



The Global Legal Network  
Local Relationships Worldwide

## Leaving It Better Than You Found It

How We Can Lead,  
Inspire And Improve  
In Business And Law

2018 INTERNATIONAL CLIENT SEMINAR

March 1-4, 2018

Fairmont Scottsdale Princess  
Scottsdale, Arizona

[www.alfainternational.com](http://www.alfainternational.com)



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# Leaving It Better Than You Found It: How We Can Lead, Inspire And Improve In Business And Law

## ALFA INTERNATIONAL 2018 INTERNATIONAL CLIENT SEMINAR

### March 1–4, 2018 – Fairmont Scottsdale Princess – Scottsdale, Arizona

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes, and from all walks of life. Across the spectrum, our heroes inspire us to be better leaders through uplifting words and deeds. In businesses and law firms – as in legislatures, boardrooms and courtrooms – heroes exercise true leadership by inspiring and innovating, motivating others and working hard themselves, and by seeking and demanding improvement in the people and enterprises they touch.

We are so glad you have chosen to come and experience this special program presented by ALFA International. In addition to substantive legal education that will benefit you and your companies, we are excited to share with you thrilling, timely and relevant examples of heroic people championing the causes important to them in business and law – from yesterday and today, with an eye towards tomorrow.

### PROGRAM TRACKS

To maximize your experience, in addition to opening and closing sessions, we have categorized our presentations into three breakout tracks. You are encouraged to mix and match. Please feel free to gravitate to specific topics that will help you in your daily work, or seek out those that will inspire you and push your boundaries!

**TRACK ONE** – “Running the Business:” Outstanding speakers will highlight the importance of organizational culture and explore your company’s place in the global community. You will see how heroes identify, pursue and maximize “big picture” opportunities for corporations, legal departments and the lawyers who work for them.

**TRACK TWO** – “Managing the People:” We are no longer a nation of immigrants, we are a world of them. “People issues” cut across all borders and cultures, and there is no going back to simpler, provincial times. As businesses grow and information is widely shared, we can learn lessons from the global village on how to motivate our greatest assets – employees – by improving our leadership, communication and mentoring.

**TRACK THREE** – “Fighting the Fights:” Sometimes, conflict is inevitable. When disputes arise, heroes rise to the occasion, striving vigorously and fearlessly to win, without sacrificing their ideals. These sessions feature truly inspiring examples of heroes who took courageous stands and did the right thing – while fostering teamwork, preserving empathy and ensuring fairness.

In business and law, we must “leave it better than we found it.” Otherwise, what is the point of working so hard? We look forward to seeing you in Scottsdale, where we know you will be inspired and leave with a sense of optimism, ready to improve yourself, your work and your community.

### Benton Barton

Program Chair, 2018 International Client Seminar  
HALL & EVANS  
Denver, Colorado

## Welcome to Scottsdale!



## What is ALFA International?

ALFA International is the premier network of independent law firms. Founded in 1980, ALFA International was the first and continues to be one of the largest and strongest legal networks. We have 150 member firms throughout the world. Our 80 U.S. firms represent 95 of the 100 largest metropolitan areas. Our 70 international firms are located throughout Europe, Asia, Australia/New Zealand, Africa, Canada, Mexico and South America.

ALFA International’s mission is to provide high quality, cost efficient legal services wherever our clients need them. The ALFA International model enables our members to use their local expertise to deliver highly effective legal solutions, often drawing upon the collective wisdom and experience of other member firms. ALFA International clients benefit from a geographically comprehensive network of exceptional law firms and accomplished trial and business counsel. Our member firms meet high standards to be part of the ALFA International network and are well respected by their peers in the legal and business community.

[www.alfainternational.com](http://www.alfainternational.com)

## THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018

12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

### Hospitality Suite & Registration

Fairmont Gold Meeting Room

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Faculty Rehearsal

Palomino Ballrooms 4-7

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### Corporate Counsel Roundtable

Palomino Ballrooms 1 & 2

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### All ALFA International Attorney Meeting

Palomino Ballroom 3

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

### The Women's Initiative Reception

Princess Pool  
Upper West Deck

Did you know? Socks are the #1 most requested clothing item at homeless shelters. We're addressing this need by partnering with Bombas to donate 250 pairs of socks to a local shelter. Join fellow females to make a positive impact, enjoy refreshments and conversation, and be inspired to effect the change you wish to see within ALFA International and beyond.

**Melanie Griffin**  
Women's Initiative Liaison  
DEAN MEAD  
Orlando, Florida

6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

## Life's a Beach in Arizona

WELCOME RECEPTION,  
BUFFET DINNER AND REGISTRATION

Sunset Beach Pool

WELCOME TO SCOTTSDALE!

Join us poolside at the "beach" as we revel in a beautiful spring desert evening. Shake off the winter blues as you acclimate to the delightful weather of the southwest. This first evening is all about reconnecting and networking as you enjoy signature cocktails and an expansive buffet dinner.

**DRESS CODE:** The event this evening is poolside so be sure to pack your colorful sundress, linen pants, shorts or your favorite Hawaiian shirt (no swimsuits or cover-ups). Please be casual this evening (flip flops are encouraged).

9:30 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

### Hospitality Suite

Fairmont Gold Meeting Room

## FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

### BREAKFAST BUFFET

Palomino Plaza East

Attendees: 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  
Spouses: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.

### PROGRAM SESSIONS

Palomino Ballrooms

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

## Introductory Remarks

**Gary A. Bague**

Chair, ALFA International  
Board of Directors

HAIGHT BROWN & BONESTEEL LLP  
Los Angeles, California

**Benton Barton**

Program Chair, 2018  
International Client Seminar

HALL & EVANS  
Denver, Colorado

8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

### PLENARY SESSION

## The Innovation Imperative: Why Companies Must Embrace Innovation To Survive

Innovation is the engine of the world's economy. It drives progress in every industry. The essential trait of a successful company is a business culture where innovation is welcomed. The epitaphs of failed businesses are many and varied, but perhaps the most common theme is a failure to innovate. Companies constantly ask themselves, "How do we improve?," "How do we anticipate our customer's future needs?," "How do we position ourselves to anticipate changes in the market?" In this fast-paced, entertaining and interactive session, an international group of presenters will explore the challenge of creating an "innovation culture" within a company, present examples of how companies around the world have tried to meet that challenge, and offer practical advice on how to set up policies that encourage creativity and innovation.

**Chris Page**

Moderator  
YOUNG MOORE & HENDERSON  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**Yutaka (Taka) Tamada**

Vice President and General Counsel  
MARUBENI AMERICA  
CORPORATION (MAC)  
New York, New York

**Donna Roberts**

Associate General Counsel  
CRACKER BARREL OLD  
COUNTRY STORE  
Lebanon, Tennessee

**Kirti Mahajan Thomassen**

BULL & CO  
Oslo, Norway

**Marc Harwell**

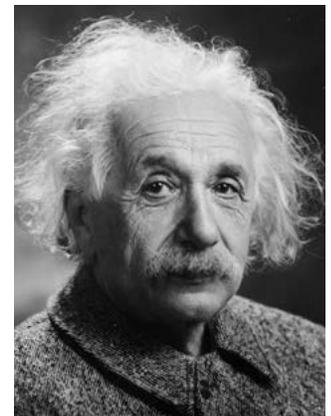
LEITNER, WILLIAMS, DOOLEY  
& NAPOLITAN, PLLC  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

**Gero Schneider**

TIEFENBACHER  
Frankfurt/Heidelberg, Germany

9:45 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.

### BREAK



*The true sign of  
intelligence is not  
knowledge but  
imagination.*

Albert Einstein

10:05 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 1

### TRACK ONE:

#### Culture is the New Black

Culture is the set of behaviors, values, artifacts, reward systems, and rituals that make up an organization. You can “feel” culture when you visit a company, because it is often evident in people’s behavior, enthusiasm, and the space itself. We currently live in a world where the traditional business approach of offering your consumers a good product and your employees routine benefits no longer equals success. Employees and consumers want to give their time and money to companies which think outside the box, respect and understand human needs and desires, and are committed to their fellow man (and the planet). Our panelists will discuss their first-hand experience with companies that recognize the value of culture and how it drives success. Please join us as we explore these issues, and be prepared to share your own value perspectives and challenge current norms.

**Tamara Nelson**

*Moderator*  
MERRICK, HOFSTEDT & LINDSEY, P.S.  
Seattle, Washington

**Sandro Garofalo**

*Senior Group Manager & Senior Counsel, Labor Relations*  
TARGET CORPORATION  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Christine St. Peter**

*Manager of Claims and Litigation*  
REI  
Kent, Washington

**Jill Gerdrum**

AXILON LAW GROUP, PLLC  
Missoula, Montana

### TRACK TWO:

#### A Nation of Immigrants: Is our Immigration Policy Striking the Right Balance for Employers and the Workplace?

America has long prided itself on being a “Nation of Immigrants.” An enduring symbol of our nation is the Statue of Liberty, with Emma Lazarus’ words welcoming those “yearning to be free” to our shores. At the same time, U.S. employment and immigration laws establish significant barriers to employment of international workers, with the goal of encouraging only the employment of US workers. This country struggles with the tension between a heritage of welcoming immigrants and the view that they are stealing jobs from U.S. workers. This session will discuss whether we are striking a just and appropriate balance in light of President Kennedy’s view that “Immigration policy should be generous; it should be fair; it should be flexible. With such a policy we can turn to the world, and to our own past, with clean hands and a clear conscience.” This struggle impacts not only who is actually admitted to the U.S. to do what, but also, once they are here, how they are treated in the workplace.

**Helen Konrad**

*Moderator*  
MCCANDLISH HOLTON  
Richmond, Virginia

**Justin McCarthy**

*Deputy General Counsel & Assistant Secretary*  
DENTSPLY SIRONA, INC.  
York, Pennsylvania

**Edward Starmer**

*Managing Attorney*  
DART CONTAINER  
Mason, Michigan

**Marta Rodrigues**

L.O. BAPTISTA ADVOGADOS  
Sao Paulo, Brazil

### TRACK THREE:

#### Championship: Rights, Fights, and Popular Opinion

Justice Robert Jackson is widely revered both for his dissent in the Korematsu case, where he condemned the internment of Japanese Americans, and for prosecuting Nazis at Nuremberg. Jackson defied popular opinion in Korematsu, and then he basked in it at Nuremberg. But Jackson’s actions at Nuremberg were not universally admired. Senator Robert Taft condemned the trials as victor’s justice under ex post facto laws, a position that was so unpopular it may have cost him the presidency. Popular opinion still roils legal debates, including the debate over Rule 8.4(g) of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, which defines discriminatory actions as professional misconduct. Proponents say the rule advances social justice. Opponents claim it reflects political correctness gone berserk. Which is it?

