



Inside the Ninth Circuit: Processing, Mediation, New Rules, and Covid-19

A FREE CLE presented in person and remotely

***Presenters: Susan Gelmis, Chief Deputy Clerk, and
Chris Goelz, Circuit Mediator***

Meet the Panelists:

SUSAN GELMIS is the Chief Deputy Clerk for Operations at the Ninth Circuit. She has been with the court for over 30 years, previously serving as supervisor of the Motions and Pro Se Units in the Staff Attorneys' Office and as director of the Circuit's Pro Bono Program for 22 years. Susan has served on numerous Circuit wide committees and task forces relating to prisoner and pro se litigation, and as liaison to the pro se law clerks in the district courts, organizing and speaking at Circuit wide and national conferences. In December 2015, Susan moved to the Clerk's Office to assume her current position, where she oversees all docketing and filing and calendaring systems and procedures, staffs the Circuit Rules Committee, and organizes and speaks at CLE programs around the Circuit. Susan is a 1987 graduate of NYU Law School and originally a native of New York.

CHRIS GOELZ has been a Circuit Mediator for the Ninth Circuit for 30 years. Before joining the court's mediation office, he was a Motions Attorney for the Ninth Circuit. Prior to coming to the court Chris was a civil litigator in a small San Francisco firm. Chris has taught negotiation as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Washington School of Law and is an author of a Ninth Circuit practice guide published by the Rutter Group. Chris went to Yale Law School and then clerked for Judge Jonathan Newman of the Oregon Court of Appeal. Chris grew up in Half Moon Bay, California and has an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Before attending law school, he worked as a production engineer in Silicon Valley.