



Federal Judicial Center

Annual Report 2024

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Each year, the *Federal Judicial Center Annual Report* summarizes the programs, projects, reports, publications, and other resources the Center delivered that year. The focus of the report is understandably on what the Center produced. This year I draw particular attention to the people responsible for that production.

They are an extensive group. The Center's Board provides support and guidance for all the Center's work. The Board members are listed on page 2. Center advisory committees help shape the content and participate in the delivery of our programs and other resources. Their names are listed on pages 14–15 of this report. The Foundation Board, listed on page 13, ensures that any gifts to the Center are properly reviewed. There isn't space to list the many people who serve as teachers, facilitators, authors, reviewers, and informal advisors, but their contributions to the Center and those we serve are immense.

The talented and dedicated people who work at the Center bring together a wide range of expertise and experience to produce the resources this report describes. They share a commitment to the judiciary and to the Center's mission "to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration in the courts of the United States." Their names are listed on page 4 of this report.

Thanks to the efforts of all these people, the resources described in this report are widely used, valued, and respected. One measure of this is that demand for Center services far outstrips our capacity to meet all of it.

In each Annual Report since 2008, we have listed the names of Center staff members. A careful examination of the 2008 list alongside this year's reveals one reason for our success. Fifty-three of the one hundred and thirty names on this year's list were on the list in 2008. In other words, forty percent of Center personnel in 2024 had been here since 2008 or earlier—in some cases much earlier.

That the names don't change too much from one year to the next reflects that our people tend to stay at the Center for long periods—on average about fourteen years. Along with the talent and dedication I mentioned above, their deep understanding of the judiciary and its people informs our work and helps ensure its relevance.

At the same time, change is inevitable and valuable. As much as we miss longtime colleagues when they depart, we know we must build on the contributions they have made. The Center has consistently recruited and retained highly qualified and committed people who combine new ideas with the same commitment to excellence as those who preceded them.

I feel enormously privileged to work with all the people who work at and with the Center. I thank them for their outstanding service to our courts and our country.



JOHN S. COOKE

ABOUT THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER

Statutory Mission

Congress created the Federal Judicial Center in 1967 “to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration in the courts of the United States.” The Center provides education and training for judges and employees of the federal courts and conducts empirical and exploratory research into various aspects of judicial administration, including case management and potential changes to the federal rules of procedure. This annual report, mandated by statute, describes the Center’s activities in calendar year 2024.

Governance

The Chief Justice of the United States chairs the Center’s Board. By statute, the Board also includes two circuit judges, three district judges, one bankruptcy judge, and one magistrate judge, who are elected to four-year terms by the Judicial Conference of the United States, and the director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, who serves *ex officio*. The Board oversees the Center’s activities, and its members serve on standing committees on education and research and on advisory committees on judicial education programs (listed on pages 14–15).

In March 2024, the Judicial Conference elected Judge Kathleen Cardone of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas and Judge Ralph R. Erickson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit to the Center’s Board. They replaced Judge Carol Bagley Amon of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York and Judge Thomas M. Hardiman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, whose terms had concluded. Judge Robert J. Conrad also became an *ex officio* member of the Board when he became the director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, replacing Judge Roslynn R. Mauskopf.

The Board appoints the Center’s director and deputy director; the director appoints the Center’s staff. The Center’s director is John S. Cooke. The Center’s deputy director is Clara J. Altman.

Board

The Chief Justice of the United States, *Chair*
Chief Bankruptcy Judge Mildred Cabán,
U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of
Puerto Rico

Judge Kathleen Cardone, U.S. District Court
for the Western District of Texas

Judge R. Guy Cole Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals
for the Sixth Circuit

Judge Sara L. Ellis, U.S. District Court for the
Northern District of Illinois

Judge Ralph R. Erickson, U.S. Court of Appeals
for the Eighth Circuit

Magistrate Judge Anthony E. Porcelli,
U.S. District Court for the Middle District
of Florida

Judge Lynn Winmill, U.S. District Court for
the District of Idaho

Judge Robert J. Conrad Jr., Director of the
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

