



ALFA International
THE GLOBAL LEGAL NETWORK



LAWYERING ON THE CUTTING EDGE:

STRATEGIC USE OF LEGAL TECHNOLOGY TO ELEVATE YOUR PRACTICE

2026 FUTURE LEADERS PRACTICE GROUP SEMINAR

FEBRUARY 4-6, 2026 | HILTON NASHVILLE DOWNTOWN | NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

www.ALFAInternational.com

2025-2026 FUTURE LEADERS PRACTICE GROUP LEADERSHIP



Grace Garcia
*Chair, ALFA International
Board of Directors*
MORRISON MAHONEY LLP
Boston, Massachusetts



Annette Mijanovic
Chair, Future Leaders Practice group
HAIGHT BROWN & BONESTEEL LLP
Los Angeles, California



Job Fickett
*Program Chair, Future
Leaders Practice Group*
TAYLOR, DAY, GRIMM & BOYD
Jacksonville, Florida



Michelle Storm
*Regional Chair, Future
Leaders Practice Group*
MONACO COOPER
LAMME & CARR, PLLC
Albany, New York



Molly Teas
*Webinar Chair, Future
Leaders Practice Group*
HIGGS FLETCHER & MACK, LLP
San Diego, California



Madison Preston
*Course Book Editor, Future
Leaders Practice Group*
NAMAN HOWELL
SMITH & LEE, PLLC
Austin, Texas

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 140 member firms throughout the world. Our 70 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.

LAWYERING ON THE CUTTING EDGE: STRATEGIC USE OF LEGAL TECHNOLOGY TO ELEVATE YOUR PRACTICE

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At the 2026 ALFAI Future Leaders Practice Group Seminar, *Lawyering on the Cutting Edge*, attorneys and clients will come together to explore the transformative role of technology in modern practice. The program offers a detailed roadmap for harnessing technology to better serve clients and improve outcomes. Topics range from technology-assisted preparation to better prepare corporate representatives for depositions, to ethical usage of AI tools, to streamlining evidence presentation in court, to case studies in cybersecurity threats to law firms and clients, to applications of tech-tools that drive efficiencies in billing and investigation. Each session blends forward-thinking strategy with practical takeaways, ensuring participants leave with tools they can apply immediately. Join us to discover how legal technology can elevate your practice and keep you ahead of the curve!



Job Fickett
Program Chair, 2026 Future Leaders Practice Group Seminar
TAYLOR, DAY, GRIMM & BOYD
Jacksonville, Florida



WELCOME TO THE HILTON NASHVILLE DOWNTOWN

In the heart of Music City, the Nashville Hilton Downtown places guests just steps from the city's most iconic attractions, including Bridgestone Arena, the Country Music Hall of Fame, and the legendary honky-tonks of Broadway. With its striking contemporary architecture and refined Southern hospitality, the Hilton Downtown is one of Nashville's premier hotels. Spacious, elegantly designed suites overlook the vibrant cityscape, offering a front-row seat to the rhythm and energy of downtown. Perfectly positioned at the crossroads of business and entertainment, the Hilton Downtown Nashville offers an unparalleled blend of comfort, style, and access to the very best of Music City.

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

EARLY REGISTRATION & HOSPITALITY HUB

Crockett Foyer

The program will start with registration and a welcome reception in the Crockett Foyer at the Hilton Nashville Downtown.

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

TEST RUN ON THE TECH EDGE – FACULTY REHEARSAL

Crockett/Boone

**All moderators are encouraged to use this time to set-up a meeting with their panelists to review their session materials.*

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

ELEVATING CONNECTIONS – CLIENT ONLY COCKTAIL HOUR

Bredesen Room

Hosted by the Future Leader Practice Group Client Advisory Board.

This ALFA International clients only reception is a great opportunity to network with other in-house counsel attendees without ALFA attorneys present.

