

Equality Before the Law



As we celebrate Nebraska's sesquicentennial (1867-2017), the 2017 NSBA Annual Meeting seeks to bring us back to our roots by celebrating the state's motto "equality before the law." In that vein, we hope you will join us for a moving presentation about our state and nation's first civil rights case, the trial of Chief Standing Bear.

Chief Standing Bear's Long Journey for Justice

Our General Session speaker, **Joe Starita**, is an award-winning investigative reporter and Nebraska native. Starita will share the powerful, compelling story that reached its climax in Omaha 130 years ago—that of Chief Standing Bear's quest to show that an Indian "is a person within the meaning of the law" with the "same inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as the more fortunate white race." **Please join us from 3:45 to 5 pm on Thursday, October 12, for a 1-hour CLE seminar, "Chief Standing Bear's Long Journey for Justice."** It is a story of survival—of a people left for dead who arose from the ashes of injustice, disease, neglect, starvation, humiliation and extermination. On another level, it is a story of life and death, despair and fortitude, freedom and patriotism. It is also a story of hope—of a people still very much among us today, painstakingly piecing together a cultural identity that has sustained them for centuries before their encounter with Lewis and Clark in the fall of 1804. The story explores fundamental issues of citizenship, constitutional protection, cultural identity and the nature of democracy. And it is a story that aptly illustrates how the nation's delicate system of checks and balances worked almost exactly as the Founding Fathers envisioned.

Social Events

In addition to providing a top-notch lineup of CLE programs that will discuss recent developments related to your areas of practice, the Annual Meeting provides us with opportunities to reconnect with our passion for the law and our colleagues from across the state. We hope you will join us Wednesday evening for our cocktail reception, **"In Honor of Your Honors"** and Thursday for the **NSBA**

Networking Lunch, an informal event with no agenda other than conversation and fellowship. The **Third Annual Public Service Project** on Thursday afternoon offers the opportunity to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with other lawyers and work as a team to package 10,000 meals to help feed some of the 842 million people across the globe suffering from hunger. Spend the afternoon with us having fun and enjoying each other's company while we do good for others. The Thursday night celebration, dubbed **"OctoBARfest"**, will offer an evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and trivia games. We will also introduce the 2017-2018 Leadership Academy class. All are encouraged to join us. Please also join us for the **Legacy Lunch** on Friday, where we recognize our colleagues who are celebrating their 25th and 50th years of practice, and where we remember our colleagues that have passed away since our last Annual Meeting.

NSBA Public Service Awards

The NSBA Annual Meeting is also a time for us to recognize members of our profession for their exemplary service. This year, please join us in thanking and recognizing the following individuals: **Rick Allan**, who will be receiving the NSBA's 2017 President's Professionalism Award for his service to the Nebraska Lawyers Assistance Program (NLAP); **Lorraine Boyd**, who will be receiving the NSBA Award of Appreciation for her coverage of Nebraska's legal community in *The Daily Record*; **Marianne Culhane**, who will be receiving the NSBA Award of Special Merit for her service to Creighton University School of Law and Nebraska's legal community during her service as Dean; **Judge William Riley**, who will be receiving the George H. Turner Award for his service to Nebraska during his career on the U.S. Court of Appeals - 8th District; and **Charlie Wright**, who will be receiving the NSBA's Diversity Award for establishing the Chief Standing Bear Scholarship Program.

Thank you for joining us at the 2017 Annual Meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Bataillon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Hon. Joseph F. Bataillon, President
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