

District Differences in the Selection and Utilization of Lawyer Representatives

February 21, 2017

I. What is the District's original purpose and guidelines for Lawyer Representatives?	
Alaska	The principal purposes for the lawyer representative are to foster communication between the federal bench and the federal bar, to assist in planning the District Conference, and to assist the judges as requested on court matters.
Arizona	To foster open communication between judges and attorneys, provide support and advice in the functioning of the Court (if asked), and to plan and execute the annual District Court Conference.
Northern District California	The primary purpose is to organize and produce the Judicial Conference.
Southern District California	The application process for becoming a Lawyer Representative is detailed and the criteria make it clear the Court seeks a group of Lawyer Representatives who collectively share a broad spectrum of experience (civil, criminal, bankruptcy, etc.). In the application, the Lawyer Representatives are instructed to make their best efforts to attend both the District Court Conference and the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. By design, there is little guidance about how to be an effective Lawyer Representative; that allows significant creativity and flexibility in fulfilling the role.
Guam	The District of Guam does not have written guidelines. The Lawyer Representatives are responsible for coordinating all educational and community outreach with the Bar and greater Island community. They occasional interfaces with the media.
Hawaii	There are no formal guidelines, but the Lawyer Representatives understand their role is to organize the annual District Court dinner and conference; support activities of Ninth Circuit judicial conference; and foster communications between the federal court and attorneys appearing before it.
Idaho	<p>The lawyer representative position assists the Federal Court to improve the administration of justice and works on the themes of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. The representatives must be willing to attend committee meetings and the annual Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. Generally, the lawyer representative serves as a liaison between the federal bar and the U.S. Courts.</p> <p>Typical duties of the lawyer representative position include: serving as the representative of the bar to advance opinions and suggestions for improvement, making recommendations on the use of the Court's non-appropriated fund, assisting the Court in the implementation of new programs or procedures, serving on court committees, and developing the curriculum, or serving as faculty, for training programs such as the annual District Bench/Bar Conference. The representatives may survey federal bar members about issues or concerns and recommend rule or policy changes.</p>

I. What is the District's original purpose and guidelines for Lawyer Representatives?

Montana	The Lawyer Representatives have the following duties: a.) attend and participate in lawyer representative meetings; b.) attend and participate in all joint meetings of lawyers and judges, including district conferences and, in the case of the senior lawyer representative, to present to the judges of the district a report on the activities of the lawyer representatives; c.) attend and participate in the annual Conference meeting; d.) vote in the Lawyer Representative elections and in balloting for resolutions at the Conference; e.) participate in the Conference resolution process; f.) generally educate the members of the bar about the Conference and solicit their reviews; g.) participate at district meetings and at the Conference to assure lawyer views are heard; and h.) participate in the District of Montana educational public outreach, the Montana Judicial Institute, including, planning meetings, attending and participating in the annual three-day Institute, and, in the case of the senior lawyer representative, serving as host and master of ceremonies of the Institute.
Northern Mariana Islands	There is uncertainty about the official purpose or guidelines, but the Lawyer Representatives act as a conduit of information between the federal court and bar, and assist the court with organizing various CLE and other functions for the bar members.
Oregon	Oregon does not have any separate formal guidelines for lawyer representatives beyond those issued by the Circuit.
Eastern District Washington	Duties of the Lawyer Representatives include: attend both the EDWA annual meeting and district conference, as well as the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference; attend all joint meetings between lawyers and judges, which are held periodically throughout the year at the request of the EDWA Judges or the Lawyer Representatives; prepare and submit the annual report to the Ninth Circuit and plan and attend the District Dinner during the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference; serve on the Local Rules Committee; educate members of the local bar about the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference; and act as a conduit between the bench and the bar (listen to comments and questions from members of the EDWA bar about the Local Rules, courtroom practice and procedure and any other concerns about practicing in federal court, and relay those concerns to the judges of the EDWA). The Court's website also provides a link to the Lawyer Representative page on the Ninth Circuit website and adopts those responsibilities for Lawyer Representatives.
Western District Washington	No specific guidelines or stated purpose, although the WDWA recognizes the Circuit Judicial Council Rule requiring Lawyer Representatives be (1) admitted to practice in the district court and actively involved in federal practice; (2) interested in the purposes and work of the conference, (3) willing and able to contribute actively to the purposes and work of the conference, (4) willing to assist in implementing conference programs with the local bar, and (5) constitute a fair cross section of practitioners before the federal courts of the district, considering the gender, ethnic, racial, and religious diversity and the diverse geographic and practice backgrounds of those who practice before the federal courts.

