



MARCH 2018



CM/ECF Training

Please note that CM/ECF training will now be offered once a month in Cheyenne, typically on the 3rd Wednesday from 2-3 PM .

Do you have a nomination for the Sidebar? Please contact Tiffany at the clerk's office in Casper (307)232-2620

Our Mission: Every employee appointed to the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming will make it their mission to serve the Public, Bar and Court, to represent the District of Wyoming in a manner that will instill trust in the Judiciary and strive to provide quality, positive service, and assist in the timely and satisfactory disposition of issues brought before the court.

U.S. DISTRICT CLERK'S COURTERLY

DOCKETING TIPS

Memorandums in Support of Motions should be filed as a separate pleading and not attached to the Motion

Pursuant to Local Rule 15.1 - you must submit a proposed order with all non-dispositive motions.

PROPOSED ORDERS MUST BE FILED AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE MOTION - NOT AS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT.

ATTENTION: Please DO NOT file compound pleadings such as a motion and memorandum in ONLY. The memorandum needs to be filed as its own pleading and linked to the motion.

Appeals

In compliance with Fed R. App. P. 10, please ensure you are filing the designation of transcripts and the designation of record in both the District Court and the Appellate Court.

Forms

Please ensure you are using the most up-to-date forms. Current forms are available on our website at:

<http://www.wyd.uscourts.gov/htmlpages/forms.html>





The Geekbyte2



Judge Skavdahl's Courtroom in Casper is undergoing a small but critical remodel and A/V upgrade. By the middle of April, visitors will see a bigger jury box and hydraulic lifted witness box. In conjunction with this remodel, we are updating all the components of the Electronic Courtroom to be fully digital. Counsel will be able to plug in using VGA, HDMI and Mini-Display Port compatible laptops to show their evidence. New larger gallery monitors will be mounted on the walls and there will be a monitor behind the witness box to better facilitate witnesses appearing via video conference. In addition to other updates too many to list here, counsel can attach their wireless devices to the system wirelessly using either Apple TV or another brand-agnostic wireless network. All these changes are intended to make video evidence presentations easy and more useful to attorneys! *Please make sure you come test your equipment prior to your next hearing in April.*



SIDEBAR

The Profile of a Wyoming Lawyer



MARK A. KLAASSEN **United States Attorney**

Tell me about yourself?

My parents moved to Wyoming when I was a few months old, and I grew up in Gillette. After college and law school, I started my career here in Cheyenne where I worked as a term law clerk for the Honorable Wade Brorby. After that, I moved to Washington, D.C., where I worked for a law firm as a civil litigator, then as counsel for a congressional committee, and finally as a Presidential Appointee under George W. Bush. Fortunately, I had the opportunity to return to Wyoming in 2009, when I was hired as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office. I worked in that position until my appointment and confirmation as U.S. Attorney in November 2017.

My wife Christy and I have three elementary-age kids – a son and two daughters. Like most parents, we manage a busy schedule with work and running our kids to school and various activities. I also enjoy coaching my kids' soccer and basketball teams. When we have time to get away, you'll usually find us on a beach in my wife's native California or in the mountains of Wyoming.

Why did you decide to go to law school?

I have been interested in the law since I was a boy. Several family friends were attorneys, and seeing their work gave me an immediate respect for the profession. Practicing law seemed like it would provide a variety of opportunities to learn with each new case and to help people facing challenging circumstances.

What was your first job after law school?

My first job was working as a term law clerk for the Honorable Wade Brorby of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. It was a great experience for a new lawyer.

What has been your most rewarding or significant case?

Small cases are often the ones that end up being the most memorable and rewarding. I took on a *pro bono* case many years ago representing an elderly widow from a poorer neighborhood in Washington, D.C. My client had been swindled by a contractor she employed to repair and renovate her house. She borrowed money to pay for the work, and gave the contractor a substantial deposit. He began demolition, but left after just a few days without completing the project. I pursued the case to judgment, and then initiated collection proceedings against the defendant, who had fled to Louisiana. He ultimately paid back all the money with an additional amount for punitive damages. My client was very appreciative, and it was immensely satisfying to see her receive a just result.

What has kept you inspired and energized over the years?

I find the relationships with family, friends, and colleagues are what gives me energy and inspiration. Looking back at my time in Washington, D.C., and now here in Wyoming, I realize how much the different personalities I encountered have enriched my life. We need those human connections to keep us rooted and give us purpose. I tell my team at the U.S. Attorney's office that we are like an extended family, we have our differences and challenges from time to time, but we know we have each other's back and we are energized by the sense of shared purpose and the connection we have in working hard together.

What do you like best about being a Wyoming lawyer?

Wyoming is a great place to live and raise a family while enjoying an outdoor lifestyle that few places can match. Yes, it gets windy (really windy) and cold in the winter, but that's a small price to pay for our wide open spaces and friendly communities.

Professionally, I appreciate working with and getting to know the various individuals I meet in handling cases and overseeing the work of our office. Almost without exception, I have found my fellow Wyoming lawyers and staff to be professional and capable, while also collegial and friendly.

Is there anything the Clerk's office could improve on?

At the risk of sounding like a paid endorsement, I just want to say thank you for the tremendous job all of you do each day. The USAO has a great working relationship with the Clerk's office, and I know that if any issues were to arise we would work through them with the professionalism that has always been the hallmark of your office.

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

It is a tremendous honor for me to serve as U.S. Attorney for Wyoming, and to work with a great team within my office and as part of the larger federal court family. I am very proud of the work we do each day to uphold the rule of law and promote justice and fairness.

Having worked primarily in the civil division of the USAO, I am still getting to know and work more closely with many of you involved with the criminal side of the docket. If you see me in the courthouse or around the community, please be sure to say hello so we can get to know one another better.