

CLE materials for

Court Web: Hot Topics in Federal Sentencing

The Federal Judicial Center has provided the attached materials to assist courts in program planning and in applying for continuing legal education (CLE) credit for the webcast *Court Web: Hot Topics in Federal Sentencing*. The materials include faculty biography, a continuing legal education application form, and a certificate of attendance (**fillable and not fillable forms**) for the webcast.

The Center is unable to process individual applications for CLE credit, and therefore there is no preapproval, but these materials will help you facilitate the process in your court. **Each individual attorney is responsible for submitting an application for CLE and for making any payments that are required.** The Center does not have course numbers for the jurisdictions; you will have to acquire that information once you apply for CLE credit in the jurisdiction for which you desire credit. **With regard to the Court Training Specialist signature that is required on the Certificate of Attendance, you can have your court's Training Coordinator/Training Specialist or Human Resources Specialist/Human Resources Manager sign the certificate. (The FJC does not sign this document.)** After it is signed, please submit the form to the CLE Commission or State Bar for which you seek credit. We strongly recommend that you contact your state's CLE board for information about CLE requirements, which vary from state to state.

If you have any questions about the CLE application process or the program in general, please contact Rhonda Starks at 202-502-4059 or rstarks@fjc.gov.

Program Description

Court Web: Hot Topics in Federal Sentencing **March 27, 2024 – 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. ET**

Judge Benita Pearson of the Northern District of Ohio, and Director Alan Dorhoffer of the Office of Education and Sentencing Practice at the U.S. Sentencing Commission, discuss hot topics in federal sentencing with Guest Host and Senior Research Associate Jason Cantone of the FJC. The Commission's 2023 guideline amendments and recent Supreme Court cases involving sentencing issues take center stage in the discussion of issues judges and criminal justice practitioners face with the "retroactivity" of the criminal history amendment and "reductions in sentencing" motions. The presentation also focuses on other recurring issues related to sentencing, including post-conviction matters.

Faculty Biographical Information

Alan Dorhoffer

Education: Binghamton University; J.D. George Washington University School of Law.

Professional: Law clerk, Honorable Edmund A. Sargus, U.S. District Judge, Southern District of Ohio; Adjunct Professor, George Mason School of Law; Deputy Director of the Office of Education and Sentencing Practice, U.S. Sentencing Commission, 1995 – present; Acting Director, of the Office of Education and Sentencing Practice, U.S. Sentencing Commission; Director, of the Office of Education and Sentencing Practice, U.S. Sentencing Commission, present.

Judge Benita Pearson

Judge Pearson was appointed to serve as United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio by President Barack Obama on December 27, 2010, making her the first African American female to serve as a United States District Judge in the State of Ohio. Prior to her appointment as District Judge, Judge Pearson served the Northern District of Ohio as a Magistrate Judge following her appointment on August 29, 2008.

Judge Pearson's service as a judicial officer was preceded by an eight-year tenure as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, litigation in private practice, and service as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable John M. Manos.

As an Assistant United States Attorney, Judge Pearson distinguished herself while prosecuting several high-profile cases, including *United States v. Emmanuel Onunwor* (prosecution of former sitting mayor of City of East Cleveland, Ohio, 2004), *United States v. Nate Gray* (prosecution of several public officials, including Chief of Staff and Director of Building Services, City of Houston, 2005), *United States v. Norman Gore* (prosecution of former supervisor, City of Cleveland, Water Division, 2005), *United States v. Terrence Gasper* (prosecution of former Chief Financial Officer, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, 2006), and *United States v. Mark Lay* (prosecution of an investment advisor whose fraudulent activities caused the loss of over \$200 million dollars held in trust for injured Ohio workers, 2007).

Judge Pearson earned her Juris Doctorate at Cleveland State University's Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. At her alma mater, she has taught Animal Law and Advanced Brief Writing.

Prior to earning a law degree, Judge Pearson worked as an accountant and remains a certified public accountant for the state of Ohio.

Judge Pearson's professional and community activities have included serving on the Boards of Trustees for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation, and the Eliza Bryant Village. She is President and founding member of the newly formed Nathaniel R. Jones Inn of Court.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Judge Pearson graduated from Hathaway Brown School, Cum Laude, and Georgetown University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting.