**Tom Singer**

*Moderator*  
AXILON LAW GROUP  
Billings, Montana

**Kim Bush**

*Assistant Vice President*  
ALLIED WORLD INSURANCE COMPANY  
Farmington, Connecticut

**Rodolfo “Rudy” Rivera**

*Chief International Counsel*  
FIDELITY NATIONAL FINANCIAL  
Jacksonville, Florida

**Mark Rowe**

*General Counsel & Chief Compliance Officer*  
TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES  
Greenville, South Carolina

**Schaun Henry**

MCNEES & WALLACE  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**John Hutchings**

CORNWALL STODART  
Melbourne, Australia

**Candace Bankovich**

LEWIS WAGNER, LLP  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**Lora Stylianou**

LC LAW STYLIANOU & DRAKOU LLC  
Nicosia, Cyprus

11:05 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.

## BREAK



*We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now.*

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*



*I know that, like every woman of the people, I have more strength than I appear to have.*

*Eva Perón*

11:25 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 2**

**TRACK ONE:**

**Corporate Welfare or Corporate Leadership?**

**HOW COMPANIES GROW THEIR COMMUNITIES WHILE EARNING MILLIONS IN COST SAVINGS**

Economic growth, public private partnerships, government subsidies, private sector leadership, and Job Tax Credits. These are areas where states, municipalities, corporations, and their legal representatives are now focusing their attention. This is the competitive space of economic development, with opponents calling it corporate welfare and proponents calling it corporate leadership. One thing is certain, millions of dollars are in play. Cities survive on company locations, on livability and on CEOs themselves to share the strategies and implementation work load. Learn from actual company case studies, from those in the trenches of deals to grow their headquarters and other major facilities, learn about how the interaction of financial incentives and CEO leadership can produce great results in redeveloping and growing cities and provide millions in capX savings.

**James McGraw**

*Moderator*  
KEATING MUETHING & KLEKAMP PLL  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**Stephen Ewald**

*General Counsel*  
MEDPAGE, INC.  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**Paul Ritter**

*Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer*  
CTI CLINICAL TRIAL & CONSULTING SERVICES  
Covington, Kentucky

**Matthew Necci**

HALLORAN & SAGE LLP  
Hartford, Connecticut

**TRACK TWO:**

**Hamilton—A Hip Hop Lesson in Old School Communication**

Hamilton, An American Musical, has taken America by storm, wowing audiences across the county. It has garnered praise from all corners of society, largely due to its ability to touch and connect with people from all walks of life, across gender, race and socioeconomic lines. This presentation will weave the fundamental themes of the award-winning musical into an analysis of trends in communication. Communication can and does take many forms, but effective communication is most often found when personal connections can be made in the message. The rise and almost ubiquity of electronics has brought with it a certain level of loneliness and isolation. As employers and business leaders, we are well served to see the personal connection having an increased value in the coming years. The presentation will provide real life perspective on how to connect with employees, clients and customers in a meaningful way that will endure the next wave of innovation. For the folks in the 'room where it happens', you will have a take away that is tangible, thought provoking, and uplifting.

**Mackenzie Monaco**

*Moderator*  
CARTER CONBOY  
Albany, New York

**Todd Fulks**

*Associate General Counsel*  
CLAYTON HOMES  
Knoxville, Tennessee

**Sheryl Garland**

*Vice President, Senior Counsel*  
NORDSTROM  
Seattle, Washington

**Brian Johnson**

NILAN JOHNSON LEWIS PA  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**TRACK THREE:**

**I Want to Go the Extra Mile . . . But if I Give an Inch?**

Everyone knows that our products should not harm others and that if we warrant their performance we are obligated to comply with our warranty. However, companies may want to go beyond those obligations and do more for the environment. Sometimes those voluntary efforts turn into mandatory programs. With a change in administrations in Washington, many states are taking a more active role in environmental issues. How can you better recognize these developments sooner than later? What do you do when the government suddenly mandates something? Is it better to develop programs to be ahead of the curve, or do you wait and be reactive? With federalism concerns, how do you comply with different states' legislation when you sell products all over the country and the world?

**Bob deRosset**

*Moderator*  
YOUNG MOORE & HENDERSON  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**Rick Hooper**

*Chief Counsel*  
SHAW INDUSTRIES  
Dalton, Georgia

**Kelvin Sellers**

*General Counsel & Director of Internal Audit*  
INTERSTATE BATTERIES  
Dallas, Texas

**Pijan Wu**

LCS & PARTNERS  
Taipei, Taiwan

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**DINER EN BLANC**  
Cocktails and Dinner Buffet  
Sunset Lawn

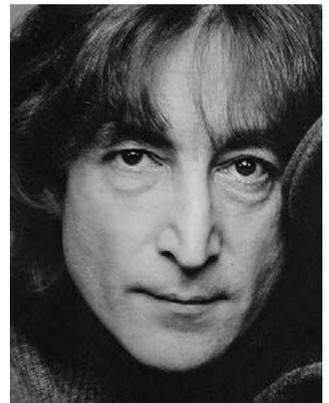
Tonight's dinner is inspired by the famed French Diner en Blanc events. Come dressed in white and come together for this unique display of elegance and glamour.

**DRESS CODE:** This is the dressiest night of the conference and we encourage you to dress in chic, white attire to fit the theme of our dinner—Khaki pants & touches of color are welcome, too. We are on a grassy lawn, so flat shoes are recommended.



10:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

**Hospitality Suite**  
Fairmont Gold Meeting Room



*All we are saying is give peace a chance.*

*John Lennon*

12:25 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**LUNCH BUFFET**

Palomino Plaza East

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**Optional Activities**

See activities sheet

1:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Hospitality Suite**

Fairmont Gold Meeting Room

## SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2017

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

### BREAKFAST BUFFET

Palomino Plaza East

Attendees: 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  
Spouses: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

### PROGRAM SESSIONS

Palomino Ballrooms



*If you're going through hell, keep going.*

Winston Churchill



*Each person must live their life as a model for others.*

Rosa Parks

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 3

#### TRACK ONE:

#### From Climate Change, Condemnations, and Fracking to Inspiration, Optimism, and Improvement

The energy sector has faced numerous legal and public relations challenges over the last several years. The industry has learned from these challenges and improved its technology, social engagement, and corporate awareness to address these issues. The panel will discuss how international regulation, including climate change treaties and corresponding obligations, eminent domain acquisitions, and hydraulic fracturing presented challenges that ultimately resulted in industry improvement and growth.

##### Kandice Hull

Moderator  
MCNEES WALLACE & NURICK LLC  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

##### Curtis Stambaugh

Assistant General Counsel, Litigation  
ENERGY TRANSFER PARTNERS  
Dallas, Texas

##### Drew Bassak

MANATT, PHELPS & PHILLIPS, LLP  
San Francisco, California

##### Alejandro Rodriguez Castro

ARALAW ABOGADOS  
San Jose, Costa Rica

##### Deana LeFevre

Lead Counsel  
MARATHON OIL CORPORATION  
Houston, Texas

#### TRACK TWO:

#### Leadership 2.0. Who is Leading the Pack? And Who will Lead the Pack?

Every organization requires leaders, both within corporate legal departments and private law firms. In 2018, we are in a transition period with Baby Boomers stepping aside, Millennials moving in and Generation X stuck in the middle. But what makes a strong leader? Are leaders born? Or are they trained? In today's rapid-paced, technology-driven society, how can leaders be effective? Drawing from the experience of this diverse panel, this program will detail best practices for those currently leading, and those about to step into leadership roles.

##### Michael Gibson

Moderator  
HIGGS FLETCHER & MACK, LLP  
San Diego, California

##### Catherine MacInnis

Senior Legal Counsel  
IBI GROUP  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

##### Raymond Alletto

Former Vice President – Risk Management  
UNITED RENTALS, INC.  
Principal  
ALLETTO RISK CONSULTING, LLC  
Southlake, Texas

##### Tara N. K. Cross

GIBSON MCASKILL & CROSBY, LLP  
Buffalo, New York

#### TRACK THREE:

#### Beyond the Ropes Course: Fostering (Truly) Collaborative Relationships in a Competitive Market

The competitive and pressure filled environment of today's legal market requires new ways of approaching old tasks. Maximizing efficiency and value is demanded. In order to succeed, legal teams inside and outside a company must find new ways to work together to meet these high demand. Relying on industry research and personal experiences, this panel will explore best practices for building the right team for the right project and fostering truly collaborative relationships that will get the desired results.

##### Ashley Kisner

Moderator  
STRASBURGER & PRICE  
Dallas, Texas

##### Tamara De Wild

Associate General Counsel and Director of Legal Services  
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE  
Springfield, Missouri

##### Eric Cotton

Deputy General Counsel & Corp. Compliance Officer  
DDR CORP.  
Beachwood, Ohio

##### John Osgathorpe

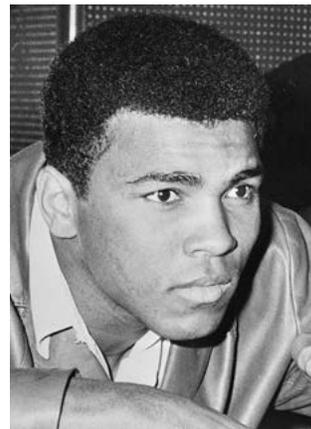
TAYLOR DAY  
Jacksonville, Florida

##### Catherine Huff

ENTRY LOCKE  
Roanoke, Virginia

9:30 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

### BREAK



*Impossible is potential.  
Impossible is temporary.  
Impossible is nothing.*

Muhammad Ali

9:50 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 4**

**TRACK ONE:**

**Getting Ready for the “Brave New World” of Privacy Protection**

Gabriel Garcia Marquez presciently observed that “everyone has three lives—a public life, a private life, and a secret life.” Throughout the world in its governments, courtrooms and boardrooms, increasingly the notion of “privacy” is no longer about a person’s simple desire to be left alone, but a recognized and fundamental legal right. Of course, with rights come obligations – and remedies. The latest comprehensive effort to develop best practices in privacy protection is the 2018 rollout of the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”). Its ambitious framework seeks to “harmonize data privacy laws across Europe, to protect and empower all EU citizens data privacy, and to reshape the way organizations across the region approach data privacy.” All companies with business and customers tied to Europe will be profoundly impacted. We would like you to join our international panel in a spirited discussion of the GDPR’s provisions, its pros and cons, some practicalities and challenges, and what lies ahead. Are you ready?