Senior Staff

John S. Cooke, Director

Clara J. Altman, Deputy Director

Esther DeVries, Director, Information
Technology Office

Mira Gur-Arie, Director, International Office

José Idler, Director, Editorial and Information
Services Office

Christine Lamberson, Director, Federal Judicial
History Office

Julie R. Linkins, Director, Education Division

Nancy Payne, Director, Office of Administration

Elizabeth C. Wiggins, Director, Research Division

Organization

The organization of the Center reflects its primary statutory mandates. The Education Division plans and produces education and training for judges and judicial-branch personnel, including in-person programs, videos, podcasts, publications, curriculum packages for in-district training, and web-based programs and resources. The Research Division examines and evaluates current and alternative federal court practices and policies. This research assists Judicial Conference committees, who request most Center research, in developing policy recommendations. The Center's research also contributes substantially to its educational programs. The Federal Judicial History Office helps courts and others study and preserve federal judicial history. The International Office provides information to judicial and legal officials from foreign countries and informs federal judicial personnel of developments in international law and other court systems that may affect their work. Three units of the Director's Office—the Information Technology Office,

the Office of Administration, and the Editorial and Information Services Office—support Center missions through technology, editorial assistance, and organization and dissemination of Center resources.

Coordination Within the Judicial Branch

Many programs and projects described in this annual report involve coordination, cooperation, and consultation with committees of the Judicial Conference, the Administrative Office, the U.S. Sentencing Commission, the U.S. Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, and the courts. Advisory committees of judges, court staff, and others help in planning and producing education programs and publications.

Appropriation and Staffing Information

The Center received an enacted appropriation for fiscal year 2024 of \$34,261,000 and employed 121 people at the end of calendar year 2024.

2024 AT A GLANCE

138 programs conducted, reaching **17,027** participants

38 research and evaluation projects completed, and work commenced or continued on **41** others

30 new educational videos and podcasts produced with **1,847** views or listens

8 reports, manuals, monographs, and guides published

497 requests for materials fulfilled

3,584 publications and media items shipped

2024 FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER STAFF

Somayah Allibhai-Mawani	Charles Fenaoui	Christine Lamberson	Antione Robinson
Clara Altman	Jessica Folk	Elizabeth Lambert	Christina Ruffino
Marlene Annoni	Crystal Frederick-Mitcheltree	Timothy Lau	Gabriela Ruiz
Marvin Astrada	Jerome Galang	Hai Le	Steve Saltzgeber
Brenda Baldwin-White	Kristin Garri	Marie Leary	Nanticha Sangsung
Leeann Bass	Roy Germano	Emery Lee	Lee Sergent
Elia Bendavid	Carly Giffin	Ken Lee	Mark Sherman
Ginny Bickell	Vashty Gobinpersad	Frank Leidy	Claire Smearman
Sifaw Bouylazane	Samuel Golant	Angelia Levy	Deena Smith
Craig Bowden	Yolanda Gonzalez	Ed Liberatore	Jessica Snowden
Travatia Bowden	Gabriela Grajeda	Julie Linkins	Cassandra Snyder
Winston Bowman	Dexter Green	Diamond Linzie	Meiyi Song
Samantha Brown	Elizabeth Greenlaw	Angela Long	Carla Soybel
Celine Calpo	Krishna Gunupati	Kris Markarian	Rhonda Starks
Jason Cantone	Naveen Gupta	Richard Marshall	Kyle Stormer
Jim Chance	Mira Gur-Arie	Ursula Maurer	Mark Trimble
Garbo Cheung-Jasik	Stephanie Hemmert	Susanna McCrea	Micheline Verdant
Jackie Clark	Laural Hooper	Dean Miletich	Danielle Vestal
Shayla Clark	Brandon Howard	Doug Mitchell	Amber Voss
Sally-Anne Cleveland	José Idler	Jaimie Mitchell	Ashley Walters
John Cooke	Beth Johnson	Stephanie Montes	Clint Wang
LaTonja Cox	Molly Johnson	Lori Murphy	Frank Washington
Missy Cross	Rebecca Johnson	Christopher Murray	Yvonne Washington
Ben Curry	Tyeika Jordan	Matt Nixon	Brian Whittington
Esther DeVries	Andy Joyce	Hanna Ortiz	Beth Wiggins
Joseph Donahoe	Andrew Kaplan	Nancy Payne	Francesca Williams
Nathan Dotson	Mary Keller	Marquita Perkins	Margaret Williams
Andrew Dowless	Hamid Khan	Cheena Mae Pongase	Robb Wilmot
Meghan Dunn	Maureen Kieffer	Maisha Pope	Jeremy Wing
Hieu Duong	Jake Kobrick	Dana Przesmitzki	Aaron Wiseman
Trung Duong	Meghan Kocijanski	Tim Reagan	Jefri Wood
Shelly Easter	Jennifer Krause	Joy Richardson	
Rebecca Eyre	Jana Laks	Jennifer Richter	

EDUCATION

In 2024, the Center delivered 74 in-person programs and 64 virtual programs for more than 17,000 judges and court employees and provided various online resources, including 6 podcasts and 24 video productions.

