



**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference to Convene in Montana**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The 2016 Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference will be held July 11-14, 2016, in Big Sky, Montana. The conference is authorized by law “for the purpose of considering the business of the courts and advising means of improving the administration of justice within the circuit.” 28 U.S.C. § 333.

The conference provides an exceptional educational program and facilitates circuit governance through more than 30 business meetings. Conferees include judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the U.S. district courts and U.S. bankruptcy courts of the circuit, along with lawyers practicing in these courts, court staff and special guests. For space and security reasons, attendance is by invitation.

“And Justice for All” is the theme of this year’s conference. General session topics focus on income inequality and its effects on courts and lawyers; ensuring fair and impartial policing in the post-Ferguson era; the legal history and unique relationships of the Native American tribes and territories in the U.S.; a look at the psychology and neuroscience of thinking and reasoning; and how mindfulness practices can improve legal analysis, judgment and decision-making.

The opening session of the conference will include welcoming remarks by Montana Governor Steve Bullock and a video message from U.S. Senator Jon Tester of Montana. The session will also feature a conversation with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy; presentation of professional awards; and recognition of the student winners of the 2016 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest, an educational outreach effort by all of the courts of the circuit.

Other conference programs include a review of recent Supreme Court cases; a special session for attorneys on ethical and practical lawyering and one for judges on the practice of judging; an information technology program on balancing privacy and security; a presentation on recognizing and countering implicit bias in decision-making; and discussion of mediation techniques for judges, lawyers and mediators.

Presenters and panelists at the conference include a number of federal appellate, district, bankruptcy and magistrate judges from the Ninth Circuit and elsewhere; well-known practitioners; members of the academia; and leading scientists and researchers.

The U.S. Courts for the Ninth Circuit consists of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the federal trial and bankruptcy courts and related court units in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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