II. How does the District select its Lawyer Representatives (who selects, what are the criteria, how selected, etc.)? The Districts all recognize the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council rule requiring selection within 90 days of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference.

Alaska	The Chief Judge notifies the Alaska Bar Association of vacancies, and the Alaska Bar Board of Governors solicits nominations. The Board selects a candidate or candidates and forwards the name(s) to the Chief Judge. The District Judges then choose.
Arizona	By application; the then-sitting Lawyer Representatives provide feedback on the applicants, then the information is packaged and sent to the Chief District Judge, who discusses with the other judges. The judges make the ultimate selection.
Central District California	There is a formal application process. The heads of the local federal bar associations filter the applications and make recommendations to the court for three applicants for each spot. The Court then has a committee of judges that makes the selections. There can only be one Lawyer Representative from a single firm or entity. The committee considers diversity of practice, region, and background.
Eastern District California	The local FBA solicits applications and reviews them, and then the FBA makes recommendations to the Chief Judge. The Chief Judge is not bound by the recommendations, and can solicit his own applicants if he/she wants.
Northern District California	The members of the LRC receive the applications each year and review them. The LRC selects 18 candidates and forwards them to the Court. The Court then selects 6 new members.
Southern District California	Applicants provide a resume and statement of interests and qualifications. Applicants are reviewed and ranked by a Committee consisting of the President of the Federal Bar Association, the head of the CJA Panel, the President of the San Diego County Bar Association, and the Head of the Bankruptcy Forum. The list of ranked applicants is then forwarded to the Court and the Lawyer Representatives are ultimately selected by the Court.
Guam	Appointed by Chief Judge.
Hawaii	The judges receive a list of attorneys who have filed documents in the court over the past three years. The list is updated reflecting who has served as a lawyer representative and a lawyer delegate to the district conference. The judges then select 5 names and forward those names to the Federal Bar Association Executive Board, which selects the lawyer representative(s).

II. How does the District select its Lawyer Representatives (who selects, what are the criteria, how selected, etc.)? The Districts all recognize the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council rule requiring selection within 90 days of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference.

Idaho	Selection of a new lawyer representative in accordance with the Ninth Circuit policy to fill a vacancy will be made no later than ninety (90) days after the last day of the annual Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. The District and Bankruptcy Courts solicit applications for the position of lawyer representative from the bar. The applications are reviewed by a committee of judges within the district. The committee of judges then submits to the Idaho State Bar approximately three names of lawyers who have been found to meet the criteria for appointment to the position as a lawyer representative. As a general rule, one law firm may not have two lawyer representatives serving at the same time. This restriction does not apply if a lawyer representative from the same law firm is serving in an emeritus status. The Idaho State Bar then selects from this list the individual to fill the vacant position of lawyer representative.
Montana	By Standing Order, the District of Montana has four Lawyer Representatives selected from different District Divisions including Missoula, Billings, Great Falls, and one from either Helena or Butte. Lawyer Representatives are selected from lawyers who are: a) admitted to practice before the District and are involved in federal practice; b.) “interested in the purposes and work of the Conference;” c.) “willing and able to contribute actively to the purposes and work of the Conference;” d.) willing to assist with implementing programs with the bar; e.) part of a fair cross section of practitioners, including both consideration of diversity and diversity of geographic locations. The Lawyer Representatives in Montana serve staggered three year terms, except that every third year, the terms of two representatives expire. After their terms expire, each Lawyer Representative serves as an ex-officio member of the delegation for two years. The selection committee is comprised of three active District Judges. The committee nominates in writing a number of proposed lawyer representatives three times larger than the number to be appointed. The Chief Judge gives notice to the President of the Montana Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. The Montana Chapter of the Federal Bar Association then selects the next lawyer representative from those nominated, though membership in the Montana Chapter of the Federal Bar Association may not be considered in the selection. The Chief Judge then appoints the new lawyer representative by written order.
Northern Mariana Islands	Voted by the bar members.
Oregon	The district and magistrate judges select Oregon’s attorney representatives. Prior to the judge’s meeting where they make their selection, the Court solicits nominations from the Oregon Chapter of the FBA, the Oregon State Bar, specialty bar groups, and the judges. In making their selection, the judges consider the nominees’ familiarity and involvement with federal court; diversity in area of practice, geography, and background; and professional standing and reputation.