The Center uses a competency-based curriculum that focuses on the knowledge, skills, and attributes needed for various positions. In 2024, Center programs continued to emphasize perennial issues, including case management, evidence, sentencing, ethics, and developments in the law for judges. They also focused on efficient administration and effective management and leadership for court staff, managers, and executives. Center programs pay ongoing attention to fostering an exemplary workplace, personal security, cybersecurity, and financial disclosures. Center resources also address technologies that impact the legal system including generative AI. In all areas, the Center prioritizes educating people new to their roles.

Executive Education

The Center provides leadership and management education programs to chief judges, circuit and court unit executives (CUEs), and deputy court unit executives (DCUEs). The Center offered the following executive education programs in 2024:

- Becoming an Executive: Remote Course (webinar series)
- Becoming an Executive: Concluding Seminar (in person)
- Becoming Exceptional: Level Up Your Executive Team (in person)
- Faculty Development Seminar (in person)
- *In Session: Leading the Judiciary* (podcast, episodes 37–42)
- Introduction to Coaching (virtual)
- Judiciary Coaching Program (virtual)
- Leader as Coach for Chief Federal Defenders (in person)
- Leader as Coach for Chief Judges (in person)
- Leader as Coach for CUEs and DCUEs (virtual)
- National Leadership Conference for Chief Judges of United States District and Bankruptcy Courts (in person)
- National Leadership Conference for Circuit and Court Unit Executives (in person)

- National Leadership Conference for Circuit and Court Unit Executives (virtual)
- New Chief Judge Leadership Seminar: Parts 1 and 2 (in person)
- New Circuit and Court Unit Executive Leadership Seminar (in person)

Judicial and Legal Education

Orientation Seminars for New Judges

The Center provides orientation programs for new judges that address their duties and responsibilities, review critical substantive law, and provide the opportunity to connect with people who can provide resources and mentorship. All new judges also receive a select set of Center publications. In 2024, the Center held the following orientation programs for judges:

- New Appellate Judges Seminar (cosponsored with the Institute of Judicial Administration at New York University School of Law) (in person)
- Orientation Seminar for U.S. Appellate Judges (in person)
- Phase I Orientation Seminar for Newly Selected U.S. Bankruptcy Judges (in person, 2 seminars)
- Phase I Orientation Seminar for Newly Appointed U.S. District Judges (in person, 3 seminars)
- Phase I Orientation Seminar for Newly Appointed U.S. Magistrate Judges (in person, 2 seminars)
- Phase II Orientation for U.S. District Judges (in person)
- Phase II Orientation for Newly Appointed U.S. Magistrate Judges (in person)

Continuing Education Programs and Resources

The Center offers a range of special-focus seminars, national workshops, virtual programs, videos, publications, and other resources for judges and court attorneys. The Center provided the following continuing education programs in 2024:

All Judges

- *Dementia and the Law* (video series)

Appellate and District Judges

- Antitrust Judicial Law and Economics Institute for Federal Judges (cosponsored with the

American Bar Association and University of California Berkeley School of Law) (in person)

- Workshop for Judges of the Fourth Circuit (in person)

Appellate, District, and Magistrate Judges

- Judicial Seminar on Emerging Issues in Neuroscience (cosponsored with the American Association for the Advancement of Science) (in person)
- Law and Technology Workshop for Judges (cosponsored with the Bolch Judicial Institute at Duke University School of Law) (in person)
- Ronald M. Whyte Intellectual Property Seminar (cosponsored with the Berkeley Center for Law and Technology) (in person)

District Judges

- National Workshop for U.S. District Judges I and II (in person)

Bankruptcy Judges

- *A Review of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Decisions* (2024 program) (video)
- Business Case Law Update for Bankruptcy Judges (virtual, quarterly)
- Consumer Case Law Update for Bankruptcy Judges (virtual, quarterly)
- Diocese Cases in Bankruptcy (virtual)
- Generative Artificial Intelligence for Bankruptcy Judges: Fundamentals (Plus a Little Bit More) (virtual)
- Implications of *Purdue Pharma* for Bankruptcy Judges (virtual)
- Judicial Writing for Bankruptcy Judges: Refining Your Flow and Feedback (virtual, 3 sessions)
- National Workshop for U.S. Bankruptcy Judges (in person)
- Onward and Upward Bankruptcy Judges' Chat (virtual, 7 sessions)
- Supreme Court Term in Review for Bankruptcy Judges (virtual)

