

ALFA INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS NEWSLETTER

ALFA International is slowly returning to the new “normal.” Program planning for live ALFAI seminars and events is moving forward while virtual events are still bridging the gap in the meantime. Look at what is on the horizon as ALFAI gets ready to do once again what it does best, in-person meetings! A pdf of this newsletter is attached if you prefer to read it as an attachment.

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VIRTUAL EVENTS AND WEBINARS HAVE NOT SLOWED DOWN!

EVENT NAME	THE NUMBERS	WHAT WORKED	ATTENDEE COMMENTS
'Medical Funding' Presentation for U.S. Xpress (May 12 th)	Clients: 7 ALFAI Attorneys: 3	Small, intimate conversations with a client's legal team and a Grubhub gift card!	"Thank you, this was incredibly informative, and we loved the lunch!"
Women's Initiative Succulent Workshop & Networking Event (June 3 rd)	Clients: 18 ALFAI Attorneys: 14	A unique planting experience followed by three engaging breakout sessions.	"It was good to see so many familiar faces and I loved the stories shared in the breakout groups! Awesome time! Thank you!!!"
Virtual Labor & Employment Week (June 9 th -11 th)	Clients: 38 ALFAI Attorneys: 46	Three days of programming, allowing for constant client engagement and schedule flexibility.	"Thank you for a wonderful conference! Great sessions and I certainly had an enjoyable cocktail. So glad to be back in touch with ALFA!"
The Truck Stops Here: Avoiding Nuclear Verdicts Presentation for Tyson (June 17 th)	Clients: 8 ALFAI Attorneys: 4	Presenters recommended tangible tips and tools to help clients avoid future nuclear verdicts.	"Presenting this information in a virtual format was a good way to present."
Insurance & Professional Liability Seminar (June 24 th)	Clients: 35 ALFAI Attorneys: 29	Four quick 30-minute presentations to keep attendees involved, and of course, trivia!	"It was very informative and helpful, as well as addressed several issues that have come up in my handling of miscellaneous professional liability claims!"

Click on any title below to view a recording of a past webinar. You can also view any past webinar recordings on [ALFAI's On-Demand Webinar Recordings Page](#).

PAST DATES	WEBINAR TITLE	THE NUMBERS
May 13 th	Making Lemonade: Using Tools Forged During the Pandemic to Augment Complex Cases	Clients: 35 ALFAI Attorneys: 22
May 18 th	Corporate Accountability in a Changing Business World: Increasing Demands on Boards and Counsel	Clients: 13 ALFAI Attorneys: 4
May 19 th	Finding the Phoenix in the Ashes of 2020: Using our Positions in Law to Achieve Diverse and Inclusive Workplaces that Promote Justice in the World Around Us.	Clients: 12 ALFAI Attorneys: 19
May 25 th	Ain't It a Shame (How Discrimination Law Perpetuates Inequality)	Clients: 21 ALFAI Attorneys: 17
June 16 th	Bankruptcy Basics: Spotting Common Landmines and Mitigating Preferential Payments	Clients: 20 ALFAI Attorneys: 18

Do not forget to **FOLLOW-UP** with clients who attended the events listed above; ask how they enjoyed the event and if they have needs in jurisdictions where you can introduce them to an ALFAI attorney. Do not miss this valuable opportunity to connect! [Katie McCormack](#) has a template follow-up email that you can easily edit and send. Make sure to share with clients the ALFAI [2020 Year in Review Brochure](#) and encourage them to watch the [We Are Stronger Together Video](#), highlighting all ALFAI has accomplished in the past year!

SAFE RETURN TO LIVE MEETINGS POLICY HAS BEEN UPDATED

All ALFAI attorneys received an email on June 25th detailing an update to the ALFAI Safe Return to Live Meetings Policy. Recent changes in CDC guidelines related to COVID-19, resulting in updates to many state and local mandates, caused the ALFAI Safe Return to Live Meetings Committee to review and update the current ALFAI policy regarding live meetings. This updated policy was approved by the ALFAI Board of Directors on June 23rd.

These changes include following state, local, and venue requirements, which allow for some relaxation of meeting restrictions and capacity limits for upcoming live ALFAI seminars and events. Our goal is to allow for full attendance and participation of clients, attorneys, and spouses at our events. Furthermore, masks are no longer necessary for fully vaccinated individuals and no vaccination verification or on-site negative COVID test will be required to attend. However, keep in mind that state, local, and venue requirements and CDC guidelines can change, which may affect this policy in the future. In addition to the policy, all attendees will be asked to acknowledge a COVID-19 liability waiver during registration.

Our goal remains to conduct all our events as safely as possible with the health and well-being of our members and clients being our foremost concern. Please reach out to me if you would like a copy of the policy or have any questions.