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

ALL ALFA INTERNATIONAL ATTORNEY MEETING

Ryman 1

**All ALFA International attorneys are required to attend.*

6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Opening Night: Where Innovation Meets Connection

Market Street Restaurant

Kick off your Music City adventure with an evening of great company and plenty of inspiration. Tonight's welcome reception & buffet dinner will give you the opportunity to relax, unwind and reconnect with friends both old and new.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

MORNING RECHARGE BREAKFAST BUFFET

Armstrong

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PROGRAM SESSIONS BREAKTHROUGH TRACKS

Crockett/Boone

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

SETTING THE STAGE—INTRODUCTORY REMARKS



Grace Garcia
Chair, ALFA International Board of Directors
MORRISON MAHONEY LLP
Boston, Massachusetts



Jessica Zaruski Bauer
Chief Executive Officer
ALFA INTERNATIONAL
Chicago, Illinois



Annette Mijanovic
Chair, Future Leaders Practice group
HAIGHT BROWN & BONESTEEL LLP
Los Angeles, California



Job Fickett
Program Chair, Future Leaders Practice Group
TAYLOR, DAY, GRIMM & BOYD
Jacksonville, Florida

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION ONE:

Evidence Preservation, Spoliation, and Advanced Investigation Using Social Media and Technology

In the modern legal landscape, the prevalence of digital information has fundamentally reshaped how evidence is discovered, preserved, and utilized. From social media posts to encrypted cloud data, electronic evidence is now a critical component of virtually every case. This session will explore the principles and best practices for evidence preservation and the serious consequences of spoliation in the digital age and also discuss how to leverage technology and social media for fact investigations.



Matthew Burke
Moderator
YOUNG MOORE & HENDERSON
Raleigh, North Carolina



Gina Totorakis
Sr. Corporate Counsel, L&E
AMTRUST FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
Cleveland, Ohio



Matt McColgan
GERMAN, GALLAGHER & MURTAGH, P.C.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Remington Harris
BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
St. Louis, Missouri

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

CIRCUIT BREAK

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION TWO:

Preparing Your Corporate Representative for Deposition by Using Technology to Your Advantage

Rule 30(b)(6) depositions present both risk and opportunity—and success starts with selecting the right witness and preparing them to clearly and confidently tell the company's story. This panel will explore best practices for choosing designees, shaping testimony, and avoiding common pitfalls that can leave a company vulnerable, including defending against Plaintiff's Reptile Theory tactics. Panelists will also discuss how technology is transforming witness preparation—improving consistency and reducing risk. This session will offer practical, modern strategies for turning 30(b)(6) testimony into a strategic advantage.



Molly Teas
Moderator
HIGGS FLETCHER & MACK
San Diego, California



Nick Crosby
Legal Counsel
ILLINOIS CASUALTY COMPANY
Davenport, Iowa



Rachel Myers
MEYER, DARRAGH, BUCKLER, BEBENEK & ECK, P.L.L.C.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Drew Voelker
In-House Counsel
WESTERN EXPRESS, INC.
Nashville, Tennessee



Mickey Haywood
HAWKINS PARNELL & YOUNG
Atlanta, Georgia

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION THREE:

Good & Bad Uses of Technology for Courtroom Evidence Presentation

This panel will address effective use of technology in the courtroom and beyond. Lawyers not only have an ethical obligation to be aware of and competent in the use of technology, but also technology can be a winning factor in effective presentations. Whether you are giving a closing argument, a mediation presentation, or wooing a new client, technology can make you look good—or bad—depending on how you prepare. We will provide practical examples of what does and doesn't work, and we will lead an audience-focused discussion to focus on practical solutions to everyday problems.



Alichia Grubb
Moderator
GENTRY LOCKE
Roanoke, Virginia



Sergio Leemann
Director of Legal Services
ALDO GROUP
Zurich, Switzerland



Valerie Reid
Associate General Counsel
ECS GROUP OF COMPANIES
Chantilly, Virginia



Dennis Petrov
TIEFENBACHER
Heidelberg, Germany

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

REBOOT LUNCH BUFFET

Armstrong

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

Conquer & Connect: The Nashville Scramble

Every Corner of Music City

Gear up for an exciting, citywide adventure through the streets of Music City! Starting from the Hilton Nashville Downtown, teams will race against the clock to solve clues, complete challenges, and unlock the secrets of downtown Nashville. This interactive scavenger hunt is the perfect way to spark friendly competition, build connections with fellow future leaders, and experience the city in a whole new way.



4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Post-Hunt Reception—Downtown Victory Hour

PUCKETT'S RESTAURANT

The hunt is over, but the celebration has just begun! Join us for a lively reception featuring awards and refreshments where teams will have the chance to revel in their citywide victories.

