



## **Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Seeks Input from Former Law Clerks March 13, 2018**

Chief Judge Thomas has established the Ninth Circuit Committee on Workplace Environment. The committee seeks input from former law clerks who clerked for Ninth Circuit judges as well as those who clerked for judges in district and bankruptcy courts within the Ninth Circuit. The committee seeks ideas for improving the working environment for law clerks and other court employees, and is particularly interested in hearing suggestions for policies, trainings, and other ideas the court could implement to provide law clerks and other employees with a healthy, productive work place.

The Committee has arranged to hold focus groups as follows:

**Seattle, March 27, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**San Francisco, March 29, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Washington, D.C., April 3, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Downtown Los Angeles, April 4, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

One of the Ninth Circuit Mediators will facilitate the focus groups. No judges will participate. The facilitators will provide summary comments and suggestions to the committee without attribution and will do so for the focus groups as a whole, not for any specific focus group. Other than the facilitator's report to the committee, everything said at the focus groups is to be held in confidence by the facilitators and by the participants. The intention is to create an environment where all participants can speak freely and confidentially.

Please RSVP to: [focus\\_groups@ca9.uscourts.gov](mailto:focus_groups@ca9.uscourts.gov). Attendance is on a first-come basis. We will provide precise location information once we receive the responses.

The committee hopes to capture the suggestions of a large number of former clerks. However, we recognize that not every former clerk will be able to attend one of the groups. Any former clerk is free to contact the committee chair, Judge McKeown at [Judge\\_McKeown@ca9.uscourts.gov](mailto:Judge_McKeown@ca9.uscourts.gov).

For more information about the committee, please see:  
[http://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/ce9/2018/01/14/R3\\_Ninth\\_Circuit\\_Workplace\\_Environment\\_Committee\\_Announcement.pdf](http://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/ce9/2018/01/14/R3_Ninth_Circuit_Workplace_Environment_Committee_Announcement.pdf)

For more information about the focus groups, please contact Chief Circuit Mediator Claudia Bernard at [claudia\\_bernard@ca9.uscourts.gov](mailto:claudia_bernard@ca9.uscourts.gov).