



April 25, 2012

To: Federal Practitioners, Western District of Missouri

Re: 2012 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference: "Landmark Litigation in the Eighth Circuit Courts: Views from the Bench, Bar and Academy."

For the first time since 1999, we will host the Judicial Conference on August 8 - 10 at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown. Don't miss it!

The Conference lets you meet and mingle with the judges of all Eighth Circuit courts – appeals, district, magistrate, and bankruptcy. First-time attendees are invited to attend a private reception with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr.

The plenary sessions will feature:

- Paul D. Clement and Theodore B. Olson, addressing "Litigating High Profile Cases: Health Care, NFL, Bush v. Gore, etc."
- Judge Kenneth W. Starr, President of Baylor University, presenting an update on Supreme Court cases of this term
- Gregory P. Joseph, exploring "Ethics in the Electronic Age"
- Professor Douglas A. Berman, Ohio State, moderating "The Future of Sentencing Law"
- Two members of the Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, discussing "The Inside Story of Multidistrict Litigation"
- Justice Alito, closing the conference with the first-ever *Virtual Tour of the Supreme Court*.

The conference also offers numerous CLE sessions on a broad range of civil, criminal, and bankruptcy topics. The Conference, an accredited sponsor of CLE programs, expects to receive CLE approval in all states of the Eighth Circuit, **plus** the State of Kansas. (In Missouri, the Conference should qualify for 10.2 hours general credit, and 1.0 hours ethics credit.)

The conference isn't all work. There are many social events:

- Wednesday evening's opening reception at the College Basketball Experience, with its many hands-on "exhibits" allowing you to dunk, shoot free throws, beat the clock. Food and drink will be plentiful, along with tours of the College Basketball Hall of Fame Museum.
- Thursday night's reception at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, followed by a performance of Elton John and Tim Rice's *AIDA*. (Seats are still available for *AIDA*, the deadline for tickets is **April 30, 2012**.)
- During the day on Thursday, spouses and guests go by trolley to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art for lunch in the Rozzelle Court, and personal tours of the galleries featuring all kinds of art.
- Friday afternoon's trip to the National Archives to hear what they do with judges' papers, or get advice on genealogical research. Then, tours of the National World War I Museum.

Even if Kansas City is your home (or near it), it's an excellent time to explore the city. **Frommer's** – an authority on travel and tourism – announced Kansas City as one of its top ten destinations in the world for 2012 – the only U.S. city to make the list.

Don't miss the great time with the judges of the Eighth Circuit courts, colleagues from around the Circuit, and the many world-class attractions of Kansas City. For more information and to register, go to <https://www.ce8.uscourts.gov/judconf/>.

See you there!



**Duane Benton**  
**United States Circuit Judge**



**Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr.**  
**Chief District Judge**