**Sara Henriques**

*Moderator*  
SPS LAW FIRM  
Lisbon, Portugal

**Patricia Mendes**

*Head of Legal & Compliance*  
VOLKSWAGEN BANK GMBH –  
SUCURSAL EM PORTUGAL  
Lisbon, Portugal

**Erica Brown**

*Senior Counsel, Labor, Employment, Privacy & Compliance*  
DAWN FOODS  
Jackson, Michigan

**Mario Di Stefano**

DSM AVOCATS A LA COUR  
Luxembourg, Luxembourg

**TRACK TWO:**

**The Business Case for Mentoring**

While “mentoring” is a term often used, the creation of meaningful mentoring relationships and programs is a true art form that when effectively implemented, yields significant gains for both the mentoring pair and the firm/company investing in such resources. This presentation educates attendees about mentoring nuances that make a critical difference in the success of the relationship, including: mentoring pair creation and relationship length; insightful pair communications; worthwhile mentoring meetings; vibrant mentoring program content and activities; mentorship v. sponsorship; reverse mentoring; the power of mentoring; and mentoring’s positive impact on business, including increased productivity, diversity, morale and retention.

**Melanie Griffin**

*Moderator*  
DEAN MEAD  
Orlando, Florida

**Jason Brown**

*General Counsel - Americas*  
DYSON  
Chicago, Illinois

**Denise Dyer**

*Litigation Manager*  
PHILLIPS EDISON & COMPANY  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**Kim Metrick**

*Managing Counsel/ Director, Employment Law*  
WALGREEN CO.  
Deerfield, Illinois

**Kim Campion**

CHARLES RUSSELL SPEECHLYS  
Paris, France

**TRACK THREE:**

**Shareholder Activists—Barbarians or Benefactors?**

Much has been written about shareholder activism in the popular, business and legal media. The title of the session plays on the book “Barbarians at the Gate”, the book about the 1989 LBO fight for RJR Nabisco in which KKR was involved. One current perspective is that shareholder activists are the new barbarians who are only interested in short term, quick financial gains. The opposing view is that some companies are run badly and not in shareholder best interests and the activists shake up complacent boards of directors and drive value for shareholders. In light of increasing and aggressive shareholder activists, how do boards respond? Do they lock the gates and man the ramparts or do they engage with activists to discuss whether the company’s performance can be improved?

**Brett Cowell**

*Moderator*  
COWELL CLARKE  
Adelaide, Australia

**Robert Munden**

*Executive Vice President, CFO, General Counsel & Secretary*  
HARTE HANKS  
San Antonio, Texas

**Rich Wolfson**

*Senior Vice President*  
CRACKER BARREL OLD  
COUNTRY STORE  
Franklin, Tennessee

**David Marshall**

*VP & Associate GC, Litigation, Dispute Resolution and Risk Management*  
ILG, INC.  
Miami, Florida

**Ignacio López-Balcells**

BUIGAS  
Barcelona, Spain

11:10 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

**PLENARY SESSION**

**Choosing Resilience**

Resilience allows people and organization to move forward when things don’t go as planned. This panel will discuss what resilience means to the individual, to the corporate law department, and to the company. The panel will discuss the value of resilience and provide tips on how individuals and companies can anticipate and weather major setbacks. In addition, the panel will discuss pursuing passions outside of work may be the greatest source of resilience both for the individual and their employer.

**Elaine Moss**

*Moderator*  
BROWN & JAMES, LLP  
St. Louis, Missouri

**Larry Parsons**

*Vice President & General Counsel*  
MCLANE COMPANY, INC.  
Temple, Texas

**Ethan Ruby**

*Chairman, CEO*  
THERAPLANT, LLC  
Watertown, Connecticut

**Melanie Cheairs**

LORANCE & THOMPSON  
Houston, Texas

**Joe Fortner**

HALLORAN & SAGE, LLP  
Hartford, Connecticut

12:10 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**



*Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood.*

Helen Keller

10:50 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

**BREAK**



*Be the change that you wish to see in the world.*

Mahatma Gandhi



*In spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart.*

Anne Frank

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**LUNCH BUFFET**

Palomino Plaza East

1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Golf – Casual Play**

Shotgun Start—Lunch on the carts.

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**Optional Activities**

See activities sheet.

1:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Hospitality Suite**

Fairmont Gold Meeting Room

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Meet the Internationals Wine Tasting**

Canyon Lawn

A unique opportunity to meet International attorneys and sample wines from around the world.

**Faculty Bios**

**Raymond J. Alletto** is the former Vice President, Risk Management for United Rentals, Inc. In that capacity, he was responsible for Risk Management, Claims and Litigation Management, Insurance, Risk Finance, Corporate Security and Records Management. United Rentals, Inc. is the largest equipment rental company in the world, with a rental fleet valued at approximately \$11 Billion. Mr. Alletto’s career has spanned the manufacturing, telecommunications, and pharmaceutical industries, for small and large, public and privately held companies, all with worldwide exposures. He has consulted with various companies, focusing on claims and litigation management, alternative risk financing and risk management information systems. Mr. Alletto began his risk management career in 1982 as product litigation manager for the Bridgeport Machines Division of Textron. In 1987, he joined Hubbell Incorporated, and for the next twelve years maintained worldwide responsibility for property and casualty risk exposures, risk financing and insurance, insured litigation and claims, and employee benefits

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**REFINED RANCH**



**Closing Cocktails and Buffet Dinner with Live Country Music**  
Copper Canyon

No Arizona event would be complete without a western night, so welcome to ALFA International’s “refined ranch”. Upscale, plush leather furniture and cowhide bars will transport you to a sophisticated, modern western experience as a live band plays your contemporary and classic favorites. The fare this night will be hearty so bring your appetite!

**DRESS CODE:** Jeans are encouraged this evening. We will be on sandy gravel, so please keep that in mind when choosing shoes for this night.

10:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

**Hospitality Suite**

Fairmont Gold Meeting Room

administration. In 1998, Mr. Alletto joined GTE Corporation, which merged and became Verizon in 2000. In 2002, Mr. Alletto joined Purdue Pharma, LP as Director of Risk Management, and joined United Rentals in 2005. In 2009, Mr. Alletto was named to Business Insurance’s Risk Management Honor Roll. He holds the Construction Risk Insurance Specialist designation, the Associate in Risk Management designation, and is a Certified Insurance Consultant. Ray has recently started his own consulting practice, Alletto

Risk Consulting, LLC, focused on risk management, corporate insurance, and claims/litigation management.

**Candace Bankovich** strives to be a valued business partner for each and every client. As the Chair of Lewis Wagner’s Labor and Employment Law Practice Group, Candace utilizes her experience as former General Counsel for a number of privately held and publicly traded corporations to provide the client service and practical advice that businesses seek. Candace has extensive experience providing



*It always seems impossible until it’s done.*

Nelson Mandela

proactive prevention counseling on significant employment issues such as employee discipline and termination, employment policies and practices, reductions in workforce, and union avoidance. She frequently works with clients to provide training on employment and management topics and ensures businesses are protected through the use of tailored employment, non-compete, confidentiality and independent contractor agreements when necessary. When legal action is unavoidable, Candace defends businesses of all sizes against employment-related claims, including employment discrimination, wage disputes, wrongful termination, and unfair labor practices. Candace's diverse background in business allows her to provide focused and strategic advice during federal and state agency investigations and litigation.

**Benton J. Barton** is Program Chair of the 2018 ALFA International Client Seminar. He is a trial lawyer with Hall & Evans, LLC, in Denver, Colorado. Benton is one of his firm's managing partners, defends complex litigation involving professionals, premises and products, and heads his firm's Construction & Design Practice Group. As counsel for leading design firms and insurers connected to the construction industry, Benton has been privileged to work on landmark cases of the highest complexity throughout the Rocky Mountains. He has also authored timely articles and presented seminar topics on design, construction, mediation and catastrophic litigation. Benton has been honored repeatedly by Colorado Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers in America for design and construction law, professional liability and arbitration, and he serves on the American Arbitration Association's National Panel of Construction Law Arbitrators. Benton is past chair of the ALFA International Construction Practice Group, and since 2015 has served on ALFA International's Board of Directors. Benton grew up in San Antonio and earned his law degree from the University of Texas.

**Andrew A. Bassak** is a trial practice and litigation partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, a California based national law and consulting firm. Mr. Bassak's business trial and litigation practice focuses on efficient, results-oriented resolution of multi-faceted commercial disputes in federal and state courts, and in arbitration, where he often litigates or negotiates workouts of failed transactions across a broad spectrum of client business sectors, including international cross-border disputes. His clients are leaders in their respective industries, including

energy, real estate, water, financial services, and both old-world and new-world technology companies. He is highly skilled in the resolution of complex real estate disputes on behalf of owners, developers, equity investors, and financiers. Mr. Bassak regularly resolves concerns of state and federal agencies for his clients, including assisting them in navigating the resolution of environmental liabilities. Mr. Bassak is a graduate of Santa Clara University, School of Law (1992 JD -Senior Articles Editor, Santa Clara Law Review) and the University of Wisconsin (1988 - B.S., Sociology, with distinction) where he was a member of National Championship Men's Rowing Teams. He is the immediate past President of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers and currently serves as Chairman of the Board of California Trout, a nonprofit working to solve complex resource issues while balancing the needs of wild fish and people. Mr. Bassak has been honored with California Lawyer Magazine's California Lawyer of the Year (CLAY) Award (2010), the National Law Journal's Pro Bono Award (2010), is rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell, and has been repeatedly selected as a California Super Lawyer.

**Erica Brown** is Senior Counsel for Dawn Foods, Inc., where she leads the privacy and labor and employment legal function in addition to other responsibilities. Dawn Foods, headquartered in Jackson, Michigan, is a global bakery supplier with manufacturing and distribution facilities throughout United States, Europe, Canada and Mexico. Prior to joining Dawn, Erica served in in-house counsel and compliance roles with Kellogg's Company, McDonald's and Walmart. She clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. She is a graduate of Duke University Law school and the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill.

**Jason L. Brown** is Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary for Dyson, Inc. Brown is responsible for all legal and regulatory matters that impact the Americas Region of the British technology company known for its innovative home appliances. He leads a team handling a variety of issues involving, product safety and compliance, data privacy and security, litigation, commercial contracts and marketing claims. Prior to Dyson, Brown was Associate General Counsel with MillerCoors where he focused on marketing, sales and regulatory matters and co-led the commercial legal team for the second largest beer company in the U.S. Before entering the beer

business, Brown was the Executive Director and General Counsel for the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF) a non-profit organization committed to promoting diversity within the legal profession. Earlier in his career, Brown was Director of Legal at Pepsi Beverages Company, formerly PepsiAmericas. At Pepsi, he managed litigation, corporate compliance, marketing and sales contracts for the bottling and distribution division. He began his career in private practice in Minneapolis in the litigation group of Winthrop & Weinstine before moving to Chicago to join Ungaretti & Harris. Brown currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Illinois and Legal Prep Charter Academy, charter high school in the West Garfield Park area of Chicago. Brown also volunteers with the Posse Foundation. He earned his bachelor's degree and juris doctor from Howard University in Washington, D.C

**Kim Bush** is a licensed attorney and an Assistant Vice President at Allied World Insurance Company ("Allied World"), a global provider of insurance and reinsurance solutions. Kim works in Allied World's Farmington, Connecticut office in the Global TPA Operations Group where she is responsible for the supervision and oversight of the investigation, evaluation and resolution of claims being handled by Third Party Administrators across several lines of business including general liability, errors and omissions liability, automobile liability, employment liability, and public governmental liability. Prior to joining Allied World, Kim worked as a litigator and trial attorney in private practice at some of Connecticut's top firms practicing in the field of commercial litigation, bankruptcy, and professional and general liability insurance defense.