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

The Cutting Edge Dinner

NASHVILLE UNDERGROUND

Cap off the day with an evening of great food, live music, and conversation. Enjoy vibrant rooftop views and a relaxed atmosphere as we come together to celebrate fresh ideas and the spirit of innovation!



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

POWER-UP BREAKFAST BUFFET

Armstrong

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PROGRAM SESSIONS—THE INNOVATION SPRINT

Crockett/Boone

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION FOUR:

Responsible Uses of AI & Cautionary Tales

This session will explore the responsible use of AI in the workplace and its intersection with data security. We'll discuss how AI is being applied in both the legal and financial industries, highlighting its potential benefits as well as the risks it introduces. The session will also cover company and self-imposed regulations surrounding AI use, along with practical tips for leveraging AI effectively while maintaining strong cybersecurity practices.



Bradley Ouambo
Moderator
FRANTZ WARD
Cleveland, Ohio



Theresa Sanders
TAYLOR DAY GRIMM & BOYD
Jacksonville, Florida



Ben Barnes
Corporate Counsel, Data Governance & Security
AMTRUST FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC
Cleveland, Ohio

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

ALFA INTERNATIONAL HQ UPDATE

This session will provide an overview of many new and some improved offerings available at ALFAI as well as resources and opportunities available to our clients.



Jessica Zaroski Bauer
Chief Executive Officer
ALFA INTERNATIONAL
Chicago, Illinois

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

BREAK – SYSTEM REFRESH

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION FIVE:

Identifying and Preventing Common Cyber Security Threats to Law Firms and Clients

This panel will explore the most common cybersecurity threats facing law firms and their clients, including phishing schemes, ransomware attacks, and data breaches arising from vendor or insider mistakes. Panelists will discuss how these risks jeopardize client confidentiality, disrupt litigation, and create potential ethical and legal exposure for attorneys and businesses alike. The session will also outline practical steps law firms and clients can take to strengthen their defenses through training, technology, and incident response planning.



Stevie Brunolli
 Moderator
 HIGGS FLETCHER & MACK
 San Diego, California



Heather Kuhn
 Sr. Privacy Counsel
 BIG ID
 Atlanta, Georgia



Kate Martz
 Associate General Counsel
 MUTUAL OF OMAHA
 Lincoln, Nebraska



Katie Moriarty
 Haight Brown & Bonesteel
 Los Angeles, California

11:45 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.

CLOSING INSIGHTS – THE TAKEAWAY

Annette Mijanovic
 Chair, Future Leaders Practice group
 HAIGHT BROWN & BONESTEEL LLP
 Los Angeles, California



Job Fickett
 Program Chair, Future Leaders Practice Group
 TAYLOR, DAY, GRIMM & BOYD
 Jacksonville, Florida

11:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION SIX:

How Technology Can Drive Cost Efficiencies and Billing Innovations

This session explores how law firms and clients are leveraging technology to modernize billing and control costs. Panelists will discuss AI-driven time capture tools, automated billing review systems, and data analytics platforms that bring greater accuracy and transparency to the billing process. The discussion will also highlight how these technologies enable alternative fee models and data-based collaboration between firms and clients. Attendees will leave with practical insights on adopting innovations that enhance efficiency, reduce disputes, and align billing practices with client expectations.



Michelle Storm
 Moderator
 MONACO COOPER LAMME & CARR
 Albany, New York



Jamie Flowers
 Senior Counsel and Director of Litigation
 ILLINOIS CASUALTY COMPANY
 Rock Island, Illinois



Kristen Allison
 MAYER LLP
 Houston, Texas



Kelly Magnus
 NILAN JOHNSON LEWIS PA
 Minneapolis, Minnesota

2026 FUTURE LEADERS PRACTICE GROUP SEMINAR SPEAKERS BIOS

KRISTEN ALLISON is a trial attorney with Mayer LLP, the ALFA International member firm in Houston, Texas. Kristen's practice focuses on civil litigation. She represents corporate clients in a wide range of matters, including personal injury cases arising from auto accidents, premises liability, Dram Shop (liquor liability) claims, wrongful death, gig economy, and industrial workplace injuries. Her experience also extends to products liability and construction defect litigation, as well as contract disputes.

