



December 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 2-3:00 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

New Employee: Please welcome Caitlin Argyle to the District. She will be our Human Resources and Training Specialist in Cheyenne.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS TO COUNSEL:

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.

Please take a moment to review your CM/ECF designated email addresses. To do so, go to: Utilities Maintain Your Email; Add/delete email addresses as needed Remember to update any information for attorneys or support staff no longer with your office. New staff can benefit greatly by being trained in CM/ECF either by the Casper or Cheyenne office. Keep in mind the login and password are issued to attorneys only.





The Geekbyte2



Casper Courtroom No. 2

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



Stephanie Sprecher

WebMD says that psychologists do not know what causes 15% of us to experience the plunge in blood pressure that causes us to faint when we see blood. Gory shoot 'em ups are my favorite movie genre. Regrettably, when I witness blood ooze from a living, breathing creature, I see black and hit the floor. The realization that I am a member of "the 15% club" came to me while volunteering at Smylie Animal Clinic, in Douglas, Wyoming, where I grew up. I was 14 years old at the time and determined to overcome this weakness through blood immersion therapy. Willing to do whatever it took, I assisted in countless emergency surgeries, Cesarean sections, sterilization procedures, and all the carnage I could find in the E.R. It didn't take. This failing surely motivated the choice of psychology as my undergraduate major. If only WebMD existed back in 1988...

You might wonder what a person does with a degree in psychology. Apparently, they stay in school. By 1992, psychology lost its luster and I somehow found myself at the University of Wyoming College of Law. At the time, I held an honorary major in having a good time but figured all occasions to be festive were past me. Remarkably, I found that law school presented many new opportunities to sharpen my social (and intellectual) talents. I had so much fun! I made such good friends! I earned a law degree and presently work with a few of my fun friends! Astonishing.

To say I planned my future would be inaccurate. It seems my career path chose me beginning in 1995, with Judge Spangler asking me if I was going to apply for a clerkship, for which I was selected. Then Kevin Meenan began inquiring about my interest in becoming a prosecutor. I eagerly applied for a position with his office. Working for ten years as an assistant district attorney created opportunities to learn from superb litigators including Kevin and Mike Blonigen, who still guide and challenge me to become a better prosecutor.

Currently I find myself occupying the extraordinary position of Assistant United States Attorney. Every day I work alongside gifted mentors and talented teammates (including members representing the prosecution and defense squads) with a common and worthwhile goal. The work is grueling at times but it is infinitely rewarding.

My husband, Paul Jeantete, is my biggest fan and chief supporter. I absolutely, positively could not navigate this journey without his endless offering of love and friendship; wisdom and guidance; and especially his humor. Thank goodness for him!

I echo the sentiments of so many Wyoming attorneys in expressing my esteem for my fellow bar members. Overall, I find that our close-knit legal community encompasses professionals who demonstrate integrity, proficiency, and compassion. I am proud to be a Wyoming lawyer. Besides, I would have been a lousy veterinarian.

Thank you featuring me as player of the month in this issue of The Clerk's Courterly. I am flattered. I consider the United States District Court Clerks among my teammates. You are some of the most cordial and helpful colleagues around. Though I appreciate the inquiry, I have no suggestions for improving your game.





“Bunk” Porter Watercolor Painting

The Co-Trustees of the Elizabeth Z. Phelan Trust, Bernard Q. Phelan and his sister, Anne Elizabeth Phelan, donated the original “Bunk” Porter watercolor painting to our Courthouse in Cheyenne on November 21, 2018.

The artist, Frederick Hutchinson “Bunk” Porter was a well respected architect in Wyoming for more than four decades. This watercolor was done to preserve the memory of the old Courthouse. “Bunk” Porter was also involved in the design and construction of the Joseph C. O’Mahoney Federal Center now serving the District of Wyoming.

The Phelan’s father, Walter Phelan, acquired the painting from the artist shortly before his death in 1966. It remained in their mother’s home for fifty years.