

# Courthouse Connection

Newsletter of the U.S. Courts, Western Missouri

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Special Edition—June 2012

## Featured Article

### 2012 8th Circuit Judicial Conference in Kansas City



Kansas City welcomes the 8th Circuit Judicial Conference on Aug. 8-10, 2012, focusing on "Landmark Litigation in the 8th Circuit Courts: Views From the Bench, Bar and Academy." Federal practitioners are invited to gather with the judges from the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals, District Courts, Magistrate and Bankruptcy Courts. **Full Story Page 2**

### New District Judge Brian C. Wimes



Confirmed by the Senate on April 23, 2012, Brian C. Wimes was sworn in as a U.S. district judge for the Western District of Missouri on April 30, 2012. A formal investiture ceremony will be held later this year. **Full Story Page 4**

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New District Court Judge Brian C. Wimes

12th Annual D. Brook Bartlett Lectures

Bankruptcy Judge Vacancy



## Important Conference Dates



**July 12**—Hotel Registration Closes for the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Conference

**July 23**—Conference Registration Closes for the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Conference

## Conference Website

<https://www.ce8.uscourts.gov/judconf/>

Even if you do not wish to attend any social events, you still must register in order to attend the judicial conference.

## Save the Date

June 28—Portrait Ceremony for the Honorable Ortie D. Smith

June 28—Federal Practitioners' Summer Social, KCMBA

June 29—D. Brook Bartlett Lectures

Aug. 3—Phillips' and Wimes' Investiture Ceremony

Aug. 8-10—8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Conference

Aug. 9—8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Conf. Reception, Kauffman Center

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## 2012 8th Circuit Judicial Conference in Kansas City

Kansas City welcomes the 8th Circuit Judicial Conference on Aug. 8-10, 2012, focusing on “Landmark Litigation in the 8th Circuit Courts: Views From the Bench, Bar and Academy.” Federal practitioners are invited to gather with the judges from the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals, District Courts, Magistrate and Bankruptcy Courts.

The conference program includes a wide range of topics for civil, criminal and bankruptcy bar members. Multiple CLE breakout sessions will be offered throughout the conference. Conference attendees will also enjoy U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr.’s first-ever presentation of the “Virtual Tour of the Supreme Court.”

A panel will explore “8th Circuit Courts and Professional Football: The Past—district cases, magistrate mediation, and circuit options,” and Ted Olsen and Paul Clement will discuss “Litigating High Profile Cases: Health Care, NFL, *Bush v. Gore*, etc.” In addition, Judge Kenneth W. Starr, president of Baylor University, will provide a Supreme Court case update.

The conference qualifies for 10.2 hours of Missouri CLE credit, including 1.2 hours of ethics credit. Past conferences have been approved for CLE credit in all states within the 8th Circuit.

First time conference attendees are invited to attend a private reception with Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. on Thursday, Aug. 9, at 4:00 p.m.

After the many educational opportunities during the day, participants are encouraged to enjoy the social events planned for conference-goers, including the College Basketball Experience, a reception at the Kauffman Center and a performance of “Aida.” On Friday afternoon, there is also an opportunity for lunch and a CLE program at the National Archives with a tour to follow at the National World War I Museum.

The conference will be held at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown. Registration closes July 23, so make plans now to register online or mail in your printed registration form.



*“The conference is intended to present you with educational opportunities, social events, and entertainment. I encourage you to be up-to-date and join us in Kansas City.”*

—William Jay Riley, Chief Judge  
8th Circuit Court of Appeals

*“Eighth Circuit conferences are special—Justice Alito, the nation’s leading advocates and experts on a wide range of subjects, and a really fun time—an experience of a lifetime.”*

—Duane Benton, Judge  
8th Circuit Court of Appeals



*“This conference creates a unique opportunity for collegiality between the bench and the bar of the 8th Circuit to share ideas and enjoy great Kansas City hospitality.”*

—Fernando J. Gaitan Jr., Chief Judge  
U.S. District Court—Western District of Missouri

### Justice Alito—Supreme Court Virtual Tour

Ask anyone you know—we’ve all been on a guided tour, but how many have had the experience of a guided tour hosted by a Supreme Court justice? Get ready for the first-ever virtual tour of the U.S. Supreme Court with Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. On Friday, Aug. 10, conference attendees will experience the narrated visual experience with facts, photos and history as told by Justice Alito.

#### Biography of Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr.

Samuel A. Alito Jr. was nominated as an associate justice of the Supreme Court by President George W. Bush and was sworn in on Jan. 31, 2006. He previously served as a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit, having been appointed by President George Bush in 1990.





Justice Alito received an A.B. from Princeton University in 1972 and a J.D. from Yale Law School in 1975.

He began his legal career as a law clerk for the Hon. Leonard I. Garth of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit. From 1977 to 1981, he was an assistant U.S. attorney in Newark, N.J. From 1981 to 1985, he was an assistant to the solicitor general of the United States, and in that capacity he briefed and argued numerous cases in the U.S. Supreme Court. From 1985 to 1987, he was deputy assistant attorney general in the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, which is responsible for providing legal advice to the Justice Department and other components of the executive branch. In 1987, Justice Alito was appointed by President Reagan as the U.S. attorney for the district of New Jersey. He held this office until his appointment to the 3rd Circuit.

Justice Alito was born in Trenton, N.J., April 1, 1950. He married Martha-Ann Bomgardner in 1985 and has two children—Philip and Laura.

## Social Events



### Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2012 Opening Reception

The College Basketball Experience  
6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres and drink tickets included. Buses depart the Marriott at 5:45 p.m. and return by 9:00 p.m.  
**Recommended Dress:** Casual. You are encouraged to wear your favorite team or school attire.



