

Directions for completing this form: Place the title of your workshop in the space indicated, followed by the name and contact information for the presenters. Provide a brief description by placing the cursor on the line below "Brief Description" and commence typing. To complete the "Topical Outline", place cursor next to each Roman numeral and begin typing. Then place the cursor next to the "a." to begin listing sub-topics. To list more than one sub-topic, push "Enter" and "b." should appear on the next line, and so on. Place the cursor on the line under "Notes" to begin providing your notes. To list bibliographic information, place the cursor next to "1." and start typing. Push "Enter" to move on to "2." and etc.

ABA/ NLADA 2007 Equal Justice Conference

[Going Local – Further Access to Justice and Pro Bono in State Judicial Districts]

Judge Daniel M. Taubman
Colorado Court of Appeals
2 East 14th Avenue
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 837-3788
daniel.taubman@judicial.state.co.us

Rosalie Fragoso, Esq.
Legal Services Coordinator
New Mexico State Bar Foundation
5121 Masthead NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109
(505) 797-6077
RFragoso@nmbar.org

Monica Fennell
Executive Director
Indiana Pro Bono Commission
One Indiana Square, Suite 530
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 639-5465
mfennell@inbar.org

Kent R. Spuhler, Esq.
Executive Director
Florida Legal Services, Inc.
2425 Torreya Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-7900
kent@floridalegal.org

Brief Description: The participants will describe how local access to justice committees and local pro bono committees, based on state judicial districts, are used in Florida, Indiana, Colorado, and New Mexico to encourage increased pro bono service and access to justice throughout the state.

The objective of this session is to enable participants to (1) learn how local access and pro bono committees have proved to be increasingly successful as a means of providing inclusive, high quality legal services to the disadvantaged (2) learn how to establish a network of local access to justice or pro bono committees in their states, and (3) appreciate the importance of involving judges in local committees.

Topical Outline:

- I. Long-Term Goals of State Judicial District Committees
 - a. Assuring access to justice, pro bono in all parts of the state
 - b. Developing leaders throughout the state
 - c. Tailoring projects to meet local needs
 - d. Specific examples
 1. Florida
 2. Indiana
 3. Colorado
 4. New Mexico

- II. Getting Started
 - a. Supreme Court rule – Florida, Indiana
 - b. Ten-step Plan – New Mexico
 - c. Agreement Between Supreme Court, bar association – Colorado
 - d. Specifics
 1. Judge as committee chair -- Indiana
 2. Model charter – Colorado
 3. Inviting participation by local lawyers, judges, court personnel, pro bono coordinators, etc.

- III. Staffing and Support
 - a. Support at state level
 - b. Support for local committees
 - c. Local district administrators – Indiana
 - d. Local committee adopted by local bar association – Colorado

- e. Local committee serving also as local bar association legal services committee – Colorado
- f. Local Access to Justice Support Committee as part of state access to justice commission – Colorado
- g. Internet to disseminate information
- h. Statewide conference to share information, experiences

IV. Judicial Involvement

- a. Judges as committee chairs – Indiana
- b. Chief judge or chief judge's designee – Florida, New Mexico
- c. Judges, magistrates as committee members, perhaps as chair – Colorado
- d. Role of judges on district committees

V. Successes

- a. Structural – benefits to judicial districts
- b. Examples of innovative programs, greater pro bono involvement, etc.
 - 1. Florida
 - 2. Indiana
 - 3. Colorado
 - 4. New Mexico

VI. Challenges

- a. Getting a nucleus of interested people to begin a committee
- b. After initial enthusiasm wears off, keeping committee active, or reinvigorating inactive committee
- c. Bridging geographical barriers – getting participation from those in different cities, counties
- d. Communication – keeping committees aware of work, projects of other committees

Bibliography & Website Links:

1. Florida

A. Rule 4-6.5 Voluntary Pro Bono Plan

2. Indiana

- A. Rule 6.6, Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct
 - B. Canon 4, comment, Indiana Code of Judicial Conduct
 - C. Pro bono Insert to the Indiana Lawyer (with pro bono district map)
3. New Mexico
- A. Draft Rule 24-108 (mandatory reporting of pro bono, optional financial contributions)
 - B. Draft Rule 18-201, Rules of Professional Conduct, Continuing legal education credit for pro bono service
 - C. Insert to the Bar Bulletin, “The New Mexico Lawyer, “ Equal Access to Justice, Unlocking Doors”
 - D. Pro bono district map
4. Colorado
- A. Colorado access to justice page, www.coloradojustice.org
 - B. Colorado Supreme Court Pro Bono Legal Services Recognition Program, www.courts.state.co.us/supct/probono.htm
 - C. Rule 260.8, Colorado Rules of Civil Procedure, continuing legal education credit for pro bono service
 - D. Canon 4, comment, Colorado Code of Judicial Conduct