



# Section on Federal Civil Practice

## **The Mission of the [ISBA Federal Civil Practice Section](#):**

To enhance knowledge and professional capabilities of lawyers who devote time to the practice of civil law in the United States District Courts in Illinois; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among and between practitioners and federal judges; to review and make recommendations concerning federal legislation and proposed changes to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and federal district court rules which affect federal civil practice; and to promote communication through presentation of seminars and preparation of newsletters.

## **General:**

- ◆ Section dues are \$30 per year.
- ◆ To join, go to [www.isba.org/sections](http://www.isba.org/sections)

## **[Continuing Legal Education](#)**

### **The Section sponsored the following program(s) during the year:**

- ◆ **Tips of the Trade: A Federal Civil Practice Seminar for Downstate Illinois** (6/29/18)
- ◆ **Clearing the Skies: How to Fly with the Mandatory Initial Pilot Program-CO SPONSOR** (1/17/18)

**Section members also receive discounts on section-sponsored CLE programs.**

## **[Legislation](#)**

**The Section Council reviews proposed legislation that may affect their members' practice area.**

## **ISBA Central**

- ◆ Members of the ISBA section get free access to the section's community on ISBA Central. The ISBA Central community allows section members to pose questions, answer questions, and share information with fellow section members from around the state.

## **[Newsletters](#)**

**During the 2017-18 bar year, the Section published 4 newsletters. Articles included:**

- ◆ Overview of Interlocutory Appeals (Sept. 2017)
- ◆ Has the Seventh Circuit finally (albeit indirectly) found that district courts should instruct juries that the preponderance of the evidence standard applies to claims under Section 1983 seeking punitive damages? Probably. (Dec. 2017)
- ◆ Mandatory Initial Discovery Pilot Project (Dec. 2017)
- ◆ Judicial profile: Sara Ellis (Dec. 2017)
- ◆ Boilerplate objections in discovery—Tread lightly (Dec. 2017)
- ◆ Why ESI is not like fine wine: Recent changes to the ancient documents exception to the hearsay rule (May 2018)
- ◆ A new federal rule of criminal procedure is likely on the way, but will it affect practice in Illinois federal courts? (May 2018)
- ◆ Removal bid founders for lack of Article III standing (June 2018)