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Eastern District Washington	At the request of the Court, the Federal Bar Association collects applications from all interested lawyers; the applications include a resume and statement of interests and qualifications (how and why the applicants can meet all the responsibilities of a lawyer representative). Sometimes at the request of the Court, the application also includes an essay question (on a topic chosen by the Court). The applications are forwarded to the Chief Judge and ultimately the EDWA judges collectively select the lawyer representatives to serve staggering, 3-year terms. The Court strives to ensure a diverse group of lawyer representatives are appointed and that collectively they also share and represent all practices in federal court (civil, criminal, bankruptcy, etc.).
Western District Washington	There are 9 reps, each serving 3-years terms. All the bankruptcy and district court judges select 3 new reps each year.

III. How does the District utilize its Lawyer Representatives, i.e., plan district conferences, monthly meetings, local rules committees?

Alaska	Lawyer Representatives seem to have been used in a variety of capacities, depending on circumstances. These include planning the District Conference (in connection with the Alaska Federal Bar Association chapter), assisting on specific projects and participating on committees, and, of course, planning the District dinner at the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference.
Arizona	The Lawyer Representatives play a leading role in organizing the annual Arizona District Conference for Federal Judges and practitioners. In addition, they organize two full bench-bar luncheons each year, and the bankruptcy representatives have two lunches per year with the bankruptcy judges.
Central District California	Lawyer Representatives plan the district conference and a judicial committee. Lawyer Representatives also plan a district/downtown dinner separate from conferences, in addition to the district dinner at the Circuit Conference. The Lawyer Representatives also can choose to participate in committees (i.e., mediation/ADR, etc.).
Eastern District California	Lawyer Representatives are primarily used to plan the Eastern District Conference, which has a reception on a Friday evening, sessions most of the day Saturday with a dinner Saturday night, and sessions Sunday morning. Typical attendance is about 150 people (judges and lawyers).
Northern District California	The Lawyer Representative committee is a stand-alone entity in the NDCA. There are no additional roles at the Court. They develop and produce the district judicial conference each spring, assist with the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and organize the district dinner during that conference. Finally, they host a few other events during the year to thank the lawyer representatives and to welcome the incoming class.
Southern District California	The co-chairs of the Lawyer Representatives meet with the Chief Judge approximately five times each year. The Lawyer Representatives are responsible for planning the entire District Conference, which is attended by the District Court judges, the Magistrate Judges, Ninth Circuit judges, Bankruptcy Judges, and the Lawyer Representatives. The Lawyer Representatives, the President of the Federal Bar Association, the President of the San Diego County Bar Association, and a few other special guests of the Court are the only non-judges attending the conference. There is some overlap with the local Federal Bar Association but the two groups have distinct roles. The local Federal Bar Association has no role in planning the District Conference. The local Federal Bar Association plans an annual civil practice seminar, criminal brown bags, a Women in the Law event every other year.
Guam	Plans various CLE events and the annual district court conference, acts as liaison with bar board and disseminates information to bar members, and attends the Ninth Circuit conference on behalf of the district.