UNIFORM APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

To the state of:

1. Sponsoring Organization

Name: Federal Judicial Center
Address: Education Division
One Columbus Circle, NE
Washington, DC 20002-8003
Telephone: 202-502-4059
Email: rstarks@fjc.gov

2. Title of education activity: Court Web: Hot Topics in Federal Sentencing

3. Date(s) and Location(s):

Dates: 03/27/2024 - 03/27/2024
Location: Virtual (Original air date 3/27/2024)

4. Registration fee: 0

5. Writing surface available? Yes

6. Delivery Method(s):

- checkbox faculty in room with participants; checkbox telephone to broadcast site; checkbox interactive video;
checkbox webinar; checkbox audiotape presentation; checkbox streaming video;
checkbox interactive computer/Internet; checkbox discussion leader present

7. Type of Law Code(s): 1. JUD 2. (Optional) 3. (Optional)

Difficult Level Beginner; Intermediate; Advanced

8. Advertised to: checkbox Lawyers; checkbox Clients; checkbox Other (Specify) Federal Court Judges and Attorneys

9. List any admission restrictions: Federal Court Employees only.

10. "In-house activity" requirement (see local rules to determine applicability):

- radio open/publicized to outside lawyers; radio outside lawyers are % of faculty;
radio clients are 100% of audience

11. Method of evaluation:

- checkbox participant critique; checkbox independent evaluator; checkbox None; checkbox Other

STATE ACCREDITATION OFFICE
NOTICE OF ACTION
Course No.
(To be completed by the state accreditation office and returned to the applicant)
The following action has been taken on the application:
checkbox RETURNED for more information. Please complete each item on the form indicated by the number(s) circled below: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
checkbox APPROVED for CLE credits, including Ethics credits
checkbox DENIED Reference
checkbox SEE ATTACHED MATERIALES.

12. Description of materials to be distributed: **total pages ; loose-leaf**

before program; at program; other: **Online**

13. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS to this application:

- a. time schedule (brochure, course outline, course description)
- b. table of contents or equivalent
- c. faculty name(s) and credentials (if not in brochure or description)
- d. complete set of materials (only in states where required)
- e. fees (only in states where required):

14. Total minutes of instruction, not including breaks, meals or introductions:

General (non-ethics): **60**
Ethics (minutes):
Substance Abuse:
Total: **60**
Other:

15. Approval by other states: Granted by: California; Denied by:

16. Submitted by: employee of sponsor/provider; individual lawyer

Name of person applying (type or print)

Address (if different than above)

Phone and Fax (if different than above)

02/23/2024

Signature.

Date

Email (if different than above)

Court Web: Hot Topics in Federal Sentencing

webcast presentation from the Federal Judicial Center

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE

This certificate should be filed with the appropriate MCLE Board or Commission within 30 days of this activity.

(keep a copy for your records)

Date you participated in the program: _____

Registrant signature

Registrant name

Address

City, state, zip code

Attorney No. (if applicable) for _____
State

I attended a total of _____ hours at the viewing site in _____
(Please note that different jurisdictions approve varying numbers of credit. The total hours above is the actual number of 60-minute hours attended.)

Affirmation/Verification/Attendance Code: Please enter the Affirmation Code that was displayed on the screen during the webcast.

TRAINING COORDINATOR CERTIFICATION

This will certify that the above-named person attended the *Court Web: Hot Topics in Federal Sentencing* webcast.

Training Coordinator/Human Resources Specialist/Human Resources Manager signature

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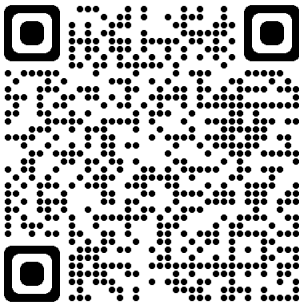
Training Coordinator/Human Resources Specialist/Human Resources Manager signature

State Bar of Texas CLE Approval

Court Web: Hot Topics in Federal Sentencing

March 27, 2024 – 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ET

State Bar of Texas – Course Number 174231326- Accredited Hours – 1.00



Scanning this code takes you directly to the State Bar of Texas MCLE reporting tool with information for this course automatically filled in.

For an attorney to report your attendance, simply scan the code, log in, certify that the requested credit is correct, and click submit.

To download a QR barcode of different sizes, go to: <https://www.texasbar.com/qr/?crs=174231326>