**Kim Campion** leads Charles Russell Speechlys' Employment team in Paris. Kim advises companies on all aspects of French employment law relating to their French operations (whether on individual or collective matters), and in particular, in connection with restructurings or M&A. He advises mostly international companies or groups of companies on all aspects of French employment law relating to their French operations (whether on individual or collective matters), and in particular, in connection with restructurings or M&A. Kim represents his clients in their in-court and out-of-court proceedings (litigation and settlement negotiations). He has recognised expertise concerning collective employment issues including negotiations with trade unions, works councils and staff representatives, definition and implementation of

collective redundancies, and negotiation of collective agreements. He assists his clients in connection with their day-to-day human resources issues, such as recruitment, employment contracts and dismissals, staff representative elections or drafting of collective agreements.

**Alejandro Rodriguez Castro** is founding partner of the ALFA International Costa Rican member firm ARA-LAW Attorneys. He has a Master in Business Law and Tax Law from University Latinoamericana de Ciencia y Tecnologia, ULACIT. Attorney Rodriguez has an extensive practice in corporations, negotiation, arbitration, contracts, business, real estate and tax matters. Since 2010, he had served as mediator and arbitrator of the Costa Rican Bar Center of Justice and the Commission on Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Judiciary Power. He was designated by the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs as Legal Counsel of the Mexican Government. Nominated in 2011 as Liberal Professional of the year by Costa Rican-American Chamber of Commerce. In addition, attorney Rodriguez was appointed as an arbitrator between the Costa Rican government and the management of the International Costa Rican airport authorities. Member and co-editor of Strategy XXI Century Law Group Project, Franklin Chang Diaz. Moreover, attorney Rodriguez founded the Costa Rican Intellectual Property Association.

**Melanie R. Cheairs** is a shareholder at the ALFA International firm of Lorange & Thompson P.C. Her Litigation and Trial practice focuses on the Hospitality and Transportation Industries where she represents a broad array of Regional and National Hotel and Restaurant Chains, and Transportation Companies in their liability and employment matters. Melanie was recently awarded the prestigious ALFA International, Nate Fishbach Attorney of the Year Award, for outstanding service to the ALFA International Organization. She served a three year term on the ALFA Board of Directors, from 2013-2016 and currently she serves on both the ALFA International Marketing Committee, and as the Marketing Chair for the Hospitality & Retail Law Practice Group, following terms as Program and Practice Group Chair of the Hospitality Practice Group. Melanie is also active on the Steering Committees of both the Transportation and Women's Initiative Practice Group and participates in the National Association of Professional Women. Melanie is a frequent author and speaker on matters of importance to her industry clients. Melanie received her Juris Doctor in 1989 from South Texas

College of Law- Houston. She is a Fellow with the Texas Bar Foundation. Melanie received her undergraduate degree from Texas A&M University, where she was an All-American Swimmer, and was chosen to the Southwest Conference Women's All-Decade Team. As an avid Aggie, she served on the Board of Directors of the Texas A&M Women Former Student's Network, and was WFSN President in 2012. Melanie currently serves as President of the Advisory Board of Youth For Christ- Houston. She serves on the National Board of United Methodist Action Reach-Out Mission by Youth-(UM ARMY), and is the Director for Kingwood United Methodist Church, UM ARMY Youth Camp.

**Eric C. Cotton** serves as deputy general counsel & corporate compliance officer for DDR Corp., a publicly traded real estate investment trust based in Cleveland, Ohio, where he oversees the company's litigation, risk management and compliance matters and provides legal support for its operations. Eric was previously general counsel for Equivest Finance, Inc., a publicly traded real estate development and finance business based in Syracuse, New York. He has also held positions in the legal departments of the Pyramid Companies and the Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation.

**Brett M. Cowell** is a founding partner and the chairman of the Adelaide, Australia ALFA International law firm of Cowell Clarke. He heads the Corporate practice group of Cowell Clarke. Mr. Cowell advises the firm's corporate and business clients on corporate transactions, takeovers, mergers and acquisitions, securities market issues, capital raisings, debt and equity funding and joint ventures. In connection with these matters, he deals with banks and corporate advisors, private equity and venture capital investors, underwriters, ASX and ASIC. He consults to Board chairs and CEOs on corporate issues, including strategic issues, governance and shareholder relations, including activist matters. Clients range from large publicly listed companies to smaller, fast growing entrepreneurial businesses. Many of the transactions Mr. Cowell advises on involve high value IP assets. Mr Cowell is also a non-executive director on a number of boards.

**Tara N. K. Cross** is a trial/litigation partner at the ALFA International firm of Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP in Buffalo, New York. She devotes her practice to representing and achieving successful results for insured and self-insured clients in all areas of need including matters involving premises liability, automobile liability, product

liability and industrial construction accidents, along with matters involving contract disputes and employment disputes. In addition, she works with clients in the long-term care industry defending their interests and provides guidance on internal protocols and procedures. She is currently a lead attorney in the defense of a nursing home class action lawsuit in New York State. Ms. Cross writes and speaks on certain law related topics, including on-trend issues facing the long-term care industry. In addition to her law practice, she is active in her community volunteering with various non-profit organizations, serving on Boards and Committees, as well as coaching a local high school's mock trial team. Ms. Cross was honored in the past as one of Buffalo Business First's "Forty Under Forty." She received her undergraduate degree from the State University of New York College at Geneseo and her law degree from Syracuse University College of Law.

**Robert deRosset** practices law in the field of civil litigation with a special emphasis on construction, business, and product liability litigation. He is licensed to practice law in both North Carolina and South Carolina, and is certified by the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission to conduct mediated settlement conferences in Superior Court cases. He is an active member of the construction and products liability and complex torts practice groups of ALFA International. He holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Prior to joining Young Moore and Henderson in 2001, Robert practiced law for two years in Columbia, South Carolina and served as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer in León, Nicaragua.

**Tamara F. De Wild** is Associate General Counsel and Director of Legal Services for O'Reilly Automotive, Inc. d/b/a O'Reilly Auto Parts and its affiliated entities. O'Reilly Auto Parts (ORLY) is a retailer of aftermarket automotive parts, tools, supplies, equipment, and accessories based in Springfield, Missouri. At O'Reilly, Tamara counsels Human Resources and management on labor and employment related issues including ADA, FMLA, Title VII, ADEA, wage and hour issues, severance matters, non-compete and non-solicitation agreements, labor relations/ union avoidance, and other employment related matters; reviews and responds to complaints and charges filed with the EEOC and state agencies; coordinates with Human Resources in responding to wage claims; manages and coordinates the defense of all employment related litigation with outside counsel; manages

and coordinates the defense of unfair labor practice charges filed with the NLRB; works with Human Resources and operations representatives in the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements; and works with Human Resources and other departments in developing, implementing, and updating employment policies, procedures, and practices and training materials relating to the same. In addition, Tamara provides support to the General Counsel and Vice President of Legal Services on corporate governance issues and compliance functions. Prior to joining O'Reilly, Tamara was in private practice for 13 years, most recently at Lathrop & Gage in Springfield, Missouri. Tamara received her undergraduate degree from Drury University and her J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law. Tamara is a member of the ALFA International Client Advisory Board.

**Mario Di Stefano** is the founding and managing partner of the ALFA International Luxembourg member firm, DSM Avocats à la Cour. He is the head of the firm's Corporate/M&A, Real Estate and Employment Law departments. He specializes in complex national and international cross-border contracts and in particular M&A and real estate transactions, and is a recognized Luxembourg expert in that field. He regularly assists investment funds, family office-type private equity investors, real estate developers, banks, construction companies, architects and engineers with respect to transactions including real estate development, sale or acquisition as well as commercial and residential leases, including the tax aspects thereof. Mario also assists clients in private equity and corporate finance transactions related to real estate projects, particularly in the acquisition and sale of buildings, and complex real estate development projects in Luxembourg and abroad. He is a member of Luxembourg's American Chamber of Commerce Real Estate Committee, and served as an ALFA International board member from 2003 to 2006. Mario advises his clients, and has published in, English, French, German, Italian and Luxembourgish. He grew up in Luxembourg and received his law degree from the University of Trier in Germany. He is a member of the bars of Luxembourg and Frankfurt/ Main.

**Denise Dyer** is the Director of Lease Compliance at Phillips Edison & Company in Cincinnati, Ohio. She has worked for Phillips Edison for over 12 years. She received her Associate's degree in Paralegal Studies from the University of Cincinnati and her Bachelor's degree from Xavier University.

**Stephen Ewald** is the General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Corporate Secretary for Medpace Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: MEDP), a global clinical research organization based in Cincinnati with 2,500 employees in 42 countries. At Medpace, Mr. Ewald is responsible for all legal and compliance affairs, global human resources and global facilities. Prior to joining Medpace, Mr. Ewald worked in the financial services industry for nearly 20 years, including ten years with Bank of America where he was a Managing Director with roles including internal counsel, chief operating officer for Principal Investing and Business Support Executive for Global Markets. Mr. Ewald has also worked for Cantor Fitzgerald and the fund manager Brevet Capital Management. He is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and the UC College of Law. In addition to his roles at Medpace, Mr. Ewald is a director of LIB Therapeutics, LLC and CinRX Pharmaceuticals, both startup pharmaceutical companies based in Cincinnati, manages legal affairs and real estate development for RBM Development, LLC, and serves on the Board of Visitors for the UC College of Law.

**Joseph G. Fortner, Jr.** is a partner at Halloran & Sage and the Co-Chair of the Commercial Litigation Practice Group at the Connecticut ALFA Firm. He is the Chair of the ALFA Business Litigation Practice Group, and chaired its 2017 Seminar. He is a business litigator with experience in a wide range of business, intellectual property and related litigation matters in state and Federal courts, ranging from contractual disputes, business fraud and other commercial torts, technology-related matters, trade secret claims, trade regulation, unfair trade practices, employee termination, and product-related commercial disputes. He represents clients in trademark and trade dress, copyright, patent, cyber defamation, domain name, licensing, and other intellectual property matters, including in such segments as financial services, information technology, marketing, alternate power systems, firearms, music, and other manufacturing and services industries. Joe uses his experience to counsel clients regarding intellectual property issues and other business relationships, prosecutes trademark matters at the Patent & Trademark Office, and negotiates licenses, assignments and other intellectual property agreements. He has written and lectured on trademark and trade dress litigation, trade secrets, trademark dilution, antitrust issues, and e-commerce, including authoring the Connecticut portions of several ALFA compendiums

regarding trade secrets. He is a graduate of Duke University, and received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Law. When not practicing law, he works on his blues, jazz and country guitar skills, and performs with his wife (also an attorney) in their vocal and guitar duo, "Blind Date."

