

Civil Trial Innovations Conference



Tuesday, April 4, 2017

U.S. Courthouse
Western District of Missouri
400 E. 9th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106
and

Simulcast to Jefferson City U.S. Courthouse

AGENDA

MORNING

8:30 am – 9:00 am

Registration

9:00 am – 9:50 am

Juror Bill of Rights

Judge Bennett exemplifies a "jury centered" approach to judging, including many jury trial innovations that make jury trials more efficient and understandable to jurors. He has collected empirical data from his juries for nearly a quarter of a century and will discuss his approach that he has written about in a new law review article on a Juror Bill of Rights.

The Honorable Mark Bennett
U.S. District Judge, Northern Iowa

10:00 am – 10:50 am

Lessons Learned from High-Profile Cases

The two co-chairs of the event, Kent Emison and Rob Adams, have some of the most impressive wins in Missouri and across the nation. Chief Judge Marten has presided over major trials and teaches Trial Advocacy at Harvard Law School. These three experienced attorneys bring a wealth of knowledge about what it takes to win when the stakes are high.

The Honorable Tom Marten
Chief U.S. District Judge, Kansas
J. Kent Emison, Langdon & Emison
Rob Adams, Shook Hardy & Bacon

11:00 am – 11:50 am

Effective Examinations at Trial

Scott Love, one of the nation's premier plaintiff's lawyers, will discuss tips and techniques on how to improve your performance and examinations in trial, including what to do before you walk into the courtroom, to suggestions about effective examination approaches, and maintaining a proper tempo in your examination.

Scott Love, Clark Love Hutson, Houston, TX

12:00 pm – 12:50 pm

Complimentary Lunch

AFTERNOON

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

Registration for afternoon-only attendees

1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

Across the Aisle: What your Opponent Does Well in Trial

Real trial attorneys learn something from every case, including from opposing counsel. Willie Epps has tried cases for plaintiffs, criminal defendants, and large corporations. John Aisenbrey is one of the most respected commercial litigators in the Mid-West. Judge Phillips, as a practicing attorney, tried complex medical malpractice cases and major criminal cases in the U.S. Attorney's office. These three experienced litigators will discuss the most impressive voir dire, openings, closing and arguments used against them by their opposing counsel or attorneys in cases.

The Honorable Beth Phillips
U.S. District Judge, Western Missouri
Willie Epps, Edward Jones, St. Louis
Sara Welch, Stinson Leonard Street

2:00 pm – 2:50 pm

Preservation of Trials and Trial Judges

Stephen Susman is one of the most respected trial attorneys in America. He serves on the national board of ABOTA and co-chairs the Jury Trial Committee. He has recently taken on a leadership role at the Civil Jury Project at NYU Law School. Mr. Susman will speak on the importance of preserving the right to trial by jury.

Stephen Susman, Susman Godfrey LLP, New York, NY

3:00 pm – 3:50 pm

Silent Advocacy: The Jury is Watching

Diane Sullivan is one of the most successful defense attorneys in America. In 2012, the American Lawyer named her as its Litigator of the Year. She has won large verdicts for GE, ESPN, Merck, Philip Morris and Johnson & Johnson. Ms. Sullivan will lead a discussion of non-verbal ways during a case to effectively advocate.

Diane Sullivan, Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP, New York, NY