JESSICA ZAROSKI BAUER joined ALFA International (ALFAI) in 2004 as a Coordinator of Events & Member Services. She then worked for several years as a Marketing Manager, Chief Events Officer and Chief Operating Officer. After 17 years with the association, she accepted her current role as Chief Executive Officer. In this position she is the strategic thought leader of the organization, working closely with the Board of Directors and the various ALFAI committees. She manages headquarters staff and maintains constant communication with association members. Jessica oversees the member recruitment, development and retention programs as well as the marketing and business development initiatives for the organization. Prior to joining ALFA International, she worked in the marketing department of the Chicago-based law firm Gardner, Carton & Douglas, LLP (now Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath). She is a graduate of the University of Iowa Tippie

College of Business (Go Hawkeyes!) and is an avid college football fan. In her spare time Jessica can be found enjoying family time with her husband Harry and her two young daughters, Greta and Vivian.

STEVIE BRUNOLLI is an attorney at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, LLP, the ALFA International member firm in San Diego, California. He is part of Higgs Fletcher & Mack's Business Litigation, Health Care, and Employment Law Practice Groups. Steven initially joined HFM as a law clerk, working with the Business Litigation and Writs and Appeals Practice Groups. Steven previously served as a legal extern for United States District Court Judge Cynthia Bashant, where his work included assisting with research into distinct issues involving ADA discrimination and ERISA withdrawal liability. His experience also includes serving as a legal intern for the California Innocence Project where he reviewed criminal cases to assess the likelihood of success on appeal and interviewed clients to develop theories on their cases. He was selected to the 2024 Best Lawyers in America® "Ones to Watch" list. This award highlights the most promising younger lawyers in the country.

MATTHEW C. BURKE is a shareholder with Young Moore and Henderson, P.A., the ALFA International member firm in Raleigh, North Carolina. Matt is a trial lawyer and litigator who helps individuals and businesses of all sizes with litigation, pre-litigation, and risk management needs. Matt's major

practice areas include commercial litigation, non-competition and related restrictive covenant disputes, insurance coverage and related litigation, and claims involving employment, construction, products liability, and premises liability. Matt is also a part of the firm's team that services rural electric cooperatives in North Carolina. Matt is listed in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America in the areas of Commercial Litigation and Insurance Law (2024-2026), Litigation – Labor and Employment (2026), and Product Liability Litigation – Defendants (2026). He is also named in the 2025 North Carolina Rising Stars list published by Super Lawyers® and recognized among Business North Carolina's Legal Elite™ in the Young Gun's category (2024, 2025). Prior to joining his firm, Matt clerked with the Honorable Cheri Beasley on the Supreme Court of North Carolina. He also served as a fellow in the North Carolina Solicitor General's Office, where he represented North Carolina in significant civil and criminal appeals pending in the Fourth Circuit and North Carolina appellate courts.

NICK CROSBY is a seasoned attorney with extensive experience in insurance defense litigation, regulatory compliance, and complex liability matters. He currently serves as Legal Counsel at Illinois Casualty Company, where he manages a high-volume caseload across fourteen states and advises executives on emerging legal risks and sits on multiple internal committees.

JOB FICKETT is an attorney with Taylor, Day, Grimm & Boyd, ALFA International's member firm in Jacksonville, Florida. He is an experienced litigator. Combining persuasive writing, tenacity in the courtroom, and an aptitude for problem-solving, Job's practice is focused on offering creative legal and business solutions across numerous litigation practice areas. Job also regularly advises entrepreneurs and small-to-mid-sized businesses from start-up phases through corporate governance issues and best practices for litigation avoidance. He is admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in Florida. In his career, Job has represented general contractors, subcontractors, banks, real estate brokerages, bankruptcy and personal trustees, software developers, insurance carriers, grocery stores, law firms, medical device manufacturers, charter airlines and family businesses, to name a few. He has significant experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants. Before joining Taylor Day, Job was an attorney at a regional business litigation boutique and started his career at a nationwide litigation firm.

JAMIE FLOWERS joined Illinois Casualty Company in 2011 as Litigation Counsel, supervising a variety of litigated claims including dram shop, food contamination, premises liability, negligence, employment practices liability and property cases. Jamie served as Legal Counsel and Litigation Manager before being promoted to Senior Counsel and Director of Litigation for Illinois Casualty Company. She heads up the Litigation Unit in supervising the handling of all litigated claims while spearheading various Insurtech initiatives for claims functions and developing the Company's cyber claims handling program. She has served as the Legal Department's representative on the Claims Committee, Product Development Committee, Internal Reinsurance Committee, State Expansion Committee, Benefits Oversight Committee and chaired the Company's Mergers and Acquisitions Committee. Jamie has spoken at national industry conferences on the following topics: Handling High Exposure Casualty Claims, Restaurant Liability, Multiple Claimants/Minimizing Exposures, Effective Mediation Strategies, and Emerging Technologies and the Use of AI in Claims and Litigation. She serves on the Property Liability Research Bureau's Claims Conference Planning Committee and is the Chair for the 2026 PLRB Claims Conference.

