FEDERAL COURT



2025





SUMMER



SPONSORED BY:

THE BENCH BAR FUND OF THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

THE JACKSONVILLE FEDERAL COURT BAR ASSOCIATION





SUMMER SERIES DETAILS



WHO

The Bench Bar Fund of the Middle District of Florida and the Jacksonville Federal Court Bar Association invite all law students working in Jacksonville for the summer to participate in any and all events.

WHAT

For years, we have hosted events to welcome law students to our Jacksonville legal community and introduce them to federal judges, federal practitioners, and various aspects of federal practice. All events are free to attend.

WHERE

Events at the courthouse are in the Bryan Simpson U.S. Courthouse, 300 North Hogan St., Jacksonville, FL 32202. Parking information will be emailed before each event. A photo identification is required for courthouse entry.

RSVP

To RSVP "yes" for an event, visit www.jaxfedbar.org or email admin@jaxfedbar.org. If you RSVP but cannot attend, you must contact (904) 549-1950 in time for another student to take your place. Because of the events' popularity, high-school students, college students, and law-school students who attended last summer will be automatically placed on a waiting list.

DRESS CODE

Professional attire must be worn. This means a coat and tie, dress, or the equivalent.



EVENTS *



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4 PM - 7 PM Welcome Event

JUNE

9 AM - 1 PM

Circuit Judge Event

JUNE

12 PM - 1:30 PM

Professionalism/ Etiquette Event

JUNE

11 AM – 1 PM Bankruptcy Judge Event

JUNE

10 AM - 1 PM Naturalization Ceremony Event

JULY

10:30 AM - 1 PM

District Judge Event

JULY

11 AM - 1 PM Magistrate Judge Event

JULY

3 PM - 5 PM

Grand Jury Event

Bonus!

Any student who attends three or more events will receive a special keepsake at the end of the summer.



EVENT DETAILS



Welcome Event

Location: Jury Room & Sweet Pete's

Welcome to Jacksonville! Join us at the federal courthouse to learn about the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, the 2025 Summer Series, and some things you can do to have a successful summer. We'll then walk next door to Sweet Pete's to enjoy refreshments and mingle with lawyers, law clerks, and other law students.

Professionalism/ Etiquette Event

Location: River Club

Join us at the River Club for a formal lunch. Dine with judges to discuss courtroom decorum, modern-manners experts to learn about dining etiquette, and local lawyers to ask questions about business and law-firm etiquette.

Circuit Judge Event

Location: 13th Floor

You likely practiced an oral argument in your appellate advocacy class or during a moot court competition; now listen to actual oral arguments by the pros! Watch cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and then meet with United States Circuit Judges to hear tips for brief writing, oral arguments, and law clerk applications.

Bankruptcy Judge Event

Location: Courtroom TBD & 13th Floor

Most of us have had debt: credit cards, student loans, and medical bills. Sometimes, that debt becomes overwhelming. Bankruptcy helps people and businesses craft a plan to clear their debts and reorganize their financial lives. This event features a presentation on bankruptcy practice by Jason Burgess, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, followed by a casual pizza lunch with him and fellow bankruptcy judge Jerry Funk.



EVENT DETAILS



Naturalization Ceremony Event

Location: 13th Floor

Witnessing people take the Oath of Allegiance and become United States citizens is a moving and inspiring experience. Join an immigration officer for a discussion about the naturalization process, take a sample citizenship examination, observe a naturalization ceremony, and welcome some of our nation's newest citizens.

Magistrate Judge Event

Location: Courtroom 5A & 13th Floor

From search warrants to social security appeals, from grand jury returns to civil trials, the work of a United States Magistrate Judge is never boring. Watch a proceeding before Judge Samuel Horovitz and then join magistrate judges for a lunchtime discussion of the vast scope of duties magistrate judges perform.

District Judge Event

Location: Courtroom 10D & 13th Floor

After a defendant has been convicted of a crime, the judge is tasked with imposing a sentence that is sufficient but not greater than necessary to comply with the purposes of sentencing. How does the judge decide the "right" sentence? Watch a sentencing hearing and then join U.S. District Judge Timothy Corrigan for a lunchtime discussion about the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and federal sentencing.

Grand Jury Event

Location: Grand Jury Room & 8th Floor
Training Room

Grand juries are mentioned in the news, but their work is shrouded in secrecy. This event will give you an opportunity to learn about what occurs during grand jury proceedings, why they are outside the public eye, and the important role of a grand juror. Join Frank Talbot, Chief of the Jacksonville Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida, for a presentation, followed by a meet-and-greet with Assistant United States Attorneys.