



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

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Criminal Cases Then & Now: Modern Impressions of "The Crime of the Century" - plus -

The Top of the Heap: What Makes the Best Lawyers So Darned Good?

18th Annual Court History & Continuing Legal Education Symposium

INDIANAPOLIS (April 17, 2026) – From an exploration of the trial that followed the "Crime of the Century" to a look at what makes the best of the lawyerly best, the 18th Annual Court History & Continuing Legal Education Symposium promises to be an educational and entertaining afternoon.

The program will take place on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, from 12:30 PM to 3:45 PM in the Sarah Evans Barker Courtroom (Courtroom 216) at the Birch Bayh Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse, 46 E. Ohio St., Indianapolis, Indiana. A Zoom link will be available to those who cannot attend in-person. The program is organized by the Historical Society of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana and sponsored by the Court. Three hours of Indiana CLE credit are approved.

The first session will focus on the famed dynamite conspiracy trial that took place at the federal courthouse in 1912. Panelists will discuss what was billed as "The Crime of the Century," including fascinating details, oddities in past criminal procedure, and impressions of the people involved. Panelists will also draw comparisons and contrasts to modern-day criminal procedure.

The second session will turn to a panel of three federal Senior Judges, who will discuss the qualities, techniques, and winning ways of the best lawyers who have appeared before them and the tactics that make them so effective and memorable. The panelists will provide first-person reflections and reminiscences drawn from their judicial experiences to illustrate and illuminate their responses to the over-arching question of what makes the best lawyers so darned good.

Registration is required for this event. Members of the Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana (both Law Firm Members and Individual Members) receive complimentary registration. For non-members wishing to attend, the registration fee is \$50 for attorneys and \$25 for members of the public. Payment information is available on the registration website: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/CHS2026#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/CHS2026#/)