GRACE V.B. GARCIA, a Partner in the Boston office of ALFA International member firm Morrison Mahoney LLP, concentrates her practice in the areas of product liability, construction law – including personal injury, construction defect, and contractual - OSHA, commercial litigation, employment litigation, premises liability and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) cases. Grace currently serves as Chair of ALFA International's Board of Directors, and is a former Chair of both ALFA International's Construction Practice Group and Women's Initiative Practice Group. Grace has an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale Hubbell and in 2020 she was honored by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly with its "Circle of Excellence" after being honored in 2013 as a "Top Women of Law." Grace has over 25 years of trial practice and litigation experience and has obtained successful outcomes

on behalf of her clients in both state and Federal Court trials. She also has successfully argued before the Appeals Court. Beyond ALFA, she is actively involved in many professional groups, and is the Immediate Past-President of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Grace is also a past President of the Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association and past DRI State Representative for Massachusetts. She is a routine lecturer on defending brain injuries, risk transfer and indemnity issues, best discovery practices and deposition techniques, and OSHA.

ALICHA GRUBB is a partner with the ALFA International member firm of Gentry Locke in Roanoke, Virginia, in its commercial litigation and construction practice areas. Alichia handles matters related to contract negotiations, payment disputes, mechanic's liens, construction defects and delay claims for owners, general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and design professionals. Alichia also handles disputes involving real estate contracts, landlord/tenant issues and other general business matters. Before joining Gentry Locke, Alichia researched criminal and civil motions as a law clerk for the 23rd Judicial Circuit, where she assisted on large projects such as editing the Virginia Model Jury Instructions. Alichia is an award-winning speaker who is also fluent in Spanish.

REMINGTON HARRIS is an attorney with Brown & James, P.C., the ALFA International member firm in St. Louis, Missouri. Remington has focused primarily in the areas of personal injury, product liability, premises liability, wrongful death, and consumer and business litigation matters. As such, he has quickly built a strong foundation in litigation work. Remington has excelled in taking depositions of plaintiffs, fact-witnesses, and defending depositions of insureds. He has successfully and independently tried multiple small claims trials to completion, receiving several defense verdicts. He has also second-chaired multiple trials where he cross-examined witnesses and argued a plethora of motions across multiple venues in Missouri. Further, Remington has ample experience in arbitration proceedings where claimants have brought a variety of consumer claims.

MICKEY HAYWOOD is an associate at Hawkins Parnell & Young, LLP, the ALFA International member firm in Atlanta, Georgia. She joined the firm after serving as an Assistant Attorney General with the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia. Her strategic perspective on litigation is applied in the defense of clients against allegations of product liability, toxic tort and environmental exposure, high-risk premises liability claims, and complex transportation damages matters. During law school, Mickey served as a Law Clerk with the National Women's Law Center, as a Criminal Section Law Clerk in the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, and as a Judicial Law Clerk in the D.C. Office of Administrative Hearings.

HEATHER KUHN is Privacy, Cyber and Technology Counsel at Genuine Parts Company where she handles tech contracts; privacy, cyber and AI compliance programs; and breach response. She is very engaged in the privacy and security communities and is an officer for the Privacy and Technology Section of the Georgia Bar. Heather is also an active member of IAPP's KnowledgeNet Atlanta chapter and holds 3 privacy certificates (FIP, CIPP/US and CIPT). Heather is currently enrolled at Georgia Tech pursuing her Master of Science in Cybersecurity degree and is co-teaching both Privacy Law and Cybersecurity Law at Georgia State University College of Law. Prior to law school, Heather had 10 years of professional experience covering government, non-profit and for-profit sectors. This experience includes working in business operations, teaching high school math and directing grassroots advocacy efforts. Heather is based in Atlanta, Georgia with her husband and five kids.