LIVE MEETINGS ARE BACK! WITH A FEW VIRTUALS IN-BETWEEN

- **Hospitality & Retail Regional Seminar** – June 30th, Dallas, Texas – ALFAI's first LIVE event post-COVID is happening this week in Texas with seven clients and 16 attorneys attending an afternoon meeting at the

offices of ALFAI member firm, [Quilling, Selander, Lownds, Winslett & Moser, P.C.](#) The evening prior to the seminar, attending ALFAI attorneys will enjoy a night re-connecting at TopGolf and will have a strategy meeting Wednesday morning, prior to the client event.

- **Product Liability & Complex Torts Virtual Trivia Night** – July 15th from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Central Time – This 90-minute team trivia and networking event is complete with a mocktail kit and bragging rights to the winner. [Register here to join the fun!](#)
- **Construction Virtual Roundtable Session and Wine Tasting** – July 20th from 4:00 – 6:15 p.m. Central Time – An afternoon of informative content, an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues in the industry and a taste of some lovely Santa Barbara wines. [Register here to participate.](#)
- **Construction Practice Group Face-to-Face Meeting** – July 21-22, Raleigh, North Carolina – Members of the ALFAI Construction PG will be meeting at the offices of ALFAI member firm [Young Moore and Henderson P.A.](#) to reconnect and discuss opportunities for the group. [Please consider joining them by registering here.](#)
- **Transportation Virtual Client Visit** – July 22nd from 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. Central Time – Four members of the ALFAI Transportation PG will be meeting with members of the Gallagher Bassett legal team on July 22nd to discuss do's/don'ts during litigation in the COVID world, court re-openings and jury attitudes post-COVID.

The following practice group seminars and ALFAI Annual Business Meeting will be opening for registration in July! We look forward to seeing ALFAI attorneys and clients at these LIVE events. Please look for emails from ALFAI HQ as these programs are finalized but mark your calendars now.

- **Workers' Compensation** – September 8-10, JW Marriott Plant Riverside District in Savannah, Georgia
- **Product Liability & Complex Torts** – October 6-8, Fairmont Grand Del Mar in San Diego, California
- **Women's Initiative & Annual Business Meeting** – October 20-22, InterContinental in San Diego, California
- **Hospitality & Retail** – November 3-5, Belmond Charleston Place in Charleston, South Carolina

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- The **ALFAI Executive Leadership and Search Committee** has conducted a thorough review and analysis of the vacant CEO position's duties and responsibilities to clearly define what the association is looking for in a qualified candidate. A job description has been created and several executive search firms were interviewed. A firm has been selected that has experience working with non-profit associations. They are currently looking for the best possible candidate and anticipate the next CEO will be in place prior to the ALFAI Annual Business Meeting in October. If you have further questions about the process, please contact [Eddy Hayes](#).
- The **International Membership Committee (IMC)** of ALFAI is renewing their efforts to investigate potential new ALFAI member firms outside of the U.S. During their call on May 19th numerous activities began to take shape, including the creation of a "Retention Committee" to develop orientation materials and help welcome and mentor new ALFAI member firms. A small sub-committee of the IMC is working on a document that details "Recruitment Guidelines" to assist current members when they are courting potential new member firms. A discussion of how to engage our African member firms more thoroughly has also been a focus. [Lora Stylianou](#) was recently appointed Chair of the IMC and we are excited for what this committee will undertake in the coming months!
- The **Diversity & Inclusion Committee (D&I)** of ALFAI has been busy with numerous initiatives.
 - The first call of the D&I Leaders Forum took place on June 14th and included 44 diversity leaders from ALFAI member firms. The group spent a lot of time introducing themselves and explaining D&I

initiatives within their firms. Many are starting or re-starting their D&I committees and were looking forward to listening and learning from fellow ALFAI members.

- The D&I Toolkit on the ALFAI website was recently updated with example Diversity Reports and an ALFAI- branded calendar of upcoming D&I holidays.
 - D&I concerns were discussed for over 30 minutes during the recent Product Liability & Complex Torts Client Advisory Board call. Every client attendee spoke about how important these issues are to their company and are looking to make meaningful change, underscoring the value of ALFAI’s D&I efforts.
 - The ALFAI D&I Committee recently agreed the committee’s name should be updated to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, so look for updates on our website and internal documents coming soon.
- ALFAI Headquarters is pleased to announce [Arielle Aaron](#) joined ALFAI’s staff as a **Marketing Coordinator** in May 2021. Arielle graduated from the University of Central Florida in Orlando with a degree in Psychology. Before joining ALFAI, Arielle spent her career in the hospitality industry, where she most recently worