



Western District of Washington Newsletter

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Inside This Issue

- 1—2016 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest
- 1—Updates to the Attorney's Guide: Opening a Civil Case:
- 2—Filing Reminders:
- 2—Magistrate Judge- Select Paula McCandlis
- 3—Upcoming Training:
- 3—Bench & Bar Social Security CLE Presentation

Next Issue

Local Rule changes

2016 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest

The theme of the contest is the United States Supreme Court's landmark 1966 decision in *Miranda v. Arizona*. The court ruled that someone taken into police custody must be informed – prior to questioning – of their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. The decision became the basis for what is now referred to as a “Miranda Warning” or a recitation of “Miranda Rights.”

The contest has two components: 1) Individual students can express their thoughts and ideas in an essay of 500 to 750 words, and 2) Individual students or teams of up to three students may submit a 2-3 minute video presentation on the theme. Students may participate in one or both competitions.

The contest is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors attending public, private, parochial and charter schools and home-schooled students of equivalent status. Students must be residents of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

For more information, go to <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest/>. Submissions open on January 1, 2016 and close April 15, 2016

Updates to the Attorney's Guide: Opening a Civil Case:

New Attorney Case Opening Instructions are now online. They have been updated with a new look to help make it easier to find what you need. Please take the time to review them as they provide valuable information on how to properly open your new case with our court. As always, we are available via our helpdesk line at 206-370-8787 should you find the instructions do not address your particular circumstance.

See the new updated instructions posted on the court website @ http://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/sites/wawd/files/AttorneysGuideHowtoOpenCivilCase_0.pdf

2016 NINTH CIRCUIT CIVICS CONTEST

50 YEARS AFTER
THE MIRANDA DECISION

How Federal Courts Defined the Rights of the Accused

Cash Prizes in both contests
1st place: \$2,000
2nd place: \$1,000
3rd place: \$500

An essay and video contest open to high school students in the western United States. Contest rules, entry instructions and other information will be available **December 1** at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest>

Filing Reminders:

- Signatures on documents electronically filed can be either a digital signature or the “s/ Name” typed on the signature line and has the same force and effect as an affixed signature on a paper copy of the document.

See: LCR 11 SIGNING FILINGS; SANCTIONS

a) Signature

A document signed electronically (by either a digital signature or by using the “s/ Name” convention) has the same force and effect as if the person had affixed a signature to a paper copy of the document. Electronic signatures must be in conformance with this district’s Electronic Filing Procedures for Civil and Criminal Cases.

- When filing the Joint Status Report do not include requests for relief from the court:

See: LCR 16 PRETRIAL CONFERENCES; SCHEDULING; MANAGEMENT

(a) Scheduling Conference or Joint Status Report

(1) Joint Status Report. In their joint status report, the parties must address all of the topics set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3) and in LCR 26(f).

Parties should not include requests for relief from the court in the joint status report, and the court typically will not rule on such requests. Rather, requests for relief should be contained in a stipulated motion, where feasible, or in a motion.

Magistrate Judge-Select Paula McCandlis

The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington is pleased to announce that Paula L. McCandlis has been selected as our next part-time magistrate judge in Bellingham. She will replace Judge Dean Brett, who will retire on May 1, 2016.

Magistrate Judge Select McCandlis has practiced law in Bellingham since 1997, and is currently a co-managing partner/shareholder with Brett, McCandlis Brown, PLLC. She practices civil litigation, personal injury law, and before that practiced family law and criminal law. Ms. McCandlis has a long record of mediation and collaborative law.

In addition to her practice, Ms. McCandlis volunteers for LAW Advocates, offering free legal services to low-income members of the community. She is also a Commissioner Pro Tempore for Whatcom County Superior Court as well as Bellingham Municipal Court.

Ms. McCandlis grew up in Washington State, and is a graduate of the University of California Santa Cruz. She attended Gonzaga University School of Law.

Ms. McCandlis has begun the background investigation process, and is expected to transition into the role in May, when Judge Brett retires after more than 10 years of dedicated service to the Western District of Washington.

Upcoming Training:

You must register for the ECF training sessions. To register, please send an e-mail to: cmecf@wawd.uscourts.gov

Please include the following information in your e-mail:

- Name(s) of attendees
- Firm Name
- Phone number(s)
- Date and time of the training session you wish to attend
- Bar number if you are an attorney*

**The two hour ECF Training Session has been approved by the WSBA for 2 CLE credits.*

Courtroom Technology training

Seattle

When: Training will occur on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. No reservations are necessary.

Where: Courtroom 18A (room 18106)

Tacoma

When: Training will occur on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m. No reservations are necessary.

Where: Please check in at the Clerk's Office on the day of training and you will be directed to the training location

CM/ECF Training

Seattle

Tuesday, January 12: 10:00 am - noon

Thursday, January 21: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Tuesday, February 2: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Thursday, February 18: 10:00 am – noon

Tacoma

Tuesday, January 19: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Thursday, January 28: 10:00 am - noon

Tuesday, February 11: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Thursday, February 23: 10:00 am - noon

Bench & Bar Social Security CLE Presentation

In November 2015, the Western District of Washington hosted a Bench & Bar CLE on the topic of Social Security. We are happy to provide a series of videos that captured this event. Copies of the PowerPoint slides and PDF materials have also been provided @ <http://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/news/bench-bar-social-security-cle-presentation>.

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