

UNITED STATES COURTS FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI



In the Spotlight Senior District Judge

Howard F. Sachs

Our very own Senior District Judge Howard F. Sachs was recognized recently by the Federal Bar Association (FBA) as well as Missouri Lawyers Weekly for his excellence on and off the bench.

Law Clerks to District Judge Stephen Bough, Lauren Dollar and Kristin Marshall, wrote an article for the FBA

detailing the Judge's involvement in historic cases as well as his current rulings as the 8th Circuit's oldest District Judge retaining (a very full) docket.

Another article was published recognizing the Judge in Missouri Lawyers Weekly on the heels of his receipt of the ICON Award, which honors 25 legal luminaires at its annual awards ceremony.

The article, written by Nicholas Phillips, follows the same vein in highlighting the Judge's history and civil rights involvement including the integration of the Kansas City Bar Association back in the 50's.

These recognitions are well-deserved; so next time you see Judge Sachs, be sure to congratulate him on his contributions to the law and to society.



[View the FBA Article](#)

[View the MO Lawyers Weekly Article](#)

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Newsletter Contributors:

District Judge Stephen Bough, Magistrate Judge Willie J. Epps, Jr., Bankruptcy Judge Brian Fenimore, Lauren Dollar, Kristin Marshall, MO Lawyers Weekly, Laura Bax, Diana Diaz, Tania Lock, Mindy Smith and Johnathon Bish

Investiture Ceremony for Magistrate Judge Willie J. Epps, Jr.



Magistrate Judge Willie J. Epps, Jr. held his investiture ceremony at the historic Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri on November 17, 2017. Lincoln University was founded in 1866 by the men of the 62nd and 65th United States Colored Infantries and their white officers, for the special benefit of freed African Americans. A historic venue for a historic moment for the court as Epps was sworn in as the district's first African American Magistrate Judge.



Keynotes from colleagues, friends and family included the Judge's sister Beatryx Epps Washington and Missouri Court of Appeals Judge the Hon. Lisa White Hardwick. After being sworn in by Chief Magistrate Sarah Hays, the Judge's wife Mischa and daughter Cambridge assisted him with his robe.

New Magistrate Judge Lajuana Counts



After a very competitive selection process that lasted over the course of several months, the court has selected Assistant United States Attorney Lajuana Counts as the District's newest Magistrate Judge.

Many are familiar with her work serving as the Chief of the Appellate Unit at the United States Attorney's Office, Western District of Missouri. She has vast trial experience in a variety of white collar and narcotics cases and has written and/or argued over 400 cases before the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ms. Counts received her Juris Doctorate in 1988 from the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law and has been efficacious in the use of her legal skills and knowledge ever since. Activities include being actively involved in the Missouri Bar Association and holding various leadership positions in other local bar associations. She serves on the Missouri Supreme Court Disciplinary Hearing Panel and the Missouri Bar Gender and Justice Committee. Outside of the bar, Ms. Counts supports her community by serving on boards that assist underprivileged and foster/adopted children, domestic violence victims, and that help girls and women develop leadership skills.

Ms. Counts is honored and excited about becoming a member of the court family and doing the work of a magistrate judge, and recognizes that she has big shoes to fill as Magistrate Judge Sarah Hays officially retires on September 1, 2018.



Retirement Reception
for the
Hon. Sarah W. Hays

Thursday, August 23, 2018
2:30pm–4:30pm

Charles Evans Whittaker Courthouse
400 E. 9th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106
6th Floor (Outside Courtroom 6E)



RSVP

Investiture Ceremony for Bankruptcy Judge Brian T. Fenimore

The Whittaker Courthouse held the investiture ceremony of the District's newest Bankruptcy Judge Brian T. Fenimore on November 3, 2017. In addition to the Judge's guest speakers and the Court en Banc, special guests included District of Kansas Judges including: Senior District Court Judge Kathryn Vratil, Chief Bankruptcy Judge Janice Miller Karlin, and Bankruptcy Judge Dale Somers.

Judge Fenimore was presented to the court by retired Bankruptcy Judge Arthur Federman with whom he completed his clerkship from 1991-1992 after obtaining his Juris Doctorate. After being sworn in by Chief Judge Cynthia Norton and enrobed by his family, Judge Fenimore mentioned he was told that he had "some pretty big shoes to fill" with the absence of Judge Federman. He held up Federman's shoes and explained that they will forever be displayed in chambers as a reminder of the shoes we are all trying to fill. Judge Federman noted that they were no longer comfortable anyway.