III. How does the District utilize its Lawyer Representatives, i.e., plan district conferences, monthly meetings, local rules committees?

Hawaii	<p>The Lawyer Representatives do much of the planning and organization for the annual dinner and conference, and attend and support the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference on behalf of Hawaii. Lawyer Representatives also prepare the district's annual report for distribution to the Hawaii federal bar.</p>
Idaho	<p>Idaho has one judge who works together with the Lawyer Representatives to plan the district conferences. Together, they select the conference topics, determine the location and the format, and then the Lawyer Representatives secure the speakers and moderate the panels. All the district judges make time to participate as speakers at the conferences if their schedules allow.</p> <p>Lawyer Representatives serve as liaisons to foster open communications between Idaho's attorneys and our resident federal judges, and they serve as conduits for advancing opinions and suggestions for the improvement of the administration of justice in our federal courts. Typical duties of the lawyer representative position include: serving as the representative of the bar to advance opinions and suggestions for improvement, making recommendations on the use of the Courts' non-appropriated fund, assisting the Courts in the implementation of new programs or procedures, serving on court committees, and developing the curriculum, or serving as faculty, for training programs such as the annual District Conference(s) and public outreach activities such as teachers' institute(s). The representatives may survey federal bar members about issues or concerns and recommend rule or policy changes.</p> <p>Throughout each calendar year, the Lawyer Representatives attend meetings in Boise of the Board of Judges of the District of Idaho, participate extensively with U.S. Magistrate Judge Ronald E. Bush in the planning and presentation of Idaho's annual federal Bench Bar Conferences, serve as members of various federal court committees (including the Local Rules Committee), and participate in the planning and presentation of the Idaho Teachers' Institute (a civic education program for Idaho's secondary schoolteachers of government, history and social studies focusing on the rule of law and the role of an independent, impartial judiciary). They also make recommendations concerning proposed uses of, and participate with the Board of Judges in the review and approval of requested expenditures from, the Non-Appropriated Fund (generated by the District of Idaho's receipt of attorney admission fees and <i>pro hac vice</i> admission fees). In addition, they participate in the planning of and related activities of the Ninth Circuit's Lawyer Representative Coordinating Committee ("LRCC").</p>
Montana	<p>This is set forth above and includes that the Lawyer Representatives assist in planning and also attend and participate in the Montana Judicial Institute, which is the District's educational public outreach. It is a rule of law/civics Institute for Montana teachers. The Institute occurs approximately every 18 months and includes presentations, mock demonstrations, and the opportunity for teachers to observe the Court in action at sentencing hearings, etc. The Lawyer Representatives fundraise for and assist in judging the Montana section of the Ninth Circuit Civics Contest, and they assist with outreach to Montana high schools to encourage participation in the Civic Contest. Lawyer Representatives attend the District Conference and report to the Judges and they work with Idaho Lawyer Representatives to organize the Montana/Idaho joint district dinner at the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. The Lawyer Representatives also assist in other activities at the discretion of the Judges.</p>

III. How does the District utilize its Lawyer Representatives, i.e., plan district conferences, monthly meetings, local rules committees?

Northern Mariana Islands	Lawyer Representatives assist with planning various CLE events and the annual district court conference, act as liaison with bar board and disseminate information to bar members, and attend the Ninth Circuit conferences on behalf of the district.
Oregon	Oregon's attorney representatives are primarily responsible for planning the District Court conference and the District Dinner at the Ninth Circuit Conference. The attorney representatives also are often involved with the FBA and serve on various court-related committees, including rules committees and judicial screening committees. Attorney representatives also assist, as needed, with activities intended to facilitate interaction between the federal bench and bar in Oregon.
Eastern District Washington	In addition to the responsibilities outlined above in response to the first question, Lawyer Representatives serve as voting members of the Federal Bar Association for the EDWA. The FBA meets monthly and is primarily responsible for planning the EDWA annual meeting and District Conference held each year in the fall. Lawyer Representatives are also available to the Court at the discretion of the Court and the Chief Judge.
Western District Washington	Members of FBA and Lawyer Representatives plan the WDWA District conference and plan the District dinner.