SERGIO LEEMANN is Director of Aldo Group International GmbH and head of the international legal department of the Aldo Group. The Aldo Group is an international market leader in the footwear industry and produces and sells footwear as well as accessories and fashion jewelry under its own brands as well as for other brands throughout the world. Before joining the Aldo Group, Sergio was part of the international legal division at the Swarovski Corporation focusing on retail and corporate issues before joining private practice for several years. Sergio a Masters degree from the university of Zurich, Switzerland and is a member of the Swiss Bar Association and a lecturer of a Swiss higher school of education in international franchise matters.

KELLY MAGNUS is an attorney at Nilan Johnson Lewis PA, the ALFA International member firm in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She is an experienced litigator focused on representing product manufacturers and distributors across the country in the transportation, micromobility, consumer goods, industrial, and medical device industries. She is passionate about the companies and products she represents and approaches every client relationship as a partner and fierce advocate for their success. She possesses deep practical and technical knowledge about the companies and products she represents and applies this knowledge to drive legal strategy. Comfortable in the courtroom, Kelly effectively connects with jurors by conveying complex information using language that is clear and approachable.

KATE MARTZ serves as Associate General Counsel for Mutual of Omaha, where she provides internal legal counsel and manages a broad spectrum of litigation and pre-litigation matters across the country. Prior to joining Mutual of Omaha, Kate was a partner at the Nebraska ALFA firm, Baylor Evnen Wolfe & Tannehill. She brings her experience as a trial attorney to her current role which allows her to resolve a variety of disputes efficiently and effectively. Her prior involvement in ALFA included various leadership roles for the Future Leaders Practice Group and as a regular speaker for events.

MATTHEW MCCOLGAN is a partner with German, Gallagher & Murtagh, P.C., the ALFA International member firm in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Matt chairs the firm's transportation practice, where he focuses on defending trucking and transportation companies in cases ranging from catastrophic injuries to property damage and cargo claims. He also handles products and premises liability, as well as other casualty matters. Matt's practice consists not only of defending transportation matters in suit but also of providing 24/7 support to investigate accidents and losses when they occur and counseling clients about how to manage losses pre-suit. His practice covers Pennsylvania at both the state and federal levels. Beyond the billable hour, Matt is a member of the Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel's Executive Committee and participates on the steering committees for both ALFA's Transportation and Insurance Practice Groups. Matt is also a member of ALFA's Future Leaders and Gig Economy Practice Groups, as well as TIDA's Young Professionals Committee.

ANNETTE MIJANOVIC is a partner at the ALFA International member firm Haight Brown & Bonesteel LLP, in Los Angeles, California, where she began her career as a summer associate eighteen years ago. She is a member of the firm's Transportation, Business Solutions and Products Liability practice groups. She has served as lead counsel in trials involving transportation and commercial litigation disputes in state and federal court. She is a member of the firm's Immediate Response Team. She is admitted to practice law in all California state and federal courts.

KATIE MORIARTY is a partner with Haight, Brown & Bonesteel, LLP, the ALFA International member firm in Los Angeles, California. Her practice is centered in civil and commercial litigation including transportation, personal injury, wrongful death, and premises liability. In addition to litigation, she has extensive experience in insurance coverage matters including both the interpretation of insurance policies and defending carriers in bad faith litigation.

RACHEL MYERS is an attorney with Meyer, Darragh, Buckler, Bebenek & Eck, PLLC, ALFA International's member firm in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Rachel defends trucking and transportation companies in cases ranging from soft tissue to catastrophic injuries. She also handles actions for product and premises liability, as well as general commercial liability matters. Rachel's practice covers all of Pennsylvania matters at the state level, as well as the Western and Middle Districts at the federal level. Beyond litigation and in addition to being a member of ALFA's Future Leaders Practice Group, she also participates as an active member of ALFA's Transportation and Hospitality Practice Groups.

BRADLEY OUAMBO is an associate with Frantz Ward, the ALFA International member firm in Cleveland, Ohio. He focuses his practice on construction law and related litigation. He has experience in contract review and litigating construction, transportation and real estate cases. Brad has significant experience in all stages of litigation from handing complaints to deposition, settlement and trial.

