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**Mid-South Conference: Hear perspective from a former USDA general counsel on trade, ag**

By Olivia Larson

U of A System Division of Agriculture

**Fast facts:**

* Former USDA general counsel to discuss importance of trade
* Vaden now on US Court of International Trade
* Register online at: <https://bit.ly/3uXXvlm>

(222 words with file art of <https://flic.kr/p/2gdztGQ> )

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Sign up for a unique opportunity to hear the reflections of a sitting judge on his time as USDA general counsel.

Judge Stephen Vaden, who currently serves on the United States Court of International Trade, will share his experiences as part of the Mid-South Agricultural and Environmental Law Conference, hosted by the National Agricultural Law Center.

Vaden is no stranger to the conference, having served as keynote in 2019.

“I always appreciate the breadth of information the conference provides. It is a good mixture of policy and practicality,” Vaden said.

“I will look back on my tenure at USDA and discuss what issues we solved and what issues remain,” he said. “I also plan to talk about the importance of trade to agriculture and some of the important trade issues that are before the federal courts for resolution.”

“Judge Vaden’s experiences will provide attendees of the conference with a unique and beneficial perspective of what it is like have served as USDA general counsel,” said NALC Director Harrison Pittman, “His outlook on international trade will be beneficial to producers, farm managers, attorneys, lenders, and everyone in between.”

The conference is scheduled for June 10 – 11 with Vaden speaking on Thursday at 2:10 p.m. CDT. Those interested can register and learn more about the conference and continuing education opportunities here: <https://bit.ly/3uXXvlm>

For more information on the National Agricultural Law Center, visit <https://nationalaglawcenter.org/> or follow [@Nataglaw](https://twitter.com/nataglaw) on Twitter.

**About the National Agricultural Law Center**

**The National Agricultural Law Center**serves as the nation’s leading source of agricultural and food law research and information. The Center works with producers, state and federal policymakers, Congressional staffers, attorneys, land grant universities, and many others to provide objective, nonpartisan agricultural and food law research and information to the nation’s agricultural community.

The Center is a unit of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture and works in close partnership with the USDA Agricultural Research Service, National Agricultural Library.

**About the Division of Agriculture**

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture’s mission is to strengthen agriculture, communities, and families by connecting trusted research to the adoption of best practices. Through the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service, the Division of Agriculture conducts research and extension work within the nation’s historic land grant education system.

The Division of Agriculture is one of 20 entities within the University of Arkansas System. It has offices in all 75 counties in Arkansas and faculty on five system campuses.

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