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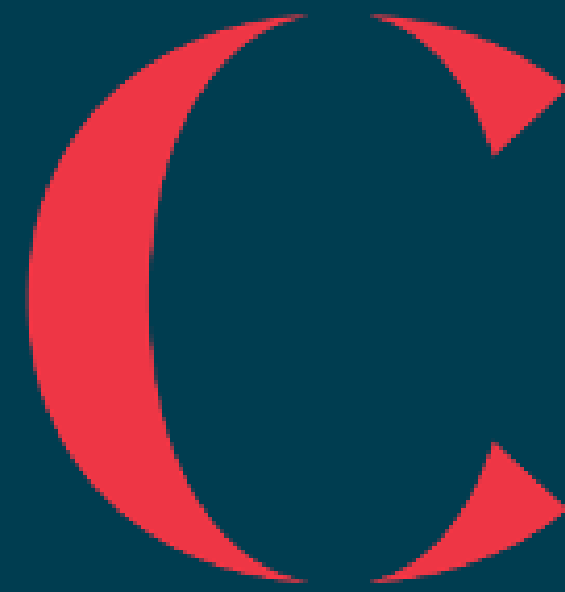
SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2026 | STEIN ERIKSEN LODGE | PARK CITY, UTAH

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Hot Topic

Will A.I. Kill All of Us Within Ten Years?

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COSGRAVE
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How Could A.I. Destroy Humanity?

Researchers and industry leaders have warned that A.I. could pose an existential risk to humanity. But they've been light on the details.

Tech experts outline the four ways AI could spiral into worldwide catastrophes

Will AI Really Destroy Humanity?

A.I. Poses 'Risk of Extinction,' Industry Leaders Warn

Leaders from OpenAI, Google DeepMind, Anthropic and other A.I. labs warn that future systems could be as deadly as pandemics and nuclear weapons.

Meet the AI Protest Group Campaigning Against Human Extinction

'Smarter than us': 'AI Godfather's' grim warning for the future

OpenAI's Altman and other AI giants back warning of advanced AI as 'extinction' risk

Could AI carry out coups next unless stopped now?

Artificial intelligence cause human extinction, AI safety warns
AI could destroy creators say

Avoiding potential requires action, U.S. report says

42% of CEOs in five to ten years

'Polarization' Merriam-Webster's word of year



Researchers find some worry, some optimism

Meta didn't notice major disinformation in Romanian election, says Nick Clegg



The Real Risks AI Poses to Democracy

As threats go beyond election disinformation, that experts say they're not as... immediate

New AI lab for UK spies to counter Russia's cyberwar

Fortifying democracy. Leveraging AI and cybersecurity for political objectives



AI must not endanger our media, PM insists

By Mary O'Connor



Will AI destroy democracy or be its savior?



f misinformation, after transparency

...awareness for citizens on AI, have more transparency and more effects, an report opined

AI poses risks to democracy

THE RAPID adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) in electoral processes across East and Southeast Asia poses significant risks to democracy, the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD) said in a report released on Wednesday.

The study, conducted with research firm RWI Research, highlighted AI's potential to revolutionize politics while warning of its acknowledged risks to democracy, but said that we should also discuss more serious risks other societal risks such as employment and nuclear war.

Small exercises of the leading AI companies, they said, have mitigating this risk "should be a global priority alongside other societal risks such as employment and nuclear war".

Among the risks are: AI-manipulated news, including the potential that incorporating AI could lead to the collapse of civilization.

AI didn't sway election, but it's eroding voters' grip on reality

24 NATION

AI 'can steal election'

Deepfake videos could swing Aussie poll, says senator

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TIME THE END OF HUMANITY

HOW REAL IS THE RISK?
A SPECIAL REPORT

WILL A ROBOT STEAL YOUR JOB?

