

Judge Bonnie Sudderth

From: Judge Bonnie Sudderth
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 9:23 AM
To: Megan LaVoie
Subject: Climate Science Litigation

Megan,

Earlier this year, Chief Justice Hecht appointed me to serve as the delegate from Texas in a program entitled “Judicial Leaders in Climate Science” offered by the National Judicial College. As the Texas delegate, I attended sessions in Reno, Nevada and Woods Hole, Massachusetts, as well as participated in webinars – all on the topic of litigating cases that involve claims regarding climate science. It is an emerging field, and whether judges are “believers” or “deniers” about global warming/climate science (or somewhere in between), this litigation isn’t just coming, it has arrived.

In participating in the program, I became acquainted with many scientific and legal scholars regarding the topic. And it’s possible that I may now possess a little more knowledge on the topic than the average judge.

After completing the program, I asked Chief Justice Hecht what he wanted me to do with the information that I had received. He expressed the desire that I reach out to OCA and let you know that I am willing to be a resource if OCA should ever become involved with the judiciary on this topic. So that’s the purpose of this email.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance to you in any way if this topic ever becomes part of any OCA “project.”

Have a good day!

Bonnie Sudderth

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