Magistrate Judges

- National Workshop for U.S. Magistrate Judges I and II (in person)
- Search and Surveillance Warrants in the Digital Age (in person)

Judges and Court Attorneys

- *Court Web* (webcast, episodes 119–128)
- *Term Talk* (video reviews of key Supreme Court decisions for 2023–2024 term)
- *Term Talk Extended*

Orientation and Continuing Education for Court Attorneys

- Federal Defender Capital Habeas Unit National Conference (in person)
- Interactive Orientation Seminar for Federal Judicial Law Clerks (e-learning)
- Maintaining the Public Trust (e-learning)
- National Conference for Pro Se and Death Penalty Staff Attorneys (in person)
- National Seminar for Federal Defenders (in person)
- Supreme Court Fellows Program Information Session (virtual)
- Wm. Matthew Byrne Jr. Judicial Clerkship Institute (cosponsored with Pepperdine Caruso School of Law) (in person)

Management and Professional Development Education (MPDE)

The Center provides professional development for court staff, supervisors, and managers. The Center offered the following management and professional development education programs in 2024:

- Advanced Supervisors Institute 2023–2024 (webinar, in person)
- Advanced Supervisors Institute 2024–2025 (webinar, in person)
- Avoiding Ethics Pitfalls (e-learning)
- Everyday Ethics: A Matter of Choice (e-learning)
- Federal Court Leadership Development Program Class IV, Phase III Workshop (in person)
- Making the Transition to Supervisor (e-learning)
- MPDE Web (virtual)
 - Adopting Effective Time Management Practices (for supervisors and managers)
 - Developing and Encouraging Proper Time Management (for supervisors and managers)
 - Servant Leadership (for supervisors and managers)
 - Adopting Effective Time Management Practices (for court staff)
 - Developing a Personal Growth Mindset (for court staff)

- New Court Trainers Workshop (webinar)
- New Supervisors' Development Program, Tier 2 Workshop (webinar, in person)
- In-District Programs
 - Code of Conduct (in person)
 - M.E.E.T.: Breaking New Ground (in person)
 - Personality Temperament Instrument (in person)

Probation and Pretrial Services Education

The Center offers probation and pretrial services education programs for officers who have completed the Federal Probation and Pretrial Academy training. Officers may also participate in the Center's leadership programs for court employees, supervisors, and managers. The Center offered the following probation and pretrial services education programs in 2024:

- All Hands on Deck (e-learning)
- Conditions of Post-Conviction Supervision: The Officer's Critical Role (e-learning)
- Experienced Officer Competencies Tool Kit (webpage)
- How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses (e-learning)
- Quality Improvement in Federal Problem-Solving Courts Workshop and Monthly Consultations (webinar, in person)
- Resilience and Wellness Microlearning Videos
- Science-Informed Decision-Making Workshop, Continuing Education, and Post-Workshop Check-Up (cosponsored with Harvard's Center for Law, Brain & Behavior) (webinar, in person)
- Supervising Officers in an Evidence-Based Environment Capstone (in person)
- Supervising Officers in an Evidence-Based Environment Faculty Development (in person)

- In-District Programs
 - U.S. Probation Trauma Training & STAR/CASA (Problem-Solving Courts) (in person)
 - How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses for the U.S. Probation Office (in person)
 - Mental Health Court Training (in person)
 - National Problem-Solving Court Directory and Resources (webpage)
 - Problem-Solving Courts Workshop and Implementation Training (webinar, in person)
 - Resilience and Everyday Leadership Pilot (in person)

Programs for All Judiciary Audiences

- *Court to Court* (video series, episodes 80–81)
- District Court Pro Se Litigation: Resources for Litigants, Court Staff, Attorneys, and Judges (webpage)
- Information Technology Security Awareness (webpage)
- Introducing Federal Courts (e-learning)

Additional Educational Activities

In 2024, the Center provided learning opportunities at retreats and meetings sponsored by other organizations including, among others, the Federal Court Clerks Association, the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies, the Federal Judges Association, the Federal Magistrate Judges Association, and the National Association for State Judicial Educators. Staff members also engaged in organizational consulting within the judiciary.

