

June 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 2-5:00 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

Friendly Reminders to Counsel:

Pursuant to our Local Civil Rules, pleadings filed in civil cases cannot be filed as non-public or SEALED absent prior court authorization.

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

DOCKETING TIP

Pro Hac Vice Motions

Please remember to comply with Local Rule 84.2 when filing Motions to Appear Pro Hac Vice. http://www.wyd.uscourts.gov/htmlpages/localrules.html





The Geekbyte2



Casper Courtroom No. 2 Install Complete

Are you planning on using the Honorable Chief Judge Skavdahl's Courtroom in Casper anytime soon? Please plan ahead and Come check out our new technology or make an appointment for a personal demonstration of this equipment by calling the Clerk's office in Casper at (307)232-2620.



SIDEBAR The Profile of a Wyoming Lawyer

Welcome Federal Public Defenders Tracy Hucke, Galia Amram & Melanie Gavisk to the District of Wyoming







Tracy Hucke

- I grew up in Colorado, but there's nowhere I would rather be than Wyoming. I love the wide-open spaces and the laid-back lifestyle. I graduated from University of Wyoming College of Law in 2011, and I fell in love with Wyoming and never left. I've been a public defender since I graduated.
- My husband and I have two kids, a two-year-old daughter and a four-year-old son. They definitely keep us on our toes.
- After I graduated from college with a psychology degree, I started a job working with adults with developmental disabilities. While I loved the job, I felt I could make more of an impact in people's lives if I had a law degree.
- My first job after law school was working as a public defender for the Wyoming State Public Defender in Casper. I had the pleasure of working with and learning from some of the finest criminal defense attorneys in the state. I worked there until I started at the FPD about a year ago.
- For a while when I was at the Casper PD, many of my cases involved juvenile defendants. When I dug into those cases, I often found that the real problem was the juvenile's home life. Working to make sure my young clients received better care was incredibly rewarding.
- I love my work and it keeps me energized, but I also love taking time off with my family to refresh and reset.
- The best part about practicing in Wyoming is that you know everyone! And everyone is friendly, fair, and collegial.
- I honestly can't think of anything! The clerk's office is a great resource.



Melanie Gavisk

- I'm a recent transplant from Colorado, but I can't imagine ever leaving Wyoming. I feel so at home here! I love hiking, cycling, and skiing, and there are no shortage of great places to enjoy those activities here.
- I originally went to graduate school for clinical psychology, but after working with clients, I realized that many of them had legal problems that stood in the way of addressing their mental health. So when I finished my master's degree, I went straight to law school.
- My first job after law school was working at the Denver office of Arnold & Porter doing civil litigation. I also did pro bono criminal defense while I was there, which I absolutely loved.
- It's really hard to pick just one case, but if I had to, it's probably a post-conviction death penalty case I worked on. I worked with an amazing team of lawyers, and our client, who was wrongfully convicted and sentenced to death, was released after 25 years on death row.
- The resilience and kindness of my clients has kept me going over the years. Time after time, I am inspired to see my clients try (and succeed!) to right past wrongs and turn their lives around.
- The best part about being a Wyoming lawyer is the other Wyoming lawyers! I immediately felt completely welcomed by the defense bar and the prosecutors alike.
- The clerks have been wonderful, and I'm so appreciative of their willingness to help.



GALIA AMRAM

- I grew up in California. I went to college back east but spent my summers in California working as a river rafting guide. After graduation, I taught fifth grade (the hardest job I have ever had) before going to law school and clerking. I have been working as a criminal defense lawyer ever since. Almost one year ago, I transferred from the San Francisco Federal Public Defender's Office to the Wyoming Federal Public Defender's Office. My sister works in Laramie and my mom is wondering how she raised Californians who love Wyoming so much.
- I have three crazy kids and two crazier dogs. When we get away, we usually go camping in the summer and snowboarding in the winter; or we try and convince one of our friends with horses to let us ride.
- I worked as an EMT in college and a bunch of my friends who worked with me were trying to go to medical or nursing school. But I took a constitutional law class my junior year and loved it. It taught me to have great respect for the law and its role in protecting our individual freedom.
- My first job was clerking for Judge Royal Furgeson of the Western District of Texas. He is a wonderful, kind judge and I learned a tremendous amount.
- I filed a selective enforcement challenge to a joint operation by the DEA and the SF police department. The operation targeted low-level drug dealers in the Tenderloin neighborhood of San Francisco. Over two years, 37 people were arrested and charged federally under this operation. All 37 were African-American even though the drug dealing population in the Tenderloin was actually less than 60 % African American. We presented evidence to the court to show that the only possible explanation for this disparity was racial bias. The court granted our Armstrong motion and ultimately the United States Attorney's Office dismissed the cases.
- Definitely all the people I have met along the way. I feel very lucky to have been surrounded my whole career by great lawyers who have inspired and taught me. This is a job where you never really stop learning, both about the law and about the complexities and challenges everyone faces in life. Life is really hard and most people are trying to do the best they can.
- The people here are definitely the best part of being a Wyoming lawyer. Everyone is so nice! Also, I have practiced in a lot of jurisdictions and the prosecutors here are top notch. They fight fair and with integrity and treat defense attorneys with respect.

The clerk's office has been really helpful. Cases and case filings work differently here than in California and the clerks have been so great about helping me make the transition and also nice and understanding when I have made mistakes.

I feel very lucky to get to do the work I do and to get to do it with such great people. I am really looking forward to meeting more people in the court family.