IV. How does the District plan and fund its district conference, i.e., do lawyer reps plan, is the Court involved, who is invited, are speakers local or from out of town, etc.?

Alaska	The District Conference is held with the Alaska Federal Bar Association chapter's annual conference, with the financial support of the Alaska Bar Association. The FBA chapter sponsors speakers and has invited the national FBA President to attend. This past year the attendance dropped unfortunately, and the conference was canceled.
Arizona	Lawyer Representatives plan and check in with and obtain feedback from judges at the bench-bar luncheons; all AZ lawyers are invited to attend, and the conference features local and out-of-town speakers. There is a registration fee, but costs are defrayed by the non-appropriated funds provided by the District.
Central District California	The Co-Chairs of the Lawyer Representatives take the main role planning the conference with two rotating judicial members from the court. It is funded by registration fees, with help from the attorney admissions fund. Lawyer Representatives, including alternates and ex officio, court committee members, and law school deans are invited, as are families. Speakers are often local, but also from out of town.
Eastern District California	One of the Lawyer Representative chairs the Planning Committee, and the other Representatives serve on the committee. Also on the committee are the Chief Judge, Chief Bankruptcy Judge, Chief Magistrate Judge, a representative from the U.S. Attorney's Office, a representative from the Federal Defenders Office, a representative from the CJA Panel, the Clerk of the Court, Chief Deputy, Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, and a representative from the US Marshals Service.
Northern District California	With input from the court, the lawyer representatives propose an agenda and, once approved, develop and produce the content. The conference is funded in large part by the court. Invited lawyers pay registration fees to cover the costs of CLE.
Southern District California	The district conference is funded through the District's library fund (which is funded by pro hac vice application fees and new attorney admission fees). The district conference typical consists of a dinner the evening before an all-day conference. The location rotates between the Federal Courthouse and an out-of-town location (within driving distance from the Federal Court).
Guam	Lawyer Representatives work with Chief Judge to organize the district conference. Funding comes from registration fees of conference and other court events (CLEs) that aim to build minimum budget for such events.
Hawaii	Lawyer Representatives plan the conference under the guidance and direction of the presiding Chief Judge. They are currently very involved in the planning of the annual conference. Speakers are generally a mix of local and out-of-town, depending on the topic. The conference is funded with approximately \$15,000 from the non-appropriated fund and the rest from conference fees.

IV. How does the District plan and fund its district conference, i.e., do lawyer reps plan, is the Court involved, who is invited, are speakers local or from out of town, etc.?

