



**Tennessee Court of Appeals Academy
University of Memphis School of Law
Memphis, TN
April 1, 2016**

Program Description

The Tennessee Court of Appeals is unfamiliar territory for most lawyers. Opportunities to practice in this court are few and success requires skills of oral and written advocacy. A persuasive performance in both areas is important to success; a poor performance in either can lead to defeat. Accordingly, lawyers need the information and insight required to develop and perfect their oral arguments and legal writing. Indeed, this is true at all levels of legal practice, and the lessons learned during this seminar will be generally applicable to practice in trial courts.

At the Tennessee Court of Appeals Boot Camp lawyers will learn from a distinguished faculty and through observation of oral arguments. This seminar will cover the best practices for oral argument, brief writing, and Rule 11 application. Also included will be a judge's panel featuring the Western Section Court of Appeals Judges.

On April 1st attendees will register at the University of Memphis School of Law for observation of oral arguments before the Court of Appeals. We will offer a lunch session at Baker Donelson where we will debrief and discuss best practices in oral arguments. We will then return to the University of Memphis for our afternoon session.

Agenda

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| 9:00-9:30 am | Registration |
| 9:30-11:00 am | Oral Argument Observation (1.5)
Historic Courtroom, University of Memphis School of Law |
| 11:00-11:15 am | Walk to Baker Donelson (20th Floor Boardroom)
First Tennessee Building, 165 Madison Ave, Suite 2000 |
| 11:15-12:15 pm | Oral Argument Debriefing and Best Practices (1.0)
Donald Capparella, Dodson Parker Behm & Capparella, PC |
| 12:15-12:45 pm | Lunch provided- Networking |

Afternoon Session: University of Memphis School of Law: Room 127

- 1:00-1:45 pm **Preparing the Record at the Trial Level (0.75)**
Honorable Robert L. Childers, Shelby County Circuit Court
Jennifer Vallor, Law Clerk to Judge Steve Stafford, Western
Section Court of Appeals
- 1:45-2:30 pm **Brief Writing (0.75)**
Honorable Justice Holder, former Supreme Court Chief Justice
Mary Wagner, Rice, Amundsen & Caperton, PLLC
Sarah Day, Law Clerk to Judge Steve Stafford, Western Section
Court of Appeals
- 2:30-3:15 pm **Rule 11 Application (0.75)**
Amy Farrar, Farrar | Wright PLLC
- 3:15-3:30 pm **Break**
- 3:30-4:15 pm **Appellate Practice: A View from the Bench (0.75)**
Honorable J. Steven Stafford, Western Section Court of Appeals
Honorable Kenny Armstrong, Western Section Court of Appeals
Honorable Brandon O. Gibson, Western Section Court of Appeals
Honorable Arnold B. Goldin, Western Section Court of Appeals