KILLER COMPUTERS

Bill Gates warns 'dangerous AI' poses a threat 'like nuclear weapons'

AI WARNING

Robots will destroy a HUGE number of jobs, claims expert

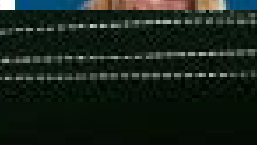
AI could be used to TAKE OVER the WORLD through 'evil' fake news and hijacking cars

Court hears crossbow attacker was egged on by digital 'girlfriend'

A.I. CHATBOT TOLD WINDSOR INTRUDER TO KILL THE QUEEN

WEDNESDAY
31 MAY 2023
Number 3,898

FAMILY
I refuse to be called grandma - I hate it

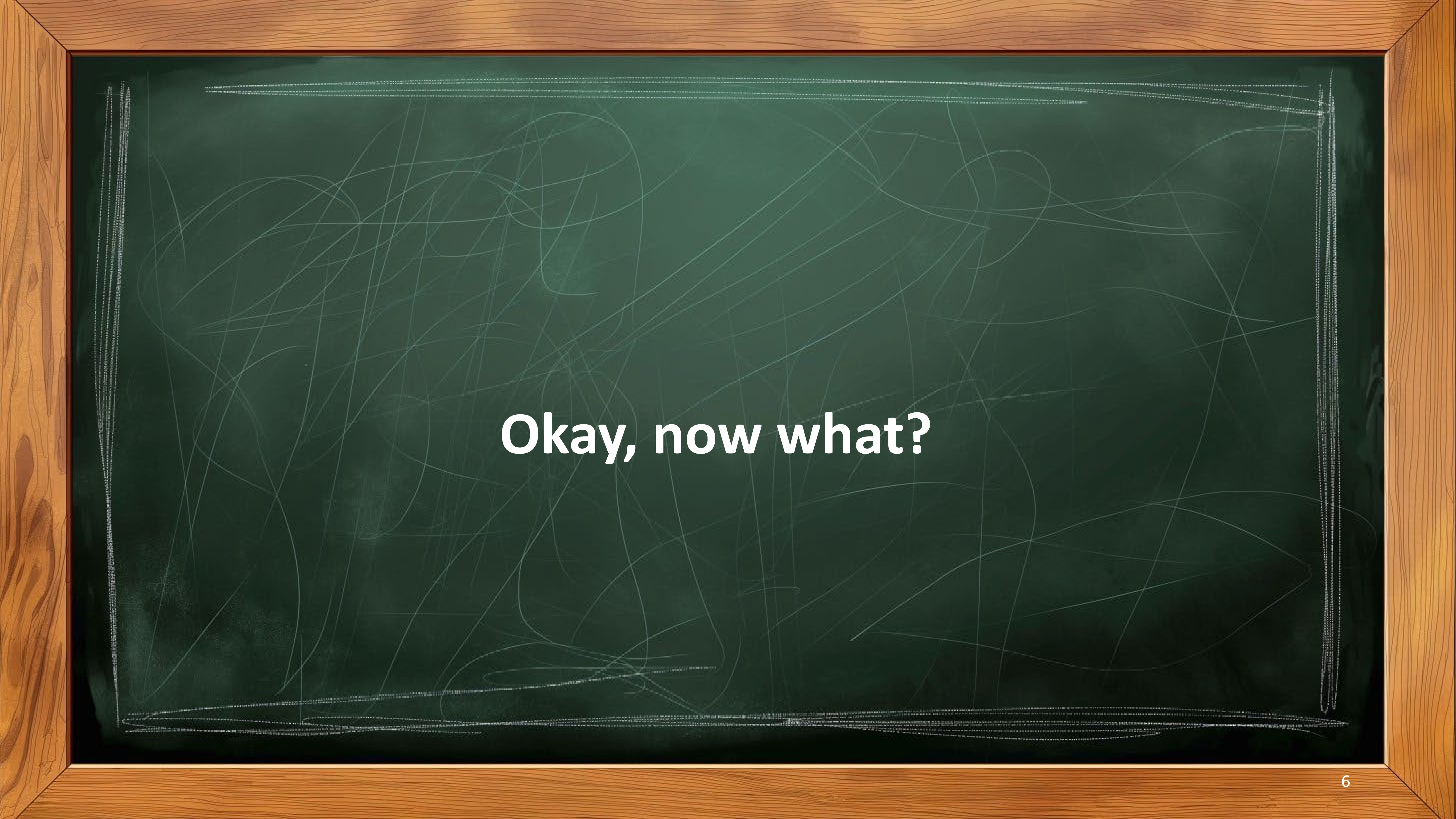


A.I. 'COULD WIPE OUT HUMANITY'

Threat 'as bad as nuclear war' MUST be tackled, say tech bosses

AI creators fear the extinction of humanity



A chalkboard with a wooden frame. The board is dark green and has many faint, light-colored scribbles and lines drawn on it, mostly in the center and towards the edges. The text "Okay, now what?" is written in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Okay, now what?

