



The Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, Inc.

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So Much More than Words on a Page: From Magna Carta to the Indiana Territorial Court Order Books

Eighth Annual Court History and Continuing Legal Education Symposium set for November 13, 2015

INDIANAPOLIS (October 14, 2015) — The Eighth Annual Court History and Continuing Legal Education Symposium will be presented on **Friday, November 13, 2015**, at the Birch Bayh Federal Building and United States Court House, 46 East Ohio Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. The program will be held in the William E. Steckler Ceremonial Courtroom (Courtroom 202). Organized by the Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, and sponsored by the Court, **this three-hour Continuing Legal Education event will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

This year's event will take attendees far back in time. The 1:00-2:00 pm presentation is "Magna Carta: Myth, Truth, and Realm of Ideals." Dr. Steven A. Stofferahn, Associate Professor of History at Indiana State University, will examine Magna Carta from a historical standpoint, covering everything from the cultural context of the original 1215 Magna Carta to how Americans have come to look upon Magna Carta today.

Dr. Stofferahn's presentation will help lay the groundwork for the second session, which will run from 2:15 to 3:15. "Magna Carta in American Law," presented by Gerard Magliocca, Samuel R. Rosen Professor of Law at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, will explore the applications and interpretations of Magna Carta by everyone from the Founding Fathers to contemporary judges and lawyers.

The final hour, from 3:30-4:30 pm, will bring things forward a bit to the era of the Indiana Territory. In "The Tower of London, Botany Bay, and Other Surprising Encounters: Indiana's Territorial Legal Past in a Searchable Database," public historian Norma Erickson will share some surprising stories from the federal judiciary's earliest years in the Indiana Territory, which once encompassed the area of present day Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, part of Minnesota, and even the entire Louisiana Purchase. She will also discuss the logistics of creating a database that allows users to easily access and search the original Territorial Court Order Books.

Registration is required for this event, and space is limited. RSVP by November 6 to rsvp@insd.uscourts.gov.

Members of the Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana receive complimentary registration. For non-members wishing to attend the event, the registration fee is \$50 and includes a one year membership to the Court's Historical Society. The fee may be paid by cash, check, or money order at the event. For more information, contact Doria Lynch at: Doria.Lynch@insd.uscourts.gov or (317) 229-3729.