



Wednesday, September 18, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Seattle, Washington | \$675

The National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and the American Bankruptcy Institute are pleased to offer an intensive, full day Appellate Advocacy Skills Workshop designed to hone appellate advocacy skills, including writing, oral presentation and strategy.

Moot Court Theme

Mock appeal from a simulated trial court decision under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Participants will not be permitted to conduct independent research or comment on law or facts not included in the mock appeal materials.

Writing Skills

- Participants will be assigned the role of appellant or appellee and must write an argument that may not exceed five pages using 14-point font, double spacing and Bluebook citation format.
- The scope of research is limited to four cases and a fact pattern that will be provided to participants not later than July 26, 2024.
- The written argument must be submitted not later than August 15, 2024.
- Experienced appellate judges will review the written submissions and offer suggestions, guidance and tips for improvement in small group meetings on September 18.

Oral Advocacy Skills

- Program leaders will divide participants into teams of two and assign the role of appellant or appellee. Each team will argue the case twice: once as the appellant and once as the appellee. Fifteen minutes will be allotted to each team. Appellant may reserve time for rebuttal.
- Oral argument will take place in the United States Court House, 700 Stewart Street, Seattle, Washington.
- Participants will be recorded.
- Experienced appellate judges will offer suggestions, guidance and tips for improvement on oral advocacy, including strategy, responsiveness to questions and general presentation.

Applications

- A completed application form with resume and cover letter must be submitted by email to appellateskills@ncbj.org not later than **Wednesday, May 15, 2024.**
- Workshop is limited to 16 attorneys - preference given to newer attorneys with little or no appellate advocacy experience.
- Applicants selected to participate will be notified by email on or before May 31, 2024. Selected participants must attend a mandatory zoom meeting (scheduled at a later date) during which program leaders will outline expectations and participants may ask questions.
- Selected participants should plan to arrive in Seattle on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, because the Appellate Skills Workshop will start at 8:00 a.m. on September 18, 2024.
- Program participants must be registered for the NCBJ '24 conference no later than July 31, 2024.

September 18, 2024 Schedule

- 8:00-8:45 Light breakfast for all participants and judges and introductory remarks
- 9:00 First round of arguments begins. Odd numbered teams will argue for the appellant and even numbered teams will argue for the appellee
- 9:30 Judges provide comments on first-round arguments
- 10:15 Break; participant teams rotate to new panels of judges
- 10:30 Second round of arguments begins. Even numbered teams will argue for the appellant and odd numbered teams will argue for the appellee
- 11:00 Judges provide comments on the second-round arguments
- 11:45 Break for lunch
- 1:30 Discussion of written work begins
- 3:00 Closing remarks and social gathering