Idaho	<i>See</i> previous answer. Conferences are funded with the registration funds, but if they are insufficient, the balance is paid with a grant from the non-appropriated funds.
Montana	The District Conference is focused on the professional development of District staff and is the District’s business meeting. It is planned by the District Judges and the Clerk of Court. The Lawyer Representatives are invited to attend and participate in the District Conference and make report to the Judges at the Conference. The Federal Bar Association separately plans and organizes a federal law CLE.
Northern Mariana Islands	Lawyer Representatives work with the court to organize its district conference. Funding comes from registration fees of conference and other court events (CLEs) that aim to build a minimum budget for such events.
Oregon	The District Conference is planned by a committee consisting of the Chief Judge, attorney representatives, the local FBA chapter executive board, and other invited participants. The Chief Judge has final approval authority, but the main planning details and outreach are handled by the attorneys. Speakers have historically included a mix of local and out-of-town presenters. As a policy, the district does not pay speaker fees, but does cover reasonable travel expenses. The district conference is open to everyone and is funded through sponsorships, attendee fees, and the attorney admissions fund (used only for speaker travel expenses).
Eastern District Washington	<p>The Board of the Federal Bar Association for the EDWA is primarily responsible for planning the EDWA annual meeting and district conference. As voting members of the Board, Lawyer Representatives assist in planning and producing the district conference, which is attended by 75 – 200 lawyers and judges each year; all admitted members of the EDWA are invited. The district conference is usually held in Spokane, but last year the conference was held in Yakima. The FBA is looking at changing the location of the conference every few years to ensure a diverse group of attendees considering that the EDWA is geographically large. The district conference typically consists of a dinner the evening before an all-day Friday CLE. The speakers each year range in topic areas (policy, criminal, civil) and location (recent speakers have been from Canada and across the United States, as well as local attorneys participating in breakout sessions). The conference typically consists of both small break-out sessions and one or two keynotes speakers. Each year the Board works to incorporate the judges in at least one panel discussion. In addition, Circuit Judge Tallman usually attends the district conference each year to give a State of the Circuit presentation, and the Chief Judge of the EDWA gives a State of the District presentation. The Chief Judge is kept apprised of the planning of the district conference and has an opportunity to weigh in on the topics and speakers, at his or her discretion. The dinner the night before the conference is attended by the entire FBA Board, the EDWA judges, and the conference speakers.</p> <p>The district conference is funded solely by the FBA account, which in turn is funded by the CLE registration fees from the district conferences of prior years. The district conference CLE typically averages \$75 - \$100 in price for the all-day CLE.</p>

IV. How does the District plan and fund its district conference, i.e., do lawyer reps plan, is the Court involved, who is invited, are speakers local or from out of town, etc.?

Western District Washington	Lawyer Representatives plan the district conference which usually involves local speakers (although there are exceptions). The format in past year has been a keynote speaker, a constitutional law review, and update by the Chief District and Chief Bankruptcy judges, and an additional segment.
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V. What practices have been successful in the District in planning its District Conference?	
Alaska	When it has worked, the coordination with the local FBA chapter and the Alaska Bar Association paid off.
Arizona	Using co-chairs, delegating breakouts to the different reps (criminal, civil, bankruptcy), and regular calls to make sure everything is on track. Also, because we alternate between Phoenix and Tucson each year, we try to book the next meeting space more than a year in advance.
Central District California	Planning the conference well in advance, locking down the date, cost and location early, so it allows the rest of the conference planning to flow from there. Recently, the Lawyer Representatives started working with a local law school to assist in planning programs and sourcing speakers.
Eastern District California	We start early! The conference is in late October and monthly meetings begin in December for the next conference. The conference planning is broken into sessions and subcommittees of 2-4 people are formed to help plan each session. The subcommittee is responsible for picking the topic, finding speakers, and making it all happen. Reports are due every month from the subcommittees on their progress.
Northern District California	The NDCA conference is very robust with high level content. Over the many years, the close working relationship between the Court and the lawyer reps has been quite successful at producing and developing timely, useful and substantive contact.
Southern District California	The outgoing Lawyer Representatives meet with the new Lawyer Representative and provide a full briefing to ensure consistency and efficient information sharing. Close communication between the Lawyer Rep Co-Chairs and the Chief Judge is also essential. In the recent past, Lawyer Reps have planned 3 bench-bar brown bag lunches throughout the year to discuss efforts to improve the functioning of the Court. Lawyer Reps also attend key events that are hosted by the Court.
Guam	Guam and the CNMI collaborate for annual District Conferences and most regional CLE events. Conference is paid for by registration fees of prior years.
Hawaii	Select topic that appeals to broad range of federal practitioners; recruit knowledgeable and dynamic speakers for the panel; early notice and follow up on invitations.
Idaho	Active participation of Idaho's judges at the conferences makes them appealing to the bar and is one of the primary factors in the success of the conferences.
Montana	<i>See Montana's response to the previous question about planning & funding its District Conference. The District Conference is very successful in the professional development of District staff.</i>
Northern Mariana Islands	Working in conjunction with Guam to address funding needs and drawing speakers.