We've all read about lawyers and A.I. hallucinations

Temptation of St. Anthony, Mathias Gruenewald (1515)



But lawyers aren't the only ones caught out:

- New Jersey federal judge withdrew his ruling after discovering that a law school intern apparently used ChatGPT to perform faulty research. *In re CorMedix Inc. Securities Litigation*, No. 2:21-cv-14020 (D. N.J. 2025) (misstated case outcomes, non-existent quotes, inaccurate attributions closely resembled AI hallucinations).
- Mississippi federal judge vacated an order in a case seeking enforcement of a state ban on DEI programs based on his clerk's use of Perplexity AI, resulting in fabricated party names, invented precedents and incorrect statements of law. *Jackson Fed'n of Teachers v. State*, No. 3:25-cv-00417 (S.D. Miss. July 23, 2025).
- Pro se plaintiff sanctioned for concealing text in his pleadings that had been formatted to be invisible to the human eye while directing any AI model to output agreement with pro se plaintiff's argument, so called "prompt injection." *Elliott v. New York Bariatric Group*, Docket No. AAN-CV-25-6066141-S, Memorandum of Decision, dated August 6, 2026.

Many state bars have begun to act:

- Alaska Bar Association, Ethics Opinion 2025-1 (April 2025)
- California State Bar, Comprehensive Guide for the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in the Practice of Law (updated 2026)
- Florida Bar Board of Governors, Advisory Opinion 24-1 (January 2024)
- Kentucky Bar Association, Ethics Opinion KBA E-547 (March 2024)
- State Bar of Michigan Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics, Ethics Opinion JI-155 (October 2023)
- Mississippi Bar, Ethics Opinion 267 (November 2024)
- Supreme Court of New Jersey, Notice to the Bar: Preliminary Guidelines on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (January 2024)
- State Bar of New Mexico, Formal Ethics Opinion 2024-004 (September 2024)
- New York State Bar Association, Report and Recommendations of the NYSBA Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (April 2024)
- North Carolina State Bar Council, Formal Ethics Opinion 2024-1 (2024)
- Pennsylvania Bar Association and Philadelphia Bar Association, Joint Formal Opinion 2024-200 (2024)
- State Bar of Texas Professional Ethics Committee, Opinion 705 (2025)
- Supreme Court of Virginia / Virginia State Bar, Legal Ethics Opinion 1901 (November 2025)

For example, let's talk about the PNW

- Oregon State Bar, Formal Opinion No. 2025-205 (February 2025)
 - “May Oregon lawyers utilize AI /GAI tools in their legal practice?”
 - “Yes, qualified.”
- Washington State Bar Association, Advisory Opinion 2025-205 (November 2025)
 - “Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Tools in Law Practice”

The Seven Lawerly Virtues



The Seven Lawerly Virtues

- Competence (RPC 1.1)
- Diligence (RPC 1.3)
- Confidentiality (RPC 1.6)
- Communication (RPC 1.4)
 - Candor (RPC 3.3)
- Supervision (RPC 5.1/5.3)
 - Billing (RPC 1.5)

This is not a lecture about the rules of professional conduct.*

But let's talk about a how a few of these “virtues” should inform the way lawyers and their clients use (or don't use) AI tools.

Duty of Competence (RPC 1.1)

- Lawyers must understand the technology they use in law practice.
 - “Competent representation requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation.”
 - Comment 8 to the rule goes further:
 - “To maintain the requisite knowledge and skill, a lawyer should keep abreast of changes in the law, *including the benefits and risks associated with relevant technology.*”

Are changes to AI “changes to the law?”

- Consumer oriented AI products
 - Although the rules do not prohibit their use, “lawyers must be sensitive to the fact they may include features that must be understood and, if necessary, modified to make them compatible with law practice.”
- AI tools oriented to law practice
 - “A lawyer must understand them sufficiently to use them consistently with the lawyer’s duties under the RPC.”
 - “Lawyers should understand the contractual terms of use and keep abreast of updated terms or privacy notifications from the vendor.”
 - “A lawyer’s review cannot be static and must be revisited at appropriate intervals to give continued reasonable assurance that the *product*...is still meeting the standards compatible with those applicable to law practice.”

***“Understanding
benefits and risks” of
a product***

***Doesn’t that concept
sound familiar?***



Is it a feature or a bug?