Education Programs

In-Person Programs	Number of Programs	Number of Participants¹
Judges		
Orientation for newly appointed appellate judges	2	18
Orientation for newly appointed district judges (phases I and II)	4	100
Orientation for newly appointed bankruptcy judges (phase I)	2	13
Orientation for newly appointed magistrate judges (phases I and II)	3	129
Continuing education programs	12	922
Court Attorneys		
Continuing education programs	4	677
Programs for Executives, Managers, Supervisors, Probation and Pretrial Services Officers, and Staff		
Leadership and management programs for chief judges, court unit executives, and deputy court unit executives	9	542
Programs for supervisors, managers, aspiring leaders, court staff, and trainers	3	214
Programs for experienced probation and pretrial services officers	5	187
In-district programs for supervisors, managers, aspiring leaders, court staff, and trainers	24	1,789
In-district programs for experienced probation and pretrial services supervisors, managers, and officers	6	193
Total	74	4,784
Virtual Programs (webinars, webcasts, e-learning, audio conferences)	Number of Programs	Number of Participants²
Judges		
Continuing education programs	23	993
Court Attorneys		
Continuing education programs	13	3,653
Programs for Executives, Managers, Supervisors, Probation and Pretrial Services Officers, and Staff		
Leadership and management programs for chief judges, court unit executives, and deputy court unit executives	5	142
Programs for supervisors, managers, aspiring leaders, court staff, and trainers	16	5,223
Programs for experienced probation and pretrial services supervisors, managers, and officers	7	2,232
Total	64	12,243
Media	Number of Programs	Number of Views³
Videos	24	1,250
Podcasts	6	597
Total	30	1,847

1. The figures represent registered participants, not unique participants.

2. The figures represent the number of registrations or views.

3. The figures represent views across online platforms.

RESEARCH

In 2024, the Center completed 38 research activities and commenced or continued work on 41 others in support of the Judicial Conference and its committees, the Administrative Office, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, and individual courts and judges; in response to Congress; and in support of its own educational, international, and internal activities.

Civil, Multidistrict, and Appellate Litigation

The Center continued work on a fifth edition of the *Manual for Complex Litigation* with a board of editors appointed by the Chief Justice.

To inform a proposal to facilitate federal-court bar membership, the Center completed reports on admission fees and local-counsel rules for the Standing Committee on the Rules of Practice and Procedure. For the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules, the Center published a report on the entry of defaults and default judgments. The Center conducted two surveys of transferee judges in recently closed multidistrict litigation for the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to use in developing resources for transferee judges. The Center also surveyed district judges to determine their interest in serving as transferee judges.

For the Committee on Federal–State Jurisdiction, the Center is conducting research about the degree to which sua sponte remand orders in Class Action Fairness Act cases are reviewable.

The Center is conducting research on intervention on appeal for the Advisory Committee on Appellate Rules.

The Center published a collection of case studies to provide judges with information about how other judges handle the unusual case-management challenges of emergency election litigation.

Criminal Litigation

The Center assisted the Defender Services Committee with its national programmatic surveys of federal defenders, assistant federal defenders, panel-attorney district representatives, panel attorneys, and judges; these surveys capture information used to administer the Criminal Justice Act. For the same committee, the Center is updating its 2010 evaluation of the case-budgeting

attorney program to explore changes since the addition of eight case-budgeting attorneys across ten circuits.

At the request of the Committee on Criminal Law, the Center is evaluating a two-year pilot program in which select districts are incorporating comparative sentencing information from the Sentencing Commission’s Judiciary Sentencing Information (JSIN) platform into presentence investigation reports.

As suggested by the Advisory Committee on Criminal Rules, the Center is developing a collection of resources on complex criminal litigation as one of its curated websites. The Center also provided this committee with research support as it studied whether the proscription on remote public access to criminal proceedings should be amended.

Bankruptcy Courts

For the Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System, the Center completed a study of the horizontal consolidation of bankruptcy clerk’s offices and completed data collection for a study to update the bankruptcy case-weighting system, a tool used to assess the need for bankruptcy judgeships. Also for this committee, the Center published a report about resource sharing based on roundtables with bankruptcy clerks of court and surveyed those clerks to obtain comprehensive information about sharing. In addition, the Center completed a study of the impact of quarterly fees on the filing and successful reorganization of Chapter 11 cases, and researchers continued the study of a pilot program, authorized by the Judicial Conference, to evaluate the filling of bankruptcy-judgeship vacancies by one circuit for use in another circuit.

For the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules, the Center is surveying bankruptcy judges about the need for special masters in bankruptcy cases and proceedings.

Science and Technology

Collaborating with the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, and with oversight by an advisory group of judges and scientists, the Center substantially completed work on the fourth edition of the *Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence*, to be published in early 2025.