**Todd L. Fulks** is Associate General Counsel for the Clayton Homes Companies in Maryville, Tennessee. Mr. Fulks has managed litigation for over eight years for Clayton Homes, a large, multi-state company. The Company's litigation covers numerous substantive areas of law and levels of exposure. Prior to that time, Mr. Fulks worked for three years in a large, private firm and spent one year in the Office of the General Counsel for the Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville, TN. The Clayton Home Companies together make up a vertically integrated manufactured housing and modular home builder. Clayton Homes has helped people buy manufactured homes since 1934, building more than 1.5 million homes and winning multiple awards for design and construction. The Clayton Homes Companies build, sell, finance, lease and insure manufactured and modular homes as well as relocatable commercial and educational buildings. Clayton has over 12,000 team members, 38 home building facilities and more than 1,000 company-owned and independent home centers. Through its financial services operations, Clayton Homes also finances more than 325,000 customers and insures 160,000 families. Clayton Homes also owns and operates 18 subdivisions. In 2003, Warren Buffett and Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. acquired Clayton Homes.

**Sheryl Garland** is Vice President and Senior Counsel in the Risk Management Department at Nordstrom, Inc. one of the nation's leading fashion specialty retailers with 225 stores in 29 states. Nordstrom is self-insured and self-administered and Sheryl is responsible for managing claims and litigation on all lines of business including employment, premise, intellectual property and general business and commercial litigation. Sheryl also chairs the National Retail Federation's Committee on Employment Law. Prior to moving in house, Sheryl was one of Nordstrom's outside litigation attorneys. She also worked on the sales floor at Nordstrom for over 8 years.

**Sandro Garofalo** is Director and Labor Relations Counsel for Target Corporation. In that role, Sandro provides strategic guidance and employee and labor relations support to senior leadership on a wide range

of corporate initiatives. Sandro is also responsible for overseeing the prevention and management of employment litigation across the supply chain organization. Prior to joining Target, Sandro was a shareholder at Littler Mendelson, where he concentrated his practice on traditional labor law matters as well as litigation of a broad array of employment law claims before state and federal courts in California, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Sandro has served as a moderator, speaker and/or panelist in dozens of CLE presentations focusing on domestic and global labor and employment law developments.

**Jill Gerdrum** is a partner at Axilon Law Group PLLC. She focuses her practice on civil litigation defense, an area where she has successfully resolved matters through trials, motions practice, appeals, administrative hearings, and settlements, working closely with her clients as well as with their insurers. Jill is the recipient of Martindale-Hubbell's "AV" rating for legal ability and ethics and a "Super Lawyer" in civil litigation defense. She is a member of the Montana Judicial Standards Commission and a frequent contributor to publications and legal seminars regarding Montana law. Jill holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Montana and received her J.D. with High Honors from the University of Montana School of Law. Prior to becoming a lawyer, she was Montana's Deputy Commissioner of Insurance and Securities. She is admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in Montana, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

**Michael R. Gibson**, a partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, LLP, in San Diego, California, focuses his practice on advice counsel, risk management and complex commercial litigation, including business-versus-business disputes in the construction, real estate and hospitality industries. He also represents clients before state and federal administrative agencies when licensing and regulatory compliance issues are involved. A graduate of the University of Southern California and the University of San Diego School of Law, he is a frequent speaker on current legal topics and trends.

**Melanie Griffin** is an AV-rated Equity Shareholder with the Dean Mead Law Firm where she champions commercial litigation, intellectual property, and labor and employment issues for businesses and trust and probate litigation and agribusiness needs of prominent Florida families. Engrained in the community, she served as 2011-12 President of the

Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers, then the largest women lawyer's chapter in Florida that won the Chapter of the Year Award at the end of her presidency. In 2013-14, she led The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division as President of one of the nation's largest young lawyers groups with approximately 25,000 members. Her leadership led to recognition as Florida's Most Productive Young Lawyer (2009), Super Lawyers Rising Star (Business Litigation 2010-17), Florida Trend Legal Elite (Up & Comer 2010-14, Commercial Litigation 2014-17), Best Lawyer in America (Commercial Litigation 2017-18), Tampa Bay Metro Inspiring Woman in Business (2016-17), FSU Notable Nole (2016), and FSU's College of Business Recent Alumni Achievement Award (2017). This year, Melanie was appointed by the Governor to the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) where she serves as Policy Committee Chair and by ALFA to its Diversity & Inclusion Committee. Above all, Melanie's passion is mentoring. She founded Spread Your Sunshine to empower women with the confidence to break the glass ceiling and achieve their dreams. Her success effecting positive change was celebrated through her receipt of the 2016 TBBJ BusinessWoman of the Year Angie's Award, 2017 GSWCF Woman of Promise Award, and 2017 FSU Inspire Award. Melanie's mission is energizing others to spread their sunshine, allowing all to find joy and grow the best in themselves.

**Marc H. Harwell** was a member of the ALFA International Board of Directors from 2014 – 2017; was Chair of the Transportation Section of ALFA; is a member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDCC); is President of the Chattanooga Bar Association; is listed as BEST lawyer in Construction and in Insurance; in 2016 was featured in Chattanooga's CityScope Magazine as one of the top 30 influential business leaders in Chattanooga; and is a Rule 31 listed mediator in civil litigation. He is a member of Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC in Chattanooga, TN and may be reached at 423-505-5595. He has extensive experience handling complex cases involving catastrophic injuries; defending architects and engineers in construction related cases; handling employment related cases that concern non-compete agreements, allegations of discrimination, FLSA, FMLA, and retaliatory discharge; insurance coverage litigation and allegations of bad faith; products liability ranging from food products to complex industrial equipment; and premises liability. In 1986, he graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville with

Honors, and in 1989 he earned his JD from the University of Tennessee College of Law in Knoxville and was a member of the Tennessee Law Review.

**Sara Henriques** is partner at SPS Advogados, where she started her career in 2003. With an outstanding ability of customer care, and her dynamic spirit of engagement with the client, she advises mostly in the Commercial Law and Data Protection areas. Sara has acted increasingly in the personal data protection area, providing legal assistance to a variety of companies, namely in the health, retail and financial sectors. During 2017, her main projects are relative to GDPR assessment. She has also accumulated experience in merger & acquisitions and corporate & commercial transactions in different areas such as the food industry, health sector and automotive industry. Sara has a law degree from the University of Lisbon Law School, a post-graduate degree in Commercial Law from the University of Coimbra Law School, a post-graduate degree in Consumer Law from the University of Lisbon Law School and recently achieved a Certification for Data Protection Officer (DPO) from the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), Maastricht, one of the few certifications for this area existing in Portugal.

**Schaun Henry** practices in the Labor & Employment Group at McNeese Wallace & Nurick LLC, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He provides representation and counseling to employers on a wide range of labor and employment matters, including employment discrimination cases under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, and other federal, state and local issues. Schaun provides guidance for employers on unfair labor practices and other labor relations issues, as well as providing representation for employers at labor arbitrations and negotiations. He advises employers on a wide variety of personnel issues including hiring, termination and revision of policies. Schaun graduated from West Chester University and received his law degree from Dickinson School of Law. Before undertaking the practice of law, Schaun served in the Armed Forces. He is a retired Major of U.S. Army Special Forces.

**Rick Hooper** is Chief Counsel for Shaw Industries Group, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., that supplies carpet, resilient, hardwood, laminate, tile and stone flooring products

and synthetic turf to residential and commercial markets worldwide. At Shaw, Rick directs the legal and corporate compliance departments located at the corporate headquarters in Dalton, Georgia. He has been with the company for 24 years and became its chief legal officer soon after the company was acquired by Berkshire Hathaway in 2001. Rick earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia and a law degree from the Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University. Prior to joining Shaw, Rick worked in private legal practice, representing businesses and individuals in general business law and litigation in state and federal courts. He continues to be involved in his local community in various roles, one of which was as chair of the Dalton/Whitfield County Archway Partnership with the University System of Georgia. At the state level he chairs the Georgia Association of Manufacturer's Legislative and Public Policy Committee and nationally is the chair of the Carpet and Rug Institute's Extended Producer Responsibility Panel. In 2012, he was appointed by Georgia Governor Nathan Deal to serve on the Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits.

**Catherine J. Huff** is a Partner in the Roanoke, Virginia ALFA International law firm of Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP. Her practice focuses on labor and employment, professional liability and workers' compensation. She also advises businesses in the restaurant and hospitality industry on employment matters. Cate has tried a number of cases in both state and federal trial courts and has extensive experience with motions practice. Cate regularly speaks and conducts training on a variety of employment and workers' compensation issues in and outside of Virginia. She received her bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech and her J.D. from Liberty University.

**Kandice Kerwin Hull** is a Member in McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC's Litigation Group and is the chairperson of the firm's ALFA Committee. She focuses her practice on the representation of corporate clients in business litigation, handling both federal and state claims. She has represented businesses in cases involving contract disputes, eminent domain, land use matters, and property rights claims, among others. In addition to her work in the trial courts, she also handles appellate litigation matters before the Pennsylvania State and Federal appellate courts and is the co-chair of her firm's Appellate & Post Trial Practice Group. Kandice is also a member of McNees' Ethics Committee. Kandice

is a 2000 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, and a summa cum laude graduate of Franklin and Marshall College. She has been honored as one of the Best Lawyers in America in the field of Appellate Law since 2010.

**John Hutchings** is chairman of partners and partner in the Corporate & Commercial group at the Melbourne, Australia ALFA International firm, Cornwall Stodart. He is an expert in mergers and acquisitions, corporate advice (including governance), general commercial documentation (including loan facilities and associated securities, terms of supply and terms of credit) and has a particular interest in the crossborder aspects of investment and trade.

**Brian N. Johnson** is a founding shareholder of the ALFA International Minneapolis law firm of Nilan Johnson Lewis PA, where he has defended product liability cases since 1981. He is national trial counsel for a gas appliance manufacturer, and national trial counsel for a power sports manufacturer. He has tried 50 jury cases to verdict on wide-ranging products including presses, saws, electrical appliances, gas appliances, bicycles, motorcycles, power sports vehicles and more. Mr. Johnson is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) and a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). He has been a Certified Civil Trial Specialist in Minnesota since 1988. He has been recognized by his peers as a Minnesota Super Lawyer annually since 1994.

