



Justice... Professionalism... Service... Since 1886

.75 Law & Legal CLE Credit – A/V Approval #1143081

Recording Date - May 12, 2020

Meeting Location	Date	Time	Topic
King County Bar Association 1200 Fifth Avenue - Suite 700 Seattle, WA	Tuesday, May 12, 2020	12:00 PM to 1:15 PM	Employment Applications: Disclosures, Indemnity, Disinterestedness, Oh My!

AGENDA

12:00 PM Introduction

12:10 PM Presentation: ‘Employment Applications: Disclosures, Indemnity, Disinterestedness, Oh My!’, by Hilary Mohr, Martin L. Smith, Matthew J.P. Johnson, Laurie Thornton, Office of the United States Trustee

- Expectations of financial disclosures for professionals
- Propriety of indemnity provisions in approval of employment
- Disinterestedness requirement for employment by the estate
- Other recurring issues in obtaining UST approval for ex parte presentation of employment application

1:15 PM Adjourn

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Hilary Mohr, Office of the United States Trustee – Hilary Mohr has served as a Trial Attorney with the Office of the United States Trustee since January 2016. Prior to that, she was a partner at Riddell Williams P.S. whose practice focused primarily on creditors’ rights litigation and bankruptcy matters. Hilary graduated from Seattle University School of Law, *summa cum laude*, in 2007, after working for a local nonprofit organization for several years.

Martin L. Smith, Office of the United States Trustee – Martin L. Smith received his Bachelors of Science degree from California State University at Chico (1977); his Masters of Business Administration degree

from the University of Utah (1984); and his Juris Doctor from the University of Utah School of Law (1988). Mr. Smith originally practiced at a Los Angeles, California bankruptcy boutique firm, and later joined in the bankruptcy section of a national law firm in their Sacramento, California. Mr. Smith was admitted to practice in Washington in 1995 after moving to Seattle. He was in private practice for 14 years, specializing in bankruptcy-related representation, prior to joining the United States Trustee Program in 2002. Mr. Smith is a trial attorney, representing the Office of the United States Trustee for Region 18.

Matthew J.P. Johnson, Office of the United States Trustee – Matthew J.P. Johnson joined the United States Trustee program as a Trial Attorney in April 2020. He graduated Seattle University Law School *cum laude* in 2008, during which time he served as an extern for former bankruptcy judge Karen A. Overstreet. Mr. Johnson began his practice in Vancouver, Washington representing debtors in chapter 7, 11 and 13 cases. He then spent a brief time representing mortgage servicers in a Seattle, WA firm. Prior to joining the program, Mr. Johnson was the senior staff attorney with the Chapter 13 Trustee office in Tacoma, Washington.

Laurie Thornton, Office of the United States Trustee – Laurie Thornton joined the United States Trustee Program in July 2019, as the Assistant United States Trustee for the Seattle regional office. Prior to joining the United States Trustee program, Ms. Thornton served for nine years as the Career Law Clerk to the Hon. Brian D. Lynch in the Tacoma division of the W.D. of Washington Bankruptcy Court. In ten years of private practice before joining the judiciary, Ms. Thornton worked on complex chapter 11 matters in a large Chicago law firm, general commercial litigation for a Seattle litigation boutique firm, and was the assistant director of a bankruptcy claims and noticing firm. Ms. Thornton is originally from Seattle and obtained her B.A. from the University of Washington and her J.D. from Marquette University.