Each year, the Center hosts a Science and Technology Policy fellow from the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). The 2024 fellow developed epigenetics resource materials for judges, created an AAAS-hosted blog to explain to scientists how science interplays with the law and the judiciary, and prepared an article on judges' perspectives on managing complex scientific evidence.

Workplace and Workforce

At the request of the Federal Judiciary Workplace Conduct Working Group in 2023, the Center surveyed current judiciary employees about the judiciary workplace; the Center submitted its final report on the survey to the working group in 2024. In a separate project in 2023, as directed by Congress, the Center contracted with the National Academy for Public Administration (NAPA) to assist with Center efforts to study workplace conduct in the judiciary; in 2024, the Center and NAPA submitted a joint final report to Congress.

The Center also continued to conduct confidential workplace surveys at the request of court unit executives; assist bankruptcy judges in obtaining feedback on their performance from attorneys who appear before them; and work with interested districts to establish feedback programs for magistrate and district judges.

For the Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System, the Center completed its three-part study on diversity in magistrate-judge selection.

Other Center Research

The Center developed a curated website showing public-outreach and civics-education efforts by individual fed-

eral courts and materials prepared by the Center and the Administrative Office. The site includes an interactive map, prepared for the Committee on the Judicial Branch, that displays highlighted civics-education resources and civics program-information pages on court websites.

For the Committee on Court Administration and Case Management, the Center is updating and expanding the scope of its 2015 analysis of court filings for adherence to the privacy rules on redaction of Social Security numbers. In 2024, the Center completed three interim reports—two that focused on the required redaction of Social Security numbers in court filings and a third that focused on the inclusion of such numbers in judicial opinions in Social Security and immigration cases. Additionally, for the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules, the Center surveyed bankruptcy trustees and others on the need for partial Social Security numbers in certain public forms.

To assist courts in managing their civil and criminal caseloads, the Center maintains dashboards that show each court how slowly or quickly that court terminates types of cases relative to the national average. The 2022–2023 dashboards were provided to judges and clerks of court in late spring of 2024.

Researchers also curate resource webpages on various topics, including resources to manage bankruptcy pro se debtors and creditors and district court pro se litigation; the Cardone Recommendation Study; civics education and outreach; election litigation; federal–state cooperation; illustrative forms of class-action notices; managing federal death-penalty trials; national security cases; the Federal Rules of Practice and Procedure; Science Resources (*Dementia and the Law*, Opioid Crisis, Neuroscience, Fingerprint Identification, DNA Technologies, Water and the Law); and third-party litigation financing.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL HISTORY

The Center's statute directs it to conduct, coordinate, and encourage programs relating to the history of the judicial branch.

The History Office added two new essays to the Work of the Courts section of its website. One article was about foreign treaties in the federal courts. It discusses the contexts in which foreign treaties have arisen in federal courts, the distinct set of issues courts have confronted in treaty cases, and the broad outlines of debate over these issues. Additionally, the Center published an essay about the history of federal juries, including both petit and grand juries.

The Center added three essays to the Spotlight series, which features short essays about judicial history. These

essays examined Eighth Amendment litigation, Chinese immigration restriction, and federal judicial statutes. The History Office also continued its outreach efforts to increase public knowledge of the history of federal courts through its X (formerly Twitter) account, @FedJudicialHist, which posts links to materials on the History of the Federal Judiciary section of the website.

This year, in partnership with the American Bar Association, the Center held its annual Teachers' Institute. Twenty secondary-school teachers gathered in Washington, D.C., to learn about three historical cases from our Famous Federal Trials series. The teachers met with historians and federal judges and made several field trips to visit federal courts over the course of the week.

INTERNATIONAL

The International Office (IO) collaborates with the judiciaries of other nations. Much of this work is with national judicial institutes and focuses on curriculum development and pedagogy. The IO represents the Center at international events, most recently at the Conference of the International Organization for Judicial Training hosted by Korea's Judicial Research and Training Institute and the International Conference on Judicial Training hosted by the Ministry of Justice of Saudi Arabia.

In 2024, the IO implemented ten workshops and programs in Colombia, India, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka. The programs included sessions on judicial education as well as on substantive topics such as cybercrime, digital evidence, human trafficking, money laundering, and terrorism cases. These programs were delivered in collaboration with the CEELI Institute, an NGO, and with the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative and the Bolch Judicial Institute. The programs were funded by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The Visiting Fellows Program invites judges from other countries to be scholars-in-residence at the Center. With the assistance of IO staff, fellows conduct research on issues related to reforms underway in their home countries. In 2024, the IO hosted three fellows: two judges from India working on a guide on digital evidence and a judge from Japan studying pretrial detention.

