

Federal Bench and Bar Use of Funds Questionnaire

Each year the U. S. District Court for the District of New Mexico collects federal bar dues of \$25 from each of its members. The annual dues are used for a variety of projects and services to benefit the legal community. In that regard, we are asking members to complete the following questionnaire to provide suggestions as to future events which might be supported by the Federal Bench and Bar Fund. This information will help us to plan and better serve our members' needs.

When you have completed the questionnaire, please mail or fax it to:

Ms. Marte Adams
United States District Court
333 Lomas Boulevard NW, Room 270
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Fax: 505-348-2007

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1. Statistics show that 55% of registered members of the federal bar are not current on their dues. Should D.N.M.LR-Civ. 83.2(d) be amended to read, "An attorney who fails to pay annual dues on time will be suspended from the federal bar and will not be allowed to practice in this District. To be reinstated, the attorney must comply with the requirements of D.N.M.LR-Civ. 83.2(a)."

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

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2. Located on the 3rd Floor at the federal courthouse in Albuquerque is an attorney lounge which provides office equipment and a quiet work environment for federal bar members. Space permitting, should similar lounges be established at the federal courthouses in Santa Fe and Las Cruces?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

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3. Electronic filing provides an efficient way of filing documents with the court. E-filed documents need not be scanned and are much smaller in size for viewing online. Should federal bar dues be reduced for members who use electronic filing?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

4. Should Bench and Bar funds be used to pay mileage and other expenses so court staff could travel throughout New Mexico to train attorneys on electronic filing?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

5. Should Bench and Bar funds be used to help in the development of a standard electronic filing system, including online access to court records, for all New Mexico courts (federal, state, and local)? If "yes," how should the funds be utilized and to what extent?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

6. Bench and Bar funds have been used to sponsor attorney/judge forums, receptions, seminars, conferences, and CLE training covering federal court topics and other current legal issues. What topics or other functions would you like sponsored, and where would you most like these activities to take place?

Comments:

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7. Should Bench and Bar funds be used to pay the necessary fees and expenses (including travel) to bring prominent leaders in the legal profession to New Mexico to participate in conferences or seminars sponsored by the state and local bars and open to federal bar members? If "yes," which speakers are you most interested in inviting?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

8. Should Bench and Bar funds be used to support community outreach publications and programs to help educate the public about the federal court system?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

9. Should Bench and Bar funds be used to create or support mock trial type leadership programs for local schools?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

10. Please use the space below (or additional pages if necessary) to list any other ideas or suggestions for use of the Federal Bench and Bar Fund: