

CLE materials for

Court Web: Judges as Authors: What Do Readers Want?

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: Judges as Authors: What Do Readers Want?*. 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 please contact Rhonda Starks at 202-502-4059 or rstarks@fjc.gov. If you have any questions about the program in general please contact Brenda Baldwin-White at 202-502-4112 or Bbaldwin-white@fjc.gov.

Program Description

Court Web: Judges as Authors: What Do Readers Want?

February 23, 2022 – 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET

Host Brenda Baldwin-White, Senior Judicial Education Attorney, talks with Ross Guberman, President of Legal Writing Pro and Creator of BriefCatch, about trends in judicial opinion-writing. The sixty-minute discussion touches on how social media has transformed opinion-writing, the conflicting expectations of judges' various audiences, why certain writing techniques inspire both praise and criticism, whether judges should convey passion and frustration, and how opinion-writing might look in a decade.

Faculty: Ross Guberman, President, Legal Writing Pro, and Creator, BriefCatch

Faculty Biographical Information

Ross Guberman is the president of Legal Writing Pro LLC, a training and consulting firm. From Alaska and Hawaii to Paris and Hong Kong, he has conducted more than a thousand programs on three continents for prominent law firms, for judges and courts, and for dozens of agencies, corporations, and associations. His workshops are among the highest rated in the world of professional legal education.

Ross holds degrees from Yale, the Sorbonne, and the University of Chicago Law School.

Ross's *Point Made: How to Write Like the Nation's Top Advocates* is an Amazon bestseller that reviewers have praised as a "tour de force," "a must for the library of veteran litigators," and "an indispensable tool" filled with "practical, trenchant advice." *Point Made* has sold tens of thousands of copies and is now in its second edition. Ross is also the author of *Point Taken: How to Write Like the World's Greatest Judges*, which *Court Review* called "the best book . . . by far . . . about judicial writing." He has also coauthored *Deal Struck: The World's Best Drafting Tips* with Gary Karl.

An active member of the bar and a former attorney at a top law firm, Ross has also worked as a translator, professional musician, and award-winning journalist. After the federal takeover of Fannie Mae, *Slate* magazine called his article about the company "totally brilliant and prescient." In her bestseller *Reckless Endangerment*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *New York Times* business columnist Gretchen Morgenson wrote that "the article was groundbreaking and made even the most jaded *Washingtonian* take note."

Quoted in such publications as the *New York Times* and *American Lawyer*, Ross often comments on business, law, writing, training, and lawyer development. He has also addressed major international conferences, including the American Society of Training and Development, NALP's Annual Education Conference, the Professional Development Consortium, the Professional Development Institute, and the Association for Continuing Legal Education, and has been invited to speak at several judicial conferences.

Ross is a "Trusted Adviser" for the Professional Development Consortium and a consultant for Caren Stacy's OnRamp Fellowship.

He is the 2016 winner of the Golden Pen Award for making "an extraordinary contribution to the cause of good legal writing." He was also honored as one of the 2016 *Fastcase 50* for legal innovators.

Ross immerses himself in the best practices for adult learning. He is a member of the American Society for Training & Development, which has awarded him its Certified Professional in Learning and Performance™ credential for passing a rigorous eight-part test and for creating a standardized writing assessment that he has since administered to thousands of lawyers worldwide.

A Minnesota native, Ross lives with his wife and two children outside Washington, DC. Family travel has taken them everywhere from Argentina and Bhutan to Greenland and Zambia.

UNIFORM APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

To the state of:

1. Sponsoring organization:
 Name: **Federal Judicial Center**
 Address: **Education Division (ED)**
 One Columbus Circle, NE
 Washington, DC 20002-8003
 Telephone: **202-502-4059** Fax: **202-502-4299**
 Email: **rstarks@fjc.gov**
2. Title of educational activity: **Court Web: Judges as Authors: What Do Readers Want?**
3. Date(s) and location(s): **February 23, 2022 (being recorded for future viewing)**
4. Registration fee: **- 0 -**
5. Writing surface available? **Yes** **No**
6. Delivery Method(s): **faculty in room with participants;**
 telephone to broadcast site; **interactive video;** **webinar;** **audiotape presentation;** **streaming video;**
 interactive computer/Internet; **discussion leader present**
7. Type of Law code(s): 1. ; 2. (Optional) ; 3. (Optional)
 Difficulty Level: **Beginner;** **Intermediate;** **Advanced**
8. Advertised to: **Lawyers;** **Clients;** **Others (specify): Federal Judges and Attorneys**
9. List any admission restrictions:
10. "In-house activity" requirement (see local rules to determine applicability):
 open/publicized to outside lawyers **outside lawyers are 0% of faculty** **clients are 100% of audience**
11. Method of evaluation: **participant critique;** **independent evaluator;** **none;**
 other:
12. Description of materials to be distributed: **total pages ;** **loose-leaf** **bound**
 Distributed: **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): **0** Substance Abuse: **0**
 Total: **60**
 Other: **0**
15. Approval by other states: Granted by: **California**
 Denied by:
16. Submitted by: **employee of sponsor/provider;** **individual lawyer**

STATE ACCREDITATION OFFICE
 NOTICE OF DECISION
 Course No. _____

(To be completed by the state accreditation office and returned to applicant)

The following action has been taken on this application:

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

APPROVED for ___ CLE credits,
 Including ___ Ethics credits

DENIED Reference _____

SEE ATTACHED MATERIALS.

 Name of person applying (type or print)

 Address (if different than above)

 Signature

 Date

 Phone and Fax (if different than above)

 E-mail address (if different than above):

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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: Judges as Authors: What Do Readers Want?* webcast

Training Coordinator/Human Resources Specialist/Human Resources Manager signature

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