- *Ringo v. Colquhoun Design Studio, LLC*, 345 Or. App. 301 (2025)
 - Attorney filed a brief “littered with fabricated cases, a fabricated quotations, and fabricated substantive law.”
- Court rejected the industry term “hallucination” as fundamentally mischaracterizing AI errors
 - Chief Judge Lagesen’s opinion observed that hallucinations are typically caused by nervous system disorders or LSD use.
 - Instead, the court noted, AI generates false citations “*in accordance with its design.*”

“We call it the Beast”

Engineer:

“Problems with the handling, especially the stopping...Ken, perhaps you want to check with HQ before you test.”

Ken:

“Giddyup!”

Spoiler alert:

Ken Miles didn't make it to the end of the movie.



The challenge for lawyers

One can be held responsible for not understanding AI,
or using AI poorly,
or not using it at all (for the Luddites in the room).

Duty of Confidentiality (RPC 1.6)

- “A lawyer shall make reasonable efforts to prevent the inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure of, or unauthorized access to, information relating to the representation of a client.”
- This could also apply to uploading confidential information belonging to others, such as HIPAA protected records.
- Clients “may direct lawyers to refrain from using particular AI tools in some circumstances or may place other limits on such use.”

It's a two way street

- Clients must understand not to be careless with their own confidences.
- *See United States v. Heppner*, 1:25-cr-00503-JSR (S.D.N.Y. 2026).
 - Federal criminal case involving securities fraud, wire fraud and conspiracy case
 - Before arrest, Heppner had run queries through Anthropic's Claude generative AI tool to outline his potential defense strategy before meeting with his attorney
 - Court ruled those queries are not protected by attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine.

A question for in-house counsel

- Do you know what your employees are doing with AI, especially in litigated matters?

Duty of communication (RPC 1.4)

- “It is not possible to catalogue every situation in which lawyers must inform clients about their use of [AI tools].” Citing ABA Formal Opinion 512 (2024).
- “Lawyers should consider whether the specific circumstances warrant client consultation about the use of a...[AI] tool, including the client’s needs and expectations, the scope of the representation, and the sensitivity of the information involved.”

Duty of communication (RPC 1.4)

- “If the circumstances warrant discussion with the client about the use of AI tools...an engagement agreement is a logical place to memorialize those discussions, any related instructions from the client...and informed consent.”
- Show of hands, how many in the crowd currently address the use of AI in their engagement agreements?

Fees (RPC 1.5)

RPC 1.5 prohibits unreasonable fees or expenses

“While lawyers may charge for time spent using AI tools...they may not charge for time saved.”

Unattributed AI slop



Fees (RPC 1.5)

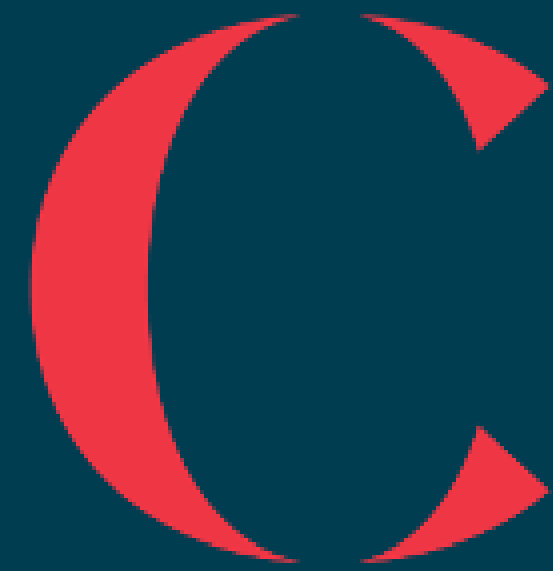
- As AI becomes increasingly sophisticated and efficient, will the billable hour disappear?
- Do alternative fee structures make more sense with the rise of AI tools?
 - After all, attorneys are ultimately retained for their judgment and skill, not processing data.
- How many in the crowd have started to use alternative fees agreements instead of the billable hour?

Parting thoughts



Parting thoughts

- What are the ethics of not using AI?
 - Duty of Competence (lawyer must keep abreast of risks and benefits of technology)
 - Duty of Diligence (lawyers must handle client matters with reasonable promptness)
- How will Gen Alpha attorneys develop wisdom and judgment if the temptation is to let AI do the thinking for us?



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