

Judicial Institute

for High School and Middle School Teachers

The United States District Court • Eastern District of Washington



Spokane, Washington • May 7- 8, 2026

Day One • Thursday, May 7th

7:00 am	Continental Breakfast and Registration <i>Jury Assembly Room , Rm 751</i>
7:30 am	Welcome—Introductions and Program Objectives <i>Chief Judge Stanley A. Bastian</i>
8:00 am	Understanding the Court System: The Difference between State and Federal Court/Constitution Introduction to How Criminal Cases Move Through Federal Court <i>Magistrate Judge Alexander C. Ekstrom</i>
9:00 am	Search Warrants <i>Magistrate Judge James A. Goeke</i>
10:00 am	Break
10:15 am	Preparing for Change of Plea and Sentencing Hearings <i>USAO: Alison Gregoire</i> <i>FPD: Andrea George and Steve Roberts</i>
12:00 pm	Lunch—Hosted at the Courthouse—Prepare Lesson Plans
1:00 pm	Change of Plea Hearing/Sentencing <i>Judge Rebecca L. Pennell</i> <i>Q&A Session</i>
2:15 pm	Fentanyl Crisis <i>USAO: Stephanie Van Marter</i>
3:15 pm	Break
3:30 pm	Appeals Litigation <i>Judge Salvador Mendoza, Jr. and Senior Judge Richard Tallman, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit</i>
5:00 pm	Adjourn
5:30 pm	Dinner— Hosted at The Spokane Club— Candid Conversation with Judges

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Day Two • Friday, May 8th

7:00 am	Continental Breakfast <i>Jury Assembly Room , Rm 751</i>
8:00 am	Federal Civil Litigation <i>Chief Judge Stanley A. Bastian</i>
9:00 am	You be the Judge <i>Chief Judge Stanley A. Bastian</i>
11:00 am	Break
11:15 am	Dr. Martin Luther King—A Story of Three Injunctions <i>Retired USAO: Ron Silver</i>
12:15 pm	Lunch—Hosted at the Courthouse— Prepare Lesson Plans
1:00 pm	STEP/ Probation: The Experience of a Federal Criminal Defendant <i>USPO: Melissa Hanson</i>
2:00 pm	Careers within the Federal Judiciary <i>IT, Case Administrator, Court Interpreter, Courtroom Deputy, Finance, Jury Administrator, Court Reporter, Law Clerk</i>
3:00 pm	Roundtable/Q &A with Our Judges <i>Chief Judge Stanley A. Bastian, Judge Rebecca L. Pennell, Magistrate Judge James A. Goeke and Magistrate Judge Alexander C. Ekstrom</i>
4:00 pm	Closing

