

BENCH-BENCH NEWS

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THE NEWSPAPER FOR BANKRUPTCY JUDGES' OUTREACH TO STATE COURT JUDGES

2012-13

Bankruptcy Got You Baffled?



Unidentified State Trial Judge wonders if automatic stay is in effect to prevent trial against debtor's guarantor.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES has you covered. The NCBJ Public Outreach Committee has an initiative for outreach to our state court brethren. Sometimes known as a Bench-Bench or Bench to Bench program, the end product is a series of papers and publications and live lectures (where available) that seek to demystify the intersection of bankruptcy and state court proceedings. Read more about the program in this flyer.

ONLINE RESOURCES

1. Go to www.ncbj.org
2. Select the menu option for PUBLIC OUTREACH
3. Scroll down to Outreach to State Court Judges to access the materials developed for state court judges

Contact the NCBJ to Arrange a Presentation to Your Bench

Many bankruptcy judges are available to deliver a live presentation to state court counterparts and state court clerks. To find out if a live program is available in your area, email NCBJ Executive Director Chris Molick at cjmolick@sc.rr.com. A live program typically consists of several brief lectures on topics of interest to state court judges, such as accessing PACER to obtain bankruptcy docket information, the automatic stay, bankruptcy issues for family court, collateral estoppel effect of state court rulings, removal and remand, and other issues. A Q&A session usually follows. Alternatively, the program agenda can be tailored to meet the specific requests of the state court attendees. For a sample agenda and other ideas, go to the NCBJ's online resources section (see sidebar ONLINE RESOURCES, this page).

FREE REFERENCE BOOKLETS AVAILABLE AT LIVE PROGRAMS

In collaboration with the American Bankruptcy Institute and the National Association of Women Judges, the NCBJ is able to provide free copies of three publications helpful to state court judges: *The Bankruptcy Card and How to Play It* by Bankruptcy Judge Sarah Sharer Curley for the NAWJ, and the ABI's *Bankruptcy Issues for State Trial Court Judges* (Third Edition) and *When Worlds Collide: Bankruptcy and Its Impact on Domestic Relations and Family Law* (Third Edition).

Here's what State Court Judges have to say . . .

"We all had a wonderful time this afternoon and learned a great deal of information that will help us on the bench."

—Judge Donna Berlin, Circuit Judge, Twelfth Judicial Circuit, State of Florida, February, 2010

For more information about this publication, or to discuss a bankruptcy question you may have, contact a friendly Bankruptcy Judge near you:

[Placeholder for inserting text box with names and contact information.]