**Ashley T. Kisner** of the ALFA International law firm Strasburger & Price, LLP in Dallas represents clients in commercial litigation matters with an emphasis on business disputes and business torts, environmental issues, and real estate cases. She appears regularly in State and Federal Courts including experience in multi-district class actions and multi-party litigation. Ashley provides counseling on a variety of environmental and real estate issues. Her significant experience with e-discovery in complex litigation makes Ashley a skilled advocate when advising clients on document management issues. Ashley has broad experience representing retail gasoline clients in all aspects the industry. Ashley also counsels retail clients in lease disputes and other real estate litigation, and advises a variety of clients in post-transaction disputes related to potential liability for environmental clean-up costs. Ashley supports the firm's Tax and Estate Practice Group when probate and fiduciary matters call for an experienced

litigator. She serves as Chair of the firm's Associate Development Committee and co-leads the firm's Retail Industry Team.

**Helen Konrad** is a director in the Immigration Practice group of McCandlish Holton, P.C. in Richmond, Virginia. She concentrates her practice on employment-based and professional immigration. Helen has guided numerous clients through I-9 and Department of Labor and Office of Special Counsel audits and investigations. She provides comprehensive I-9 and E-Verify training to HR professionals. She also publishes immigration updates for national trade organizations on I-9 compliance and E-Verify and provides critical expertise in this complex area. She has spoken, by invitation, at regional and national meetings of the American Staffing Association (ASA), National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA) and the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) and to numerous other national organizations on immigration issues significant to business communities and employers. She is an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

**Deana LeFevre** is Lead Counsel at Marathon Oil Company, headquartered in Houston, Texas, and has extensive commercial, transaction, compliance, complex negotiations, and litigation experience in the Lower 48, Alaska, and Canada. She is also experienced in various aspects of oil & gas operations from the wellhead to the consumer, including the upstream exploration and production business; the midstream pipelines/processing facilities/marketing business; downstream refining/marketing/retail operations; industrial, commercial, residential and retail sales; natural gas public utility; and regulatory work. She manages litigation and a cross-functional legal team. She is the project leader for major cross-organizational commercial, business, and legal matters.

**Ignacio Lopez-Balcells** is founder and partner of the ALFA International Spanish member firm, Buigas. He specializes in directing complex transactions, in particular mergers and acquisitions, alliances and associations, designing and carrying out floats on the stock exchange, financial restructurings, and reorganizing corporate groups. He is a legal advisor to several national and foreign companies, both private and quoted, which he counsels on an ongoing basis on making strategic decisions, drawing on his knowledge on legal and tax consultancy and his extensive business experience. He is a member of the boards of directors of several companies across

a range of sectors of the economy, and serves as secretary of the board in several companies. Education: Central University of Barcelona (Law Faculty): Degree in Law; City of London Polytechnic (London): Degree in Business and Tax English Law and International Contract Law; Barcelona Centre of Tax studies: Degree in Tax and Financial Law.

**Catherine MacInnis** serves as Senior Legal Counsel for IBI Group. She has made a career of providing practical legal advice to international clients on a broad range of litigation matters, including professional liability and securities matters. Catherine is accountable for managing IBI Group's dispute portfolio worldwide. Prior to joining IBI Group, Catherine practiced law at a leading full service law firm, and a prominent securities litigation boutique in Toronto, Canada. She received her undergraduate degree in history and economics from McGill University, her law degree from Queen's University, and was called to the Ontario Bar in 2007.

**David D. Marshall** is the Vice President & Associate General Counsel of ILG, Inc. based in Miami, Florida. In this role he oversees the legal aspects of all of ILG's litigation, dispute resolution and risk management matters. ILG has over 10,000 employees and is a \$3+ billion leader in the U.S. and international timeshare development, management and exchange industry. Prior to his time at ILG, David was the senior legal and risk management leader for a privately held 900+ unit restaurant operator and before that he worked in a similar litigation and risk management capacity at Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide for almost 12 years. David has practiced law for over 25 years in a number of in-house and law firm settings, and has led aspects of M&A due diligence exercises in both those contexts.

**Justin H. McCarthy II** is Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and Assistant Secretary at DENTSPLY SIRONA Inc., the world's largest professional dental products company. Mr. McCarthy leads the company's global commercial, intellectual property, regulatory, and compliance legal teams. Before the recent formation of DENTSPLY SIRONA Inc., Mr. McCarthy was General Counsel and Secretary for DENTSPLY International Inc. He received a B.A. in economics from Franklin & Marshall College, and his J.D. from Villanova University.

**James J. McGraw, Jr.** is the President and Chief Executive Officer of KMK Consulting. Jim is also a Corporate Partner of Keating Muething & Klekamp

PLL, the parent of KMK Consulting. His background is centered in business development, public utilities, insurance, and not-for-profit organizations. Jim's clients include national and international firms in the areas of real estate, financial services, manufacturing, energy, healthcare, and technology. He has been actively involved in business and related client consulting for over 35 years. Jim is a nationally recognized consultant in the area of economic development. He has worked in more than 100 cities and regions across the U.S., helping companies and business leaders structure and finance some of the country's leading economic development projects. Jim has met with more than 3,000 CEOs and senior executives in the course of his work and also has directed funding initiatives for clients totaling in excess of \$1 Billion. Currently, Jim is leading site selection incentive negotiation projects for various public and private companies, which encompass 4,600 jobs in nine states and more than \$640 Million of capital investment. Jim has been voted into the *Best Lawyers in America* for Corporate Law and for Economic Development, and also has been recognized through his peers by Ohio Super Lawyers. Jim holds an accounting degree from The University of Notre Dame and a law degree from The University of Akron.

**Patricia Mendes** has a law degree and post-graduate degree in Corporate Law and Tax Law. She has been the Head of Legal and Compliance at Volkswagen Financial Services since 2011. Before Volkswagen, she was the Head of Legal Services at ALD Automotive and CrediAgora, the operational leasing and fleet management business line of Societe Generale Group. She has significant experience in banking, consumer data protection and insurance intermediation laws and in compliance matters, including the prevention of money laundering. Patricia manages a team of nine people dedicated to legal, compliance and collections and has experience as a Project Manager and as a Strategy Officer.

**Kim Metrick** is Director and Managing Counsel of Walgreens' Employment Law Group. Walgreens is one of the nation's largest drugstore chains and included in the Retail Pharmacy USA Division of Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc., the first global pharmacy-led health and well-being enterprise. Kim joined Walgreens in 1995 as a Senior Employment Attorney and was promoted to Director and Managing Counsel in 2003. In her current role, Kim leads a team of attorneys and legal professionals to successfully defend and

resolve nationwide class and collective actions and other employment, wage and hour litigation, web accessibility and regulatory matters. Prior to joining Walgreens, Kim was an associate at Ross and Hardies (now McGuire Woods). Kim earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a Juris Doctorate from Chicago-Kent College of Law. Kim is a 2015 and 2016 recipient of the First Chair Top Employment Counsel Award. She is Vice President of the Coalition of Women's Initiatives In Law and currently serves on their Executive Board.

**Mackenzie C. Monaco** is a Director in the Albany, New York ALFA law firm of Carter Conboy. She is a litigator representing individuals, businesses and professionals in the fields of personal and premises liability, professional liability, product liability, construction law, and environmental law. She has achieved successful results for her clients at the trial and appellate levels and has extensive experience in motion practice. Ms. Monaco is a cum laude graduate of St. Lawrence University and a summa cum laude graduate of Albany Law School. She is an appointed member of the Committee on Character and Fitness for the New York State Supreme Court for the Third Judicial District, is the Vice-President of the Capital District Trial Lawyers Association, and is a frequent speaker on topics related to the defense of civil litigation matters.

**Elaine Moss** is counsel to the ALFA International law firm of Brown & James, P.C., headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri. She focuses her practice on insurance coverage and complex insurance litigation, including large scale construction disputes. She frequently writes and speaks on issues coverage related topics. She also enjoys working with small startup companies in developing policy, procedures and contract templates. She was responsible for creating a comprehensive litigation training program for her firm and she is one of the founders of the firm's Fifth Friday Women's Initiative. She is actively involved in efforts to increase diversity in the legal profession with a particular focus on increasing the presence and profile of women attorneys. She received both her undergraduate and law school degrees from the University of Arkansas – Little Rock. She began her legal career in Los Angeles working for a predecessor to Reed Smith. She is Marketing Chair for ALFA International's Insurance Law Practice Group and Construction Law Practice Group, serves on the ALFA International

Marketing Committee and was recently elected to the ALFA International Board of Directors.

**Robert L. R. Munden** has served for over seven years as EVP, General Counsel & Secretary of Harte Hanks, a global marketing services firm specializing in multi-channel marketing solutions. At Harte Hanks Robert has devoted most of his time to corporate and governance activities, including M&A, debt financing, board and strategic counseling, executive leadership (including as interim Chief Financial Officer), stockholder matters, executive compensation, SEC and NYSE matters, and related litigation. Prior to Harte Hanks, Robert worked for Safeguard Scientifics (a growth technology investor), Taylor Nelson Sofres (a custom market research firm) and Naviant (a database marketing start-up). Robert started his legal career doing venture capital, start-up and M&A work at Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison in Austin. Robert is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

**Matthew Necci** is the chair of the Workers' Compensation Practice Group at the ALFA International firm of Halloran & Sage LLP, providing representation for clients in workers' compensation, longshore, subrogation and general liability claims. He has considerable appellate experience, defending clients before the Compensation Review Board of the Connecticut Workers' Compensation Commission, the Appellate Court of Connecticut and the Supreme Court of Connecticut. Matthew was listed as a "Rising Star" in the 2013 - 2016 editions of Super Lawyers® in the areas of Workers Compensation, State, Local and Municipal Law and General Litigation. He was also chosen as a member of the 2014 class for the Connecticut Law Tribune's New Leaders in the Law. The CLT selects Connecticut attorneys that display qualities in the areas of firm leadership, casework, publications and pro bono work. Most recently, he was named one of Hartford Business Journal's "40 Under Forty," an award that recognizes outstanding young professionals in the Greater Hartford area that are excelling in their industries through their leadership roles. In addition to his legal work, Matthew is an active member of the Connecticut Bar Association, previously serving as Chair of the Young Lawyers Section, and is a former member of the Board of Editors for Compensation Quarterly, a publication of the Workers' Compensation Section. Matthew is an active member of ALFA International, and serves on the steering committee for its workers' compensation practice

group. Matthew currently serves on the Board of Directors for Special Olympics Connecticut and for Leadership Greater Hartford. He is a member of the Executive Committee for Hartford Hospital's Young Leaders Advisory Council as well as a member of Hartford Hospital's Board of Corporators. He also serves on the Board of Corporators for the iQuilt Plan, a culture-based urban design plan for Downtown Hartford that seeks to create a more walkable, sustainable, and welcoming downtown, while improving the city's cultural network and creating a stronger economy and workforce.

