



National College of Probate Judges

2026 Spring Conference

THE WILLIAMSBURG LODGE

WILLIAMSBURG, VA

MAY 6-9, 2026

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QUESTIONS?
NCPJ@NCSC.ORG
1-800-616-6165

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2026 Spring Conference Agenda

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 6TH

1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Registration

5:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Reception for New Members and First Time Attendees with the NCPJ Executive Committee, Ambassadors, and State Representatives

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Welcome Reception

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH

7:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Breakfast

A Full Breakfast Buffet will be Available

7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Registration Open

8:00 AM - 1:15 PM

Vendor Exhibits Open

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

State Representative Meeting

8:45 AM - 9:00 AM

Welcome Remarks

9:00 AM -
10:30 AM

Mediation from the Standpoint of a Probate Practitioner

Presented by Julia B. Meister, Partner, Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, Cincinnati, OH

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THURSDAY, MAY 7TH (CONTINUED)

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|---------------------|---|
| 10:30 AM - 10:45AM | Sponsor Presentation |
| 10:45 AM - 11:15 AM | Coffee Break with Vendors |
| 11:15AM - 12:15PM | Distinctions between a GAL and respondent's counsel, the roles of each; interacting with and representing clients with diminished capacity and right to counsel. <i>Presented by Alison Zinn, Esq. Partner, Lathrop GPM LLP, Denver CO</i> |
| 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM | Estates and Trusts <i>Presented by Alison Zinn, Esq. Partner, Lathrop GPM LLP, Denver CO</i> |
| 2:00 PM - 5:00PM | Optional Social Event Enjoy a guided walking tour through Colonial Williamsburg with a experienced tour guide. Following the tour, there will be a social hour with hors d'oeuvres and beverages at Shield's Tavern, located near the hotel in the Colonial Williamsburg's Historic area. <i>There is an additional per person charge for this event of \$70.00. You may purchase tickets with your conference registration.</i> |

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MAY 6-9, 2026 | Williamsburg, VA



FRIDAY, MAY 8TH

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Registration Open |
| 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM | Breakfast <i>A Full Breakfast Buffet will be Available</i> |
| 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Vendor Exhibits Open |
| 9:00 AM-10:30 AM | Right to Counsel in a Probate Proceeding <i>Presented by Judge James Walther Probate Judge, Lorain County, OH</i> |
| 10:30 AM-10:45 AM | Coffee Break with Vendors |
| 10:45 AM-11:45 PM | Interaction between the Courts and Media on Difficult Cases <i>Presented by Sean O'Sullivan Chief of Community Relations, State of Delaware Administrative Office of the Courts Wilmington, DE</i> |

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FRIDAY, MAY 8TH (CONTINUED)

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|-------------------|--|
| 11:45AM - 1:00 PM | Judicial Conduct - "Toto, We're Not In Kansas Anymore" <i>Presented by Doug Shima Clerk of the Kansas Appellate Courts, Topeka, KS</i> |
| 1:30 - 4:30 PM | Executive Committee Meeting |
| 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Reception |
| 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM | Banquet Dinner <i>Included in the attendee and guest registration fee. Dress code is business casual.</i> |

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SATURDAY, MAY 9TH

8:00 AM - 12:00
PM

Information Desk Open

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Breakfast
A Full Breakfast Buffet will be Available

9:00 AM - 11:00
AM

Hot Topics in Probate Law Panel Discussion
Presented by a panel of NCPJ Member Judges

11:00 AM

Conference Concludes