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Navigating Pro Se Adversaries

A litigator's toolkit for successful case management and resolution with pro se litigants

The steep rise of pro se litigants—individuals who seek to represent themselves in court—forces lawyers to adjust their litigation approaches to account for the pro se litigant's general unfamiliarity with court procedure, filings, discovery, and evidentiary rules. A good lawyer will make crucial changes to their strategy, including introductions, service, communications, presentation in court, and finalization of agreements.

Join our expert as we dive into key differences between litigation against a represented party and pro se litigant, and adjustments the lawyer may need to make to ensure the case moves smoothly and the client's expectations are managed.

Agenda

- 3:00pm - 3:05pm, Welcome and Introduction
- 3:05pm - 3:10pm, Brief Introduction to the Pro Se Litigant
- 3:10pm - 3:20pm, First Contact: Introducing Yourself to the Pro Se Litigant
- 3:20pm - 3:30pm, Best Ways to Formally Communicate with Pro Se Litigants and Serve Documentation
- 3:30pm - 3:40pm, Litigation Against Pro Se Litigants—Exploring the Additional Steps Required
- 3:40pm - 4:05pm, The Lawyer's Role: Adjustments to Style and Tips for Entering into an Agreement and/or Trying the Case Against a Pro Se Litigant
- 4:05pm - 4:15pm, Managing Client Expectations Before, During, and After the Case
- 4:15pm - 4:25pm, Proceeding Against Non-Responsive Pro Se Litigants
- 4:25pm - 4:30pm, "Ask the Experts" Q&A Session and Key Takeaways

Faculty

- Grace C. Roessler, Esq., Mirick, O'Connell, DeMallie & Lougee LLP, Boston

Dates

- ON DEMAND WEBCAST (#2250268WBA): Watch starting Wednesday, 5/28/2025

Tuition

- \$175.00
- \$175.00 Members
- \$175.00 New Lawyers
- *FREE* for MCLE OnlinePass Subscribers
- Email scholarships@mcle.org to apply for a need-based scholarship.

Materials Included with Your Tuition

- All presentation materials, including faculty slides and handouts, in electronic format

CLE Credits

- Earn up to 1.5 substantive, 0.5 ethics

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