VALERIE REID is an Associate General Counsel at ECS Corporate Services, bringing expertise in legal matters related to the architecture, engineering, and design industries. She holds a Doctor of Law (J.D.) from Suffolk University Law School and a Bachelor of Arts of English from George Mason University. Valerie has extensive experience in legal counsel within the construction and engineering sectors, representing corporations, architects, and engineers in commercial construction litigation. Her work history includes providing legal advice in corporate, contract, and employment matters. Valerie Reid's professional background reflects a strong focus on legal counsel within the construction and engineering fields, and she is highly regarded for her knowledge and helpfulness in her professional endeavors.

THERESA SANDERS is an attorney with Taylor, Day, Grimm & Boyd, ALFA International's member firm in Jacksonville, Florida. She attended Indiana University for her undergraduate degree, earning her Bachelor of Science from the Indiana University School of Medicine in Health Services Management. She then enlisted in the United States Navy for 5 years prior to enrolling in Florida Coastal's JD-MPP dual degree program. Theresa received her Master of Public Policy from Jacksonville University and her Juris Doctor from Florida Coastal School of Law. While in law school, Theresa was a member of Florida Coastal's nationally ranked Moot Court Honor Board and served on the executive board of the Black Law Students Association.

DENNIS PETROV is a lawyer at Tiefenbacher, the ALFA International member firm in Germany. After studying law in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, he was admitted to the German Bar in 2022. He joined Tiefenbacher in 2022 and is part of the firm's International Division. Dennis focuses on advising clients in an international context on commercial and corporate law matters. He also specializes in distribution law.

MICHELLE STORM is a partner at Monaco Cooper Lamme & Carr, PLLC in Albany, NY. She is a seasoned attorney with a robust and diverse litigation and transactional practice. Michelle is known for her strategic mindset, meticulous preparation, and strong presence – representing clients across New York in matters ranging from high-stakes liability claims to multi-million-dollar real estate transactions. Her practice focuses on complex civil litigation, including medical malpractice and trucking defense, business litigation and corporate transactions, and commercial real estate and real property law. Michelle is currently the Regional Chair of ALFA's Future Leaders Practice Group and has been named to both SuperLawyers and Best Lawyers in America.

MOLLY HUMPHREYS TEAS is an attorney with Higgs Fletcher & Mack, LLP, ALFA International's member firm in San Diego, California. Molly defends injury actions in a variety of civil and commercial litigation, including against transportation and rideshare companies, premises owners, and federally recognized Indian tribes. Molly's practice primarily focuses on the transportation industry, where she defends trucking companies, rideshare companies, and commercial entities in personal injury litigation. She also has experience representing clients in premises and product liability cases. Molly has experience defending clients in both jury and bench trials to verdict. In January 2024, the San Diego Defense Lawyers honored Molly as the organization's "Outstanding New Attorney."

DREW VOELKER is in-house counsel for Western Express, Inc., with areas of focus ranging from suit and claim management, oversight of all of the company's discovery, cargo and property damage claims, contract review and negotiation, and various general counsel duties. He also plays a role in preparing Western Express's corporate witnesses for 30(b)(6) depositions. Prior to moving in-house, Drew was in private practice for approximately 7 years, with the majority of that time spent defending trucking companies and their drivers from pre-suit investigation and fact gathering to litigation. Drew graduated cum laude from Loyola New Orleans College of Law in 2014.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

MEETING LOCATION

Hilton Nashville Downtown
121 Fourth Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37201
Tel: (615) 620-1000
www.hilton.com

REGISTRATION

Please contact ALFA International Headquarters to register.

ATTENDANCE IS OPEN ONLY TO MEMBERS OF ALFA INTERNATIONAL AND THEIR INVITED GUESTS AND IS LIMITED TO AGES 21+.

ATTIRE

The attire for the educational sessions and social events throughout the conference is business casual. For the scavenger hunt on Thursday afternoon, casual attire is appropriate.

CLE CREDIT

ALFA International certifies that this program has been approved for 4.5 hours of General CLE credit in the States of Illinois, California, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. If you need credit in another state, please contact that state bar regarding the necessary requirements to obtain CLE credit. Helpful links and information on how to apply for course credit are available on the ALFA International website and staff are available to assist with any concerns.

SEMINAR CONTACT

Halle Sweis
hsweis@alfainternational.com

STAY CONNECTED WITH ALFA INTERNATIONAL



ALFA International
THE GLOBAL LEGAL NETWORK

980 N. Michigan Ave.
Suite 1180
Chicago, IL 60611
Tel: (312) 642-ALFA (2532)
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