Judiciaries Worldwide (<https://judiciariesworldwide.fjc.gov>) is a website on comparative judicial practice, developed by the International Office. The site features overviews of national judicial systems and information about judicial selection, court administration, and comparative civil and criminal procedure. Recent additions to the site include pieces on judicial attire, judicial case management, the use of foreign judges, and country profiles on Spain and Uzbekistan. In 2024, Judiciaries Worldwide had over 80,000 visitors from 170 different countries.

RESOURCES

Websites

The Center's website on the judiciary's intranet (fjc.dcn) provides judges and judicial-branch personnel with information on the Center's research, education, history, and international programs and activities. The site also provides those in the judiciary with access to print, video, and audio materials. Digital recordings of many conferences and workshops are also available there. All materials on federal judicial history and international judicial relations, most Center publications, and some other resources are available to the public on the Center's internet site (fjc.gov).

Information Services

Drawing from a specialized collection of books, journals, and published and unpublished documents on the work of the federal courts, the Center serves as a clearinghouse for information on federal judicial administration. The Center also distributes publications and media programs to the courts to use in local education and training programs. During the year, the Center answered requests for information from judges and court staff, congressional staff, other government agencies, academics, researchers, the media, and others.

Publications

As part of its statutory mission to provide research and educational resources to the federal courts, the Center publishes research reports, monographs, manuals, and reference guides. In 2024, the Center produced a variety of publications for judges, attorneys, and court staff, including the following:

- Enhancing Efforts to Coordinate Best Workplace Practices Across the Federal Judiciary
- Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties and Letters Rogatory: Obtaining Evidence and Assistance from Foreign Jurisdictions
- Default and Default Judgment Practices in the District Courts
- Observations from the 2023 Bankruptcy Sharing Roundtables
- Unredacted Social Security Numbers in Federal Court PACER Documents
- Local-Counsel Requirements for Practice in Federal District Courts

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER FOUNDATION

The Federal Judicial Center Foundation is a private, nonprofit corporation that Congress established to receive gifts to support the work of the Center. The foundation has sole authority to decide whether to accept gifts and thereby to determine the suitability of would-be donors. The foundation may not accept gifts earmarked for projects that have not already been approved by the Center's Board, and the Center has sole control over the design and conduct of activities supported by donations.

The foundation is governed by a seven-person board appointed by the Chief Justice, the president pro tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. No foundation board member may be an active judge. The following were foundation board members at the close of 2024:

Judith A. Miller, Chevy Chase, Md., *Chair*
Elizabeth J. Cabraser, San Francisco, Cal.
Steven S. Gensler, Norman, Okla.
Judge Rebecca Love Kourlis (Ret.), Denver, Colo.
Peter A. Kraus, Dallas, Tex.
John B. White Jr., Spartanburg, S.C.
Vacant

In creating the foundation, Congress directed the Center to describe in its annual report the purposes for which foundation gifts were used in the reporting year. The Center used the following foundation gifts in 2024:

- Funds from the American Bar Association, which paid the travel expenses for judges to attend a program on the legal and economic considerations of antitrust cases.
- Funds from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which paid the travel expenses for judges to attend a program on emerging issues in neuroscience.

EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Committee on Appellate Judge Education

Judge D. Brooks Smith (3rd Cir.), *Chair*
Judge Guy Cole (6th Cir.), Center Board Representative
Judge Ralph Erickson (8th Cir.), Center Board Representative
Judge Catharina Haynes (5th Cir.)
Judge Patricia Millett (D.C. Cir.)
Joseph Phillips, Chief of Judicial Services Office
(Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts)

Committee on Bankruptcy Judge Education

Bankruptcy Judge Benjamin Kahn (M.D.N.C.), *Chair*
Chief Bankruptcy Judge Mildred Cabán (D.P.R.),
Center Board Representative
Bankruptcy Judge Jeffery Cavender (N.D. Ga.)
Bankruptcy Judge Sandra R. Klein (C.D. Cal.)
Bankruptcy Judge Patricia Mayer (E.D. Pa.)
Bankruptcy Judge Kesha Lynn Tanabe (D. Minn.)
Juliet M. Moringiello, Professor (Widener University,
Commonwealth Law School)
Daniel Issaacs-Smith, Deputy Chief of Judicial Services
Office (Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts)