V. What practices have been successful in the District in planning its District Conference?

Oregon	Oregon holds its district conference every other year. The conference planning committee starts planning more than a year in advance and has an efficient committee structure with subcommittees responsible for discrete tasks like fundraising, venue, speakers, marketing, etc. They work hard to have presentations that are unique and not the typical CLE topics/ formats, aiming for topics with a breadth of interest among various practice areas, and they always try and include some fun. The last conference included a gameshow presentation featuring a team of federal judges competing against a team of state judges. The upcoming conference will also have a humorous ethics presentation from two of the district judges. The Lawyer Representatives purposefully market to the state court judges and bar; many of the presentations relate to improving professionalism and the practice of law generally and are not limited to issues of federal practice. A conference limited to federal court judges and practitioners would be small given the nature of practice in Oregon.
Eastern District Washington	The District Conference is planned by the Federal Bar Association. As members of that Board, the Lawyer Representatives participate but do not take the lead role. Having a rolling slate of officers on the Board, in addition to staggered 3-year terms for the Lawyer Representatives, ensures there is always consist and efficient information sharing from year to year.
Western District Washington	Including a broad range of federal practice areas ensures the success of the conference.

VI. How are non-appropriated District funds, including Attorney Admission Funds, utilized?	
Arizona	Non-appropriated district funds defray costs not covered by registration fees, and assist with out-of-town speakers' travel for the District Conference.
Central District California	The Lawyer Representatives can apply for assistance in funding things needed for the conferences, etc., from the Attorney Admission Fund.
Eastern District California	Non-appropriated district funds are used to help cover the cost of the district conference.
Southern District California	Library Fund, which is used to fund the district conference.
Guam	We don't have any such funds for use by the Lawyer Representatives.
Hawaii	The non-appropriated district funds pay for conference speakers' airfare, hotel and meals. The fund also pays for the venue and donates \$10,000 toward the district conference.
Idaho	These funds are used to supply community grants (for 2017, Idaho earmarked \$40,000 for grants) to cover eligible training expenses that are not covered by appropriated funds.
Montana	Non-appropriated district funds are utilized for a variety of programs, including but not limited to, educational public outreach through the Montana Judicial Institute, an annual contribution to the Ninth Circuit Historical Society, public wireless for use in the District Courthouses, lawyer courtroom needs such as water, etc.).
Oregon	In addition to underwriting speaker travel costs for the District Conference, attorney admission funds support events promoting federal practice and professionalism and interaction between the bench and bar. For example, each year the court holds an appreciation lunch for the attorneys volunteering to take pro bono cases.
Eastern District Washington	The Lawyer Representatives do not have any role in determining how the non-appropriated district funds (new lawyer admission fees and pro hac admission fees) are used, but currently they are used for: (1) civics education and outreach not funded through appropriated funds (i.e. an annual guest lecture at Gonzaga University School of Law named for Senior District Court Judge Justin L. Quackenbush, the Court's Judicial Institute for Middle School and High School Teachers, and the Court's Outreach Program for Middle School and High School students); (2) awards for STEP (Sobriety Treatment and Education Program, which is a reentry program for individuals on federal supervision who have substance addictions); (3) historical and educational displays in the lobbies of all three courthouses; (4) reimbursing some travel expenses for Lawyer Representatives attending the annual LRCC meeting and the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference; (5) supplying Wi-Fi for attorneys inside the three federal courthouses (Richland, Yakima, Spokane); and (6) reimbursing out-of-pocket expenses (per General Order 16-114) incurred by pro bono attorneys Court-appointed to represent civil litigants.
Western District Washington	The Bench and Bar Fund may be available to defray the cost for attendance of bar representatives at the Circuit Conference if the law firm cannot handle the cost. Typically, it is done for sole practitioners and government attorneys only.