United States Bankruptcy Court
Western District of Missouri



2018 Fall Eat & Greet Educational Programs



The Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Missouri is pleased to announce the following sessions.

Lunch will be provided! Additional details will be available soon.

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| October 17, 2018 | Springfield (Southern Division) |
| October 18, 2018 | Jefferson City (Central Division) |
| October 22, 2018 | Kansas City (Western Division) |
| October 25, 2018 | Carthage (Southwestern Division) |
| November 1, 2018 | St. Joseph (St. Joseph Division) |

Agenda

- Bankruptcy Judge's Perspective: Current Issues
- United States Trustee's Perspective: Current Issues
- Chapter 13 Trustee's Perspective: Current Issues
- Clerk's Office: Current Issues
- Question and Answer Session

Please make reservations via [this link](#) for the event you choose. This link is also available in the email announcement. Please include your full name and an email address when you register.

1.2 hrs. MO and 1.0 hrs. KS CLE pending

NEXT GEN

The Western District of Missouri District and Bankruptcy Courts have upgraded their Case Management/Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF) systems to the Next Generation of CM/ECF (NextGen). This upgrade provides users with several benefits including Central Sign On: the ability for e-filing attorneys to access any NextGen court they practice in utilizing one login and password. To date, **more than 27 courts** have converted to NextGen CM/ECF, and more will follow in the coming months.

To access the new filing system, you must obtain an upgraded PACER login and password and then link your upgraded PACER account to your CM/ECF account. The Western District of Missouri has had over **4,300 attorneys** link their accounts since April! If you have not yet linked your account, please visit the Court's website for instructions at www.mow.uscourts.gov.

Please note: You must be current on your WDMO District Court dues through 2018 before you can attempt to link your account.

11th Annual Koger Symposium & 18th Annual Bartlett Lectures Photo Highlights

SAVE THE DATES

**Koger Symposium
May 3, 2019**

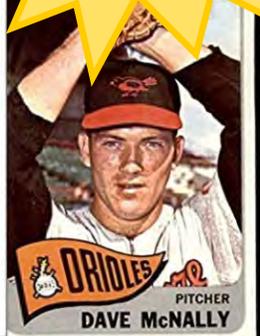
**Bartlett Lectures
June 28, 2019**





New Date!

DODGERS



The Seitz Decision: Free Agents in MLB

Join us as Don Fehr discusses the ruling issued by arbitrator Peter Seitz on behalf of pitchers Andy Messersmith and Dave McNally declaring that Major League Baseball (MLB) players become "free agents" upon playing one year for their team without a contract, effectively nullifying baseball's reserve clause.

After all appeals were exhausted, Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association signed a new agreement in 1976 allowing players with six years experience to become free agents.

The MLB appealed the decision to the United States District Court for Western Missouri, but Seitz's ruling was upheld on February 3, 1976 by District Judge John Watkins Oliver, and later by the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.



Don Fehr

Don Fehr was named Executive Director of the NHLPA in December 2010 where he previously served as an advisor since November 2009. Prior to joining the NHLPA, Don spent 33 years with the MLBPA, the last 26 of which as Executive Director. Under Don's leadership, the MLB players successfully maintained unity through one lockout and two strikes; litigated the collusion cases of the 1980s which led to the owners paying \$280 million in damages to the players; won the bad-faith bargaining case that ended the 1994-95 strike and subsequently negotiated an agreement; and successfully negotiated new agreements with MLB in 2002 and 2006. In June 2009, Don announced his retirement as MLBPA Executive Director.

Don currently serves as the NHL players' chief negotiator in collective bargaining with NHL owners. He always developed and maintained a strong consensus throughout the entire MLBPA membership on all important issues while keeping the players united and informed, and has sought to do the same with the NHLPA membership.

The Historical Society
for the
Western District of Missouri,
The Howard F. Sachs Chapter
Presents:
Don Fehr
Executive Director
National Hockey League Players' Association

Friday, September 28, 2018
12:00pm—1:30pm
Whittaker Courthouse; 4th Floor
Lunch Provided—\$10 Donation Requested
Simulcast to Divisionals (No Lunch)

[Click Here to Register](#)



SAVE THE DATE
March 26, 2019
Current Issues in MDLs and Class Actions
Whittaker Courthouse