### Thursday, Aug. 9, 2012 Conference Luncheon

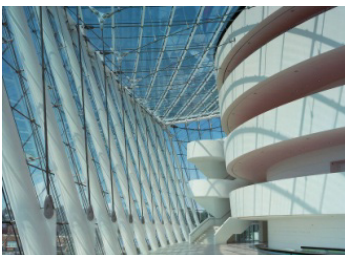
Kansas City Marriott Downtown  
12:00 p.m.



### Thursday, Aug. 9, 2012 First-Time Judicial Conference Attendees—Private Reception with Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr.

Kansas City Marriott Downtown  
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

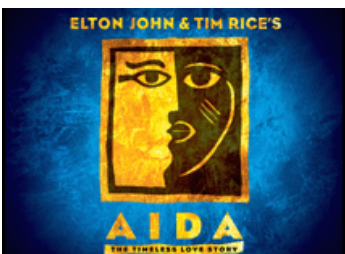
No charge, but please register for this event if this is your first time attending an 8th Circuit Judicial Conference.



### Thursday, Aug. 9, 2012 Bench/Bar Reception—Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

1601 Broadway  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

An elegant reception, sponsored by the Missouri Western District Court, will be held at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. **Recommended Dress:** Business casual.



### Thursday, Aug. 9, 2012 Elton John and Tim Rice's "AIDA"—Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

1601 Broadway  
8:00 p.m.

Although the conference block is sold out, limited seats may still be available. To purchase a ticket, visit the Starlight Theatre ticketing portal online at [www.kcstarlight.com](http://www.kcstarlight.com). This performance is expected to sell out, so act fast. **Recommended Dress:** Business casual.

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## Registration Details

Visit the conference website to register, find hotel information, review conference details, learn about the speakers, plan social events to register online or print and mail a registration form.

<https://www.ce8.uscourts.gov/judconf/>

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## Important Deadlines

Hotel Reservations Deadline	July 12, 2012
Online Conference Registration Ends	July 23, 2012

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## New District Court Judge Wimes



Confirmed by the Senate on April 23, 2012, Brian C. Wimes was sworn in as a U.S. district judge for the Western District of Missouri on April 30, 2012. A formal investiture ceremony will be held later this year. However, Judge Wimes has begun his official duties and will preside in courtroom 7D in the Whittaker courthouse.

Judge Wimes signs the oath.



District Judge Brian C. Wimes and  
Chief District Court Judge Fernando J. Gaitan Jr.

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## Twelfth Annual D. Brook Bartlett Lectures

Come listen to Dean Erwin Chemerinsky's insights on the latest U.S. Supreme Court rulings and enjoy evidence tips shared by Professor Thomas A. Mauet at the 12th Annual D. Brook Bartlett Lectures on June 29, 2012. There are still a few slots open for the afternoon session. Registration will end Tuesday, June 26, or when the session becomes full. Please register online at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012\\_dbb](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012_dbb).

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## Bankruptcy Judge Vacancy

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit seeks applications from highly qualified candidates for a 14-year appointment as a U.S. bankruptcy judge for the Western District of Missouri. The position is headquartered in Kansas City, Mo. The vacancy will occur on Jan. 31, 2013.

1. The basic jurisdiction of a U.S. bankruptcy judge is specified in Titles 11 and 28, U.S. Code, and amendments thereto. To be qualified for appointment, an applicant must:
2. Be a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of at least one state, the District of Columbia, or the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and a member in good standing of any other bar of which they are members;
3. Have been engaged in the active practice of law for a period of at least five years (some substitutes authorized);
4. Possess, and have a reputation for, integrity and good character; possess, and have demonstrated, a commitment to equal justice under the law; possess, and have demonstrated, outstanding legal ability and competence; be of sound mental and physical health sufficient to perform the essential duties of the office; and indicate by demeanor, character, and personality that the applicant would exhibit judicial temperament if appointed; and
5. Not be related by blood or marriage to a judge of the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals, to a member of the 8th Circuit Judicial Council, or to a judge of the District Court to be served, within the degrees specified in 28 U.S.C. § 458, at the time of the initial appointment.

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Application forms may be obtained online by accessing the application link(s) below, from the Circuit Executive's Office in St. Louis, Mo., by e-mail at [CE8employment@ca8.uscourts.gov](mailto:CE8employment@ca8.uscourts.gov), or by phone 314-244-2600. Applications should be submitted only by the applicant personally and should indicate the applicant's willingness to serve if selected. Applications should be submitted to the address below and must be received by **July 16, 2012**.

Ms. Millie B. Adams, Circuit Executive  
111 South 10th Street, Suite 26.325  
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-1116

The U.S. Courts are equal opportunity employers.  
[Click here for Application in PDF Format](#) | [Click here for Application in Word Format](#)

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## About Courthouse Connection

### Court Executive

Ann Thompson

### Managing Editor

Lori Carr—District Operations, Western Division

### Project Manager

Tammie Holmes—Information Technology

### Editor

Greg Melvin—District Operations, Western Division

### Contributors

Michelle Braun, Assistant Circuit Executive—8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals

Liza Healey, Chief of Staff—8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals

Deborah Showalter-Johnson, Librarian—8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals

### WDMO Staff Contributors

Laura Bax—District Operations, Central Division

Stephanie Brown—Finance

Beth Graham—Bankruptcy

Diana Diaz—Administration

Teresa Harrison—Finance

Robin Jones—District Operations, Western Division

Tania Lock—District Court Operations, Central Division

Kelly McIlvain—Article III Chambers Representative

Dorothy Myers—Magistrate Chambers Representative

Michele Nelson—Human Resources

Kelsee Pierce—Jury Administration

Kathy Popejoy—Human Resources

Deborah Showalter-Johnson—8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Library

Debbie Starks—Early Assessment Program

Katie Wirt—Court Reporter