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## Bankruptcy-Consumer Law

### SUBSTANTIVE LAW

#### **Themes:**

- Guiding the practice of consumer and bankruptcy law.

#### **Conversation Starters:**

- Why are you interested in this area of law?
- Are you interested in representing creditors or debtors?
- Clients: more interested in representing individual debtors or businesses?
- Do you have any experience in this area? Did you take any bankruptcy or consumer law related courses in law school?
- What are your strengths/ weaknesses?
- Must be licensed in federal court to practice bankruptcy law. If you are a solo attorney, you will need to purchase and annually renew requisite software (only if representing debtors. I represent creditors in bankruptcy court without purchasing any special “bankruptcy software”).

#### **Activities:**

- Visit bankruptcy court- 341 hearings for CH 7 and 13
- Visit a bankruptcy court motion docket
- Volunteer/shadow at a consumer law clinic
- Attend a Creditor Debtor section meeting or activity

#### **Resources:**

- Discuss what additional resources the mentor/mentee have found useful in their own practice.
- [Website for Western District of WA](#) (or applicable District)
- [The National Consumer Law Center](#) has numerous excellent treatises and publications about various areas of consumer law and bankruptcy. Many of their treatises are available at local law libraries.
- [Local nonprofit](#) that assists low income individuals with debt/consumer issues, has several volunteer opportunities:
- NARCA: National Creditors Bar Association <https://www.creditorsbar.org/>