VII. Difficulties as Lawyer Representatives

Alaska	The principal difficulty is the relatively small number of federal practitioners in Alaska and finding out what matters to them. Most Alaska practitioners work in the state courts, with perhaps the very occasional federal case. Those few lawyers active in federal court tend to be crazy busy--federal public defenders, AUSAs, bankruptcy lawyers, etc.--and don't have the time to spare contemplating issues of great importance to the well-being of the federal courts and communicating their thoughts back to Lawyer Representatives. The judges are very approachable (if overstretched) and the bar is very collegial (if crazy busy), so maybe the lack of excited communications indicates that most everything is going well.
Arizona	The Bar does not have a very good understanding of what it is Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representatives do. We are not very visible to the Bar, so although there is a line of communication from Lawyer Representatives to the judges, the Bar in general does not approach Lawyer Representatives if there are issues they are experiencing with which the Lawyer Representatives might be able to help. Consequently, when application time comes around, sometimes the departing Representatives must reach out to people to encourage them to apply for open positions. In addition, sometimes it is difficult for Lawyer Representatives to take on leadership roles because chairs are expected to fund their own trips to certain venues for planning and attendance at conferences, and the District Court Conference venues require deposits that must be made on the Lawyer Representatives credit card (with reimbursement to come later).
Eastern District California	At this point, the EDCA has a solid system established. The conference has been bouncing back and forth between Squaw Valley and Yosemite for several years now, so there is a good relationship established with the hotels. There is some knowledge transfer loss because the chair is only the chair for one year, and although is likely very familiar with the process after participating for two years, there is a lot of information that does not get transmitted down to the others. Thankfully, there are full-time staff (the Chief Judge's JA and a HR representative) who are always on the committee and always seem to have the missing information. A continuity folder could be useful. The greatest difficulties always seem to be coming up with interesting topics for the sessions!
Southern District California	No concerns expressed. There is a one-page flyer available on the Court's website that describes the application process for becoming a Lawyer Representative and a link to the contact information for each Lawyer Representative. This is incredibly helpful. The Court in the SDCA places significant emphasis on the statutory authority that Congress gave the courts to hold district conferences and appoint Lawyer Representatives. Everything done by the Lawyer Representatives must relate to that statutory authority.
Guam	Logistics due to isolated location.
Hawaii	The local responsibilities are clear cut. Hawaii is a small district and the Lawyer Representatives work well together and receive ample support from the judges and court staff. Conference topics and speaker selection is of course always a challenge, particularly given logistics of travel to Hawaii.

VII. Difficulties as Lawyer Representatives

Idaho	Finding the time to meet all the demands of being a Lawyer Representative while still maintaining a fulltime practice is the most significant difficulty.
Montana	No difficulties come to mind. The program is well-run and a great opportunity for attorneys in Montana. By the time it is the last year of a lawyer representative's term, each Lawyer Representative has had the opportunity to attend and participate in all the activities during the two previous years and is aware of the duties. If any questions arise, the Clerk of Court, past Lawyer Representatives, and the Judges are always willing answer questions or assist in any way. Also, the delegation works well together.
Northern Mariana Islands	Funding, resources and logistics due to isolated location.
Oregon	The primary concern communicated by others is that attorney representatives often do not have a clear understanding of what they are supposed to do when they are appointed, and often long after. This is not unique to Oregon. The geographic size of Oregon's district also poses unique problems. The Lawyer Representatives try and have representatives from around the state, but that often means the attorney representatives have no in-person interaction outside of the Circuit and District Conferences. It also means they do not always have significant involvement with federal court because lawyers with a federal practice are few in Oregon's more rural areas. Oregon also has difficulty getting all its Lawyer Representatives to participate and be engaged, which sometimes leads to problems when those who are active and participating cycle off and new leadership is needed.
Eastern District Washington	The Lawyer Representatives do not have concerns, but are conscious of needing and wanting to find ways to better serve as a liaison between the Bench and Bar.
Western District Washington	Understanding how we can better serve as liaison between the Bench and Bar.