Committee on District Judge Education

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Judge Theodore D. Chuang (D. Md.)
Judge Haywood S. Gilliam Jr. (N.D. Cal.)
Chief Judge Landya McCafferty (D.N.H.)
Judge David Proctor (N.D. Ala.)
Judge B. Lynn Winmill (D. Idaho), Center Board
Representative
Joseph Phillips, Chief of Judicial Services Office
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Committee on Magistrate Judge Education

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Magistrate Judge Jared Bennett (D. Utah)
Magistrate Judge Stanley Boone (E.D. Cal.)
Magistrate Judge Michael North (E.D. La.)
Magistrate Judge Anthony E. Porcelli (M.D. Fla.),
Center Board Representative

Magistrate Judge Ona T. Wang (S.D.N.Y.)
Joseph Phillips, Chief of Judicial Services Office
(Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts)

Committee on the Benchbook for U.S. District Court Judges

Judge Ricardo Martinez (W.D. Wash.), *Chair*
Judge Kathleen Cardone (W.D. Tex.), Center Board
Representative
Judge Sara Ellis (N.D. Ill.), Center Board Representative
Judge Jonathan Hawley (C.D. Ill.)

Committee on Court Attorney Education

Marlena Shipp, Supervisory Staff Attorney (N.D. Ala.),
Chair
Christopher Greene, Career Law Clerk (N.D. Ala.)
Tina Hardin, Supervisory Pro Se Attorney (N.D. Okla.)
Terees Shinn-Jenkins, Supervisory Staff Attorney
(W.D. Tex.)
Marisa Watson, Senior Staff Attorney (3rd Cir.)
Gloria J. Malkin, Attorney Advisor (Court Services
Office, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts)

Committee on Executive Education

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Chief District Judge Dennis Saylor (D. Mass.)
Chief Bankruptcy Judge Brenda Rhoades (E.D. Tex.)
Christine Castelloe, Chief Deputy Clerk (Bankr. E.D.N.C.)
David Crews, Clerk of Court (N.D. Miss.)
Stephanie Lawley, Chief Deputy Clerk (D. Alaska)
John Marshall, Chief U.S. Probation Officer (D.R.I.)
Ebony McCain, ACE for Court Policy & Research (8th Cir.)
Jon Muller, Chief Pretrial Services Officer (D. N.J.)
DeCarlos Sheppard, Deputy Chief U.S. Probation Officer
(M.D. Fla.)
Marc Theriault, Circuit Executive (6th Cir.)
Jane MacCracken, Deputy Chief (Court Services Office,
Administrative Office of U.S. Courts)
Charles Robinson, Deputy Chief of Probation and Pretrial
Services Office (Administrative Office of U.S. Courts)

Committee on Management and Professional Development Education

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Chair

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Kim S. Bramlett, Chief Probation Officer (E.D. Mo.)

Estella Chavarin, Court Analyst (Bankr. C.D. Cal.)

Bethaney Healy, Division Manager (D. Mass.)

Nichole Milton, Chief Deputy Clerk (D. Colo.)

Dailin Pena, Training Coordinator (S.D. Fla.)

Pete Rea, Deputy Chief Probation Officer (D. Ariz.)

Mona Shah, Assistant Deputy Chief Probation Officer
(M.D. Fla.)

Josh Matos, Clerks Administrator (Operations Division,
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts)

Aaron Wonneman, Probation Administrator (Probation
and Pretrial Services Office, Administrative Office of
the U.S. Courts)

Committee on Probation and Pretrial Services Education

Georgette Leventis, Chief U.S. Probation Officer (D. Utah),
Chair

Michael Dorra, Assistant Deputy Chief U.S. Probation
Officer (S.D.N.Y.)

Silvio Lugo, Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer (N.D. Cal.)

Anthony Merolla, Chief U.S. Probation Officer
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Jennifer Metcalfe, U.S. Probation Officer (D. Me.)

Natasha Palmer, Deputy Chief U.S. Probation Officer
(E.D. Va.)

Mandy Palmiter, Senior U.S. Probation Officer (E.D. Tenn.)

Jennifer Rhyne, Supervisory Probation Administrator
(Probation and Pretrial Services Office, Administrative
Office of U.S. Courts)

Mark Unterreiner, Supervisory Probation Administrator
(Probation and Pretrial Services Office, Federal Probation
and Pretrial Academy, Administrative Office of the
U.S. Courts)



Federal Judicial Center

One Columbus Circle NE
Washington, DC 20002-8003
fjc.dcn • fjc.gov