated by Chief Judge Ray Mullins of the Northern District of Georgia, and included updates and questions and answers from a distinguished panel of judges, including Judge Danny C. Reeves (KYED), Judge Janice M. Karlin (KSB), Chief Judge Robert E. Nugent (KSB), and Judge Paul M. Glenn (FLMB). A lively and informative plenary session with renowned athlete and football coach Bill Curry followed, and he sent us forth with the message that a Champion has singleness of purpose; is unselfish; is tough; is prepared; and never quits...never.



The various informative breakout sessions offered during the week included such topics as retirement investment strategies; teamwork and team building skills; transforming your talents into strengths; negotiating and mediating disputes; records retention; effective leadership; judiciary career planning; technical training on Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Prezi; and much more. More information on the specific breakout offerings at this year's conference and materials from the various facilitators can be found [here](#).



NCBC Atlanta 2015: Conference Recap (continued)

This year, NCBC once again offered two courses from the [MSU Judicial Administration Noncredit Certificate Program](#): “Court and Community Communication” and “Caseflow Management.” At each NCBC Conference, MSU offers two different courses as part of its certificate program in the area of judicial administration. Students in the program gain education and exposure to the various aspects of court management and administration.



On August 12, conference attendees attended the NCBC business breakfast, which included updates from the AO and the Court Services Office, the 2015 Election Results, the annual MSU graduation ceremony, and a presentation of awards to various members and courts for their special service and outstanding accomplishments. Lee Ann Bennett also gave the oath of office to host Clerk and incoming president, Gina Thomas. Congratulations to all of the MSU graduates, our 2015 award recipients, our newly elected Board Members: Yvonne Cherokee, Vito Genna, and Teresa Underwood, our returning Secretary, Eileen Garrity, and our new president, Gina!



This year’s conference once again featured the annual Information Sharing Session, where exhibitors from local courts brought new programs, applications, and other innovations to share. Special thanks to everyone who participated for showcasing your work and talents!



This year’s closing NCBC Dinner event was held at the beautiful Georgia Aquarium where conference attendees and their guests were treated to a wonderful tour of the aquarium, which featured a wide array of sea life, including whales, sharks, dolphins, fish, and many other types of colorful and exotic sea life. Before dinner, the group gathered in the middle of the museum for the annual group picture. A wonderful dinner was served and music and dancing concluded an evening of fun, fellowship, and the celebration of another successful conference!



NCBC Atlanta 2015: Conference Recap (continued)



On the final day of the conference, we were simultaneously educated and entertained by keynote speaker Avish Parashar, who demonstrated the importance of improvising, adapting, and innovating in a rapidly changing world with interactive improv games and exercises while making us all laugh in the process.



Overall, attending the conference was an immensely educational and valuable experience for all. For more information on the 2015 NCBC Conference, please visit the [2015 NCBC Conference website](#). For additional photos, please check out [2015 Conference Highlights](#)! Additionally, take a minute to check out the conference from an attendee's point of view at [NCBC Social Hub](#)!

Editor's Note

By: Jan Zari



Hello NCBC members! I hope that you have enjoyed this special 2015 NCBC Conference Recap edition of the IMPACT.

With my bags unpacked and finally put away, I can finally reflect on an outstanding 2015 NCBC Conference. It was a pleasure to meet so many of you, and thank you all for providing so much excellent feedback on the work of the Impact Editorial Committee! I can't wait to see you all again next year in Washington, D.C.

Thank you once again to our gracious hosts at GANB for a fantastic conference! I know I speak for many when I say that you all did a great job with the planning and execution of the event.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, would like to be a part of the Editorial Committee, or submit an article for the next issue of the IMPACT, please feel free to contact me at Jan_Zari@cacb.uscourts.gov.