**Tamara K. Nelson** is a shareholder in the firm of Merrick, Hofstedt & Lindsey, P.S. in Seattle, Washington, where she maintains an active litigation practice on behalf of corporate and institutional clients. Her practice focuses on commercial and complex torts, employment law, and professional liability. Ms. Nelson has obtained successful outcomes on behalf of her clients in state and federal trial courts, and has successfully argued before the Washington State Court of Appeals. Ms. Nelson is admitted to practice in all Washington state and federal courts, as well as the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; she is also a member of the King County Bar Association where she served on the Board of Trustees 2011-2014. In addition to her work, Ms. Nelson devotes substantial time to her community through her volunteer work with King County Community Legal Services and Lawyers Helping Hungry children, a Washington non-profit organization committed to ending childhood hunger.

**John D. Osgathorpe** is a Shareholder with Taylor Day and currently serves as its President and Managing Partner. In his practice John protects the interests of companies, management teams, and business owners in a diverse array of commercial and torts disputes. He litigates in state and federal courts as well as before arbitrators in Florida. His general areas of experience include breach of contract claims, shareholder disputes, corporate governance disputes, joint ventures disputes, agency disputes, engineer and architect professional negligence, construction defects litigation, real property disputes and real property title claims, deceptive and unfair practices claims, fraud, civil theft, usurping corporate opportunities, defamation, breach of fiduciary duties, conspiracy, trucking accidents and goods-in-transit disputes, as well as premises liability. He is admitted to the Bar in Florida and Illinois (inactive). John graduated from Indiana University with a degree in Economics and from Indiana

University School of Law- Indianapolis. He currently serves ALFA International as a member of its Board of Directors and as its Treasurer, and is one of Taylor Day's Contact Partner with ALFA International.

**Christopher A. Page** is a partner at Young, Moore and Henderson, ALFA International's Raleigh, North Carolina member, where he is the leader of its Retail/ Hospitality industry group. Chris is an experienced trial attorney, with special emphasis representation of clients in the Hospitality and Retail industries, where he represents a number of national clients with all of their legal needs, including claims relating to employment, business disputes, trademark infringement, false advertising, premises accidents, food-borne illnesses, Dram Shop, and construction defects. After graduating summa cum laude from Duke University, Chris earned his law degree from the Yale Law School where he served as Senior Editor for the Yale Law Journal. Chris is the Chairman of ALFA International's Hospitality & Retail Practice Group, and is the former Chairman of ALFA's Marketing Committee. Chris is a frequent speaker at ALFA seminars, and has created presentations on litigation and management topics including Managing Millennials, Work-Life Balance, Reptile Theory, non-compete agreements, using social media evidence to win lawsuits, and an employer's guide to dealing with social media use by employees.

**Larry M. Parsons** currently holds the position of Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of McLane Company, Inc., a \$46 billion company providing grocery, foodservice and alcoholic beverage supply chain solutions for thousands of convenience stores, mass merchants, drug stores and restaurants throughout the United States. McLane is a supply chain services leader, delivering more than 10 billion pounds of merchandise to customers every year. Headquartered in Temple, Texas McLane has over 23,000 employees and operates distribution centers across the United States. Since 2003, McLane has operated as a wholly owned subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. Prior to joining McLane, Larry was the Vice President, Legal and Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer for Freescale Semiconductor, Inc. Before joining Freescale, Larry was Senior Director, Labor and Employment Law for Motorola, Inc. Prior to his role at Motorola, Larry practiced labor and employment law in the Austin office of Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P. and in the Dallas office of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue, L.L.P. Larry received his B.S. from Texas Christian University (cum laude, University Honors and Departmental

Honors) and his J.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Law (Order of the Coif, Law Review). Following law school he clerked for the Hon. Jerre S. Williams, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Larry is a member of the Association of Corporate Counsel (Past Chair, Council of Committees and Compliance and Ethics Committee), the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics, the Texas General Counsel Forum and is a Certified Compliance and Ethics Professional. He is a regular speaker on compliance and ethics topic and has served on the Board of Directors for several non-profit organizations.

**Paul Ritter** is the Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of CTI Clinical Trial and Consulting Services. In addition to directing all legal aspects of CTI, he leads its human resources and administrative functions, and has been integral to the global expansion of the company over the past several years. He has over 30 years of legal, business management, and industry experience. Before joining CTI, Paul was Vice President and General Counsel for Kendle International, served as Senior Corporate Counsel for Revco D.S. Inc., and began his legal career as an associate at Frost & Jacobs. Paul was instrumental in the organization and founding of the Association of Clinical Research Organizations (ACROs), the CRO industry's first trade association. He received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Dayton and earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Notre Dame. Paul has served on various boards over the years for corporate and non-profit organizations, and is currently a board member for the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport and the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. He is an active member of the Ohio and Cincinnati Bar Associations and the American Corporate Counsel Association.

**Rodolfo Rivera** is Chief International Counsel and Legal Hold Officer for Fidelity National Financial. Rivera was recruited by Fidelity in 2006 to manage its international expansion. He organized a network of attorneys in 34 countries to issue title policies. He led teams that opened operations in Mexico and the European Union. He also manages immigration matters and all litigation against Fidelity. Rivera holds degrees in Political Science and Spanish from Ohio Northern University as well as a law degree from St. Louis University School of Law, where he was Assistant Managing Editor of the Law Review. He is a sought after and regular speaker and panelist on a wide range of topics concerning Latin America, due diligence

in acquiring real estate overseas, managing international litigation, and the cultural aspects of international business. Some of his articles have been published in the ACC Docket, Lawyers Weekly, and Missouri Bar publications. Rivera was President of the ACC Real Estate Committee and Vice President of the ACC International Legal Affairs Committee. He currently serves as the ACC International Committee President and on the National Committee Board. In addition, he has organized and spoken on numerous ACC panels.

**Donna Roberts** is Associate General Counsel for Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc., which operates more than 640 restaurant/retail stores in 43 states and employs in excess of 75,000 workers. Ms. Roberts is responsible for all aspects of the company's labor & employment practice as well as its complex litigation matters. In this role, she also regularly defends the company in Tennessee-based lawsuits and employment-related arbitrations. Prior to joining Cracker Barrel, Ms. Roberts was a partner in the Nashville office of southeastern regional law firm, Stites & Harbison, PLLC, where she practiced in the areas of business litigation, employment and mass tort litigation defense.

**Marta Rodrigues** is a partner in the Corporate Law and Commercial Law practice groups of L.O. Baptista Advogados, the ALFA International member for Brazil. Her areas of practice include Corporate, Mergers and Acquisitions, Foreign Investments and Contracts. She represents clients from several industry sectors in startup and M&A projects, acting in the execution and negotiation of a number of contracts. Also acts in operations involving different types of foreign investments in the country. She worked at the New York based law firm Grant Hermmann Schwartz & Klinger from 1998 to 1999, assisting Brazilian clients in their operations in the USA. Recommended as a 'prominent lawyer' in Corporate and M&A in Latin Lawyer 250 2017. She specialized in Tax Law from Centro de Extensão Universitária, 1997, and has taken International Private and Public Law Courses from The Hague Academy of International Law, 1994. Graduated from Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo, 1993. Fluent in Portuguese and English.

**Mark Rowe** received a B.A. from Furman University and a J.D. from Mississippi College School of Law. He serves as General Counsel & Chief Compliance Officer for Techtronic Industries Power Equipment and its North American subsidiaries. TTI Power

Equipment designs, manufactures and distributes power tools, outdoor power equipment and related accessories throughout the world under a variety of well-known brand names, including but not limited to RYOBI®, RIDGID®, HOMELITE®, STOK® and HART®. He concentrates his practice on corporate and regulatory compliance, product liability and safety matters and leads the TTI Power Equipment legal department.

**Ethan Ruby** is a successful entrepreneur, philanthropist and inventor with a passion to help others and improve their quality of life. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1997, Ethan moved to New York and co-founded a successful Day Trading firm. His life changed dramatically in 2000, when while crossing a street in Manhattan, he was hit by a car. This accident nearly took his life, and left him a T6 paraplegic. Persevering through his own recovery he emerged with a mission to devote his energy to the greater good, including helping others with spinal cord injuries and other disabilities. Among other things, he co-founded Wearable Collections (which is focused on keeping clothing and shoes out of landfills while generating funds for charities), and was the President of CityStreets, a pedestrian advocacy organization. He is the inventor of a wheelchair footplate, Wheelcomfort, which provides safety and comfort to anyone who uses a wheelchair. He is actively involved in several Spinal Cord Injury research organizations, was the President of the New York City Chapter of The Buoniconti Fund to Cure Paralysis for 5 years, and founded POKER4LIFE, which has raised over \$2 million dollars for charity. As Ethan realized that traditional approaches to pain relief experienced by paraplegics were incompatible with high-level functioning, he explored alternative therapies, and his research revealed that certain strains of cannabis could relieve pain without clouding thinking or judgment. As a result, he applied his skills and experience to become a pioneer in the medical marijuana industry. By assembling a team of experienced and committed professionals, they were able to achieve the highest score in the Connecticut Medical Cannabis Application Process. Since Theraplant was born, it has helped thousands of patients suffering from debilitating conditions, and has continued to explore the efficacy of different strains for the treatment of specific medical conditions. Ethan is an experienced public speaker who regularly addresses college and graduate classes on the topics of living with spinal cord injuries, overcoming adversity, and internal motivation. Additionally, he speaks to the medical community about the medicinal benefits

of Cannabis and has directly addressed the necessity for stem cell research. He also visits primary and secondary school classrooms to educate students about living with any adversity, as well as the importance of community and charitable work. Resiliency has not only saved his life, it has fostered one of meaning and purpose.

**Gero Schneider** is head of Tiefenbacher's International Division and a core member of its employment and corporate practice. Tiefenbacher is the ALFA International member firm in Germany. Gero advises both German and international clients in all fields of employment law as well as any related corporate law issue with a particular focus on cross-border transactions. Gero has a wide range of experience in employment and corporate business matters, including litigation and arbitration, collective matters as well as cross-border transactions. Before joining Tiefenbacher as a partner in 2013 Gero practiced as General Counsel with the supermarket chain Lidl and another medium-sized law firm as a partner. Gero earned a doctor degree from Leipzig University and a Master of Comparative Law from the University of Adelaide (South Australia). He is author of many legal publications as well as lecturer with the University of Mannheim. Gero has been serving as co-chair of ALFA International's International Law Practice Group until recently.

**Kelvin Sellers** is General Counsel & Director of Audit for Interstate Batteries. In his role, Kelvin maintains oversight of the legal affairs of the company, including the provision of counsel in the areas of employment, mergers & acquisitions, corporate governance and environmental matters. Kelvin also is tasked with directing the efforts of the Company's internal audit function which assists with managing the risk associated with the Company's operations throughout the U.S. and Canada. Kelvin is a member of several professional organizations including the J.L. Turner Legal Association, the Dallas Bar Association and the American Bar Association. Kelvin is also a board member for the Dallas Chapter of the Texas General Counsel Forum where he serves as chair of the membership committee. Kelvin received his B.B.A in Accounting and his M.S. in Taxation from the University of Texas at Arlington. He practiced as a certified public accountant for several years before matriculating at Columbia Law School. After receiving his Juris Doctor, Kelvin practiced commercial litigation at Bickel & Brewer, a litigation boutique and as a tax attorney at Jones Day, both in Dallas, Texas. As a member of a military household, Kelvin has lived in a variety

of places, but is a self-proclaimed Texan having spent many years in Killeen, TX. Kelvin is married to Cheree; they have one son, Christopher.

**T. Thomas Singer** is a founding member of Axilon Law Group PLLC, the ALFA International firm in Montana. Tom represents businesses and individuals in commercial, products liability, and employment litigation. He is recognized as a "Best Lawyer" in both employment law-management and products liability defense, and as a "Super Lawyer" in business litigation. In 2016, he was named by Best Lawyers as the 2016 "Lawyer of the Year" for Billings in Product Liability Litigation – Defendants. Tom has taught and moderated dozens of presentations on trial advocacy, legal ethics, and substantive areas of law for the State Bar of Montana, the International Association of Defense Counsel, ALFA International, and other organizations. He earned his undergraduate degrees from Northwest College in Wyoming and Eastern Montana College. He received his J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School.

**Christine St. Peter** is the Manager of Claims and Litigation at REI. In that role, Christine directs litigation strategy and provides strategic consultation and guidance in the areas of litigation and claims management, liability management, risk management and product knowledge within the scope of product liability. Christine works directly with internal clients at all levels, including executive management, and with outside consultants, including lawyers, expert witnesses, insurance companies and brokers, vendors, governmental agencies, and others.

**Curt Stambaugh** is Assistant General Counsel for Energy Transfer Partners, and manages legal on major capital projects, including pipelines, processing and terminal facilities. Prior to the merger of Energy Transfer Partners and Sunoco Logistics, Curt was Assistant General Counsel for Sunoco Logistics where he also managed legal on major capital projects. Prior to his work in-house, Curt was a partner at McNees Wallace & Nurick, LLC, the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania ALFA member, where he was the Chair of the Oil and Gas Group. Curt has managed legal on over \$6 billion in capital projects.

**Edward Starmer** is the Managing Attorney for Dart Container Corporation, an industry leader in the development, manufacture, and distribution of innovative foodservice packaging solutions based in Mason, Michigan. Dart manufactures single-use cups, plates, containers, lids, and straws, including

the iconic Red Solo Cup. Dart operates in more than 40 locations throughout six countries and currently employs 16,000 people worldwide. Prior to his elevation to Managing Attorney, Edward focused his practice on labor/employment and immigration matters by managing labor and employment arbitration and litigation of all varieties, collaborating with HR and management to develop and implement strategic employment policies and procedures, and managing a portfolio of L-1A, L-1B and H-1B visa filings. Currently, Edward manages Dart's in-house legal department comprised of corporate, intellectual property, labor/employment, international, regulatory, and real estate attorneys. Edward has three sons, Cameron (9), Bennett (7) and Drew (5), with his wife Corey. In his spare time, he enjoys a host of outdoor activities with his family, coaching youth sports, and traveling.

**Lora Stylianou** is a founding member and partner of the ALFA International Cyprus member firm LC LAW STYLIANOU & DRAKOU LLC. She received her LL.B (Hons) and LL.M law degrees from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and University College London, United Kingdom. Lora specializes in corporate cross border transactions, M&A, joint ventures, flotations on the Stock Exchange, banking and finance, tax planning, advising on inbound and outbound investments and complex due diligence. Part of her practice is also immigration, trusts and estate planning. She advises both domestic and international clients and also serves on the board of directors of a number of private and public companies across a range of sectors of the economy. Lora is also an Insolvency Practitioner. She is also a litigator and a qualified mediator acting regularly for directors, shareholders and companies in corporate disputes and administrative actions. With a career spanning over two decades, she has successfully combined expertise in an array of practice areas as a litigator, a transactional lawyer and a lifelong learner. Lora serves on the Private Companies Committee, the Tax Planning and Stock Exchange Committee and the Professional and Ethics Committee of the Cyprus Bar Association.

**Yutaka (Taka) Tamada** serves as Vice President and General Counsel to Marubeni America Corporation ("MAC"). MAC is a general trading house as well as an investment company; its business lines vary from Food, Grain, Power, Lifestyle to Metal, Plant, Chemical, Forest Products, Transportation, Lease and Real Estate. Mr. Tamada is responsible for managing MAC's global legal and compliance affairs, which include mergers and acquisitions, strategic

partnerships, regulatory compliance reporting (including, SEC, CFTC, CME), litigation oversight, intellectual property and labor and employment law. MAC has some 40 subsidiaries in the U.S., and he assists their legal and compliance issues frequently. His expertise stems from over a decade of representing a wide range of corporate clients across the globe while an attorney in Nishimura & Asahi, the largest law firm in Japan. After working as outside counsel for some 10 years, Mr. Tamada joined Marubeni Corporation in 2011, the ultimate parent company of MAC, which is headquartered in Tokyo.

**Kirti Mahajan Thomassen** is partner and Head of the Competition and Procurement Practice at Bull & Co Law Firm in Oslo, Norway. For more than a decade, she has advised both national and international clients on antitrust/competition law issues and in relation to procurement procedures. She advises both procuring entities and suppliers, for example on good planning and execution of innovative procurement processes and in safeguarding their respective interests in relation to complaints and court processes, including litigation. She is particularly experienced with procurement processes in the Norwegian health care sector and has for several years been recognised by Who's Who Legal as one of very few experts on Norwegian Life Sciences regulatory law. Ms Thomassen advises and represents a large number of national and international clients within the Life Sciences and health care industry, including several Big Pharma manufacturers. She graduated from the University of Copenhagen with distinction in 1999 and is qualified for the bar in both Denmark and Norway. Before joining Bull & Co in 2016, she has worked in Top Tier law firms in Denmark and Norway and also for some years in the Norwegian Medical Association.

**Richard Wolfson** was appointed in August 2017 as the Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores, Inc. (NASDAQ: CBRL), the owner and operator of approximately 645 Cracker Barrel retail and restaurant stores around the country. For the eleven years prior to joining Cracker Barrel, Mr. Wolfson served as Vice President -- General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of CLARCOR Inc. (NYSE: CLC) and leading global manufacturer of filtration products that was acquired by Parker-Hannifin Corporation (NYSE: PH) in 2017 for \$4.3 billion. From 2001 to 2006, Mr. Wolfson was a partner of the InterAmerican Group, a private equity and corporate development advisory services business. Mr. Wolfson began his career in the Chicago office of Baker & McKenzie, a

leading global law firm, and became a partner in 1999. During his career with Baker, Mr. Wolfson also worked in Baker offices in Barcelona, Spain and Santiago, Chile. Mr. Wolfson is an honors graduate of Colgate University, and holds a JD with distinction from Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago, IL. Mr. Wolfson has lived in Nashville since 2000, is married and has three children.

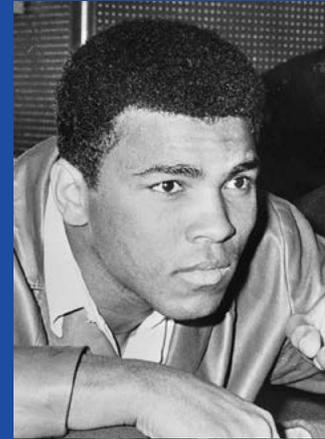
**Pijan Wu** is a senior counsel at LCS & Partners and an adjunct associate professor at Soochow University Law School. He practices and teaches mainly in the following areas: (1)

international trade and investment, including actual cases and research projects. He has written theses and articles on the bilateral, regional and multilateral trade/investment issues.

(2) M&A: While LCS is constantly ranked as top-tier M&A firm in Taiwan, Pijan has also been recognized as the leading lawyer in this area many times. He is especially active in cross-border M&A involving TMT businesses. (3)

Arbitration: He has worked on both commercial and investment arbitration. Especially for investor-state arbitration, he regularly advises and train government agencies on the implication

and enforcement of BIT/FTA containing such mechanism. (4) Energy: LCS is one of very few law firms in Taiwan which has a prolific energy law practice. Pijan has been the outside legal counsel of Taiwan's Bureau of Energy, advising on energy law and policies. Pijan received his LLB and EMBA from National Taiwan University, LLM from Soochow University and JSD from New York University. He is admitted to the New York State Bar and is currently an MCI Arb.



## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### MEETING LOCATION

**Fairmont Scottsdale Princess**  
7575 E. Princess Drive  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
Tel: (480) 585-4848  
[www.scottsdaleprincess.com](http://www.scottsdaleprincess.com)

### REGISTRATION

Please contact your ALFA International Attorney to register for this program and reserve your hotel room.

ATTENDANCE IS OPEN ONLY TO MEMBERS OF ALFA INTERNATIONAL AND THEIR INVITED GUESTS. ALL EVENTS ARE FOR AGES 21+.

### ATTIRE

The attire for the educational sessions throughout the conference is business casual. The event Thursday evening is poolside so be sure to pack your colorful sundress, linen pants, shorts or your favorite Hawaiian shirt (no swimsuits or cover-ups). Please be casual this evening (flip flops are encouraged). Friday is the dressiest night of the conference and we encourage you to dress in chic, white attire to fit the theme of our dinner. We are on a grassy lawn, so flat shoes are recommended. Jeans are encouraged on Saturday evening. We will be on sandy gravel, so please keep that in mind when choosing shoes for this night. PLEASE NOTE: All dinners are scheduled to be outdoors so a sweater or wrap is suggested.

### CLE CREDIT

ALFA International certifies that this program has been approved for a total of 6.0 hours of CLE credit in the states of Illinois and California, which includes 1.0 hour of ethics credit for the final general session. If you need credit in another state, please contact that state bar regarding the necessary requirements to obtain CLE credit. A packet of CLE information, along with a CA certificate of attendance, will be distributed at the seminar which should help you apply individually to your state. ALFA International staff is available to assist if you have any difficulty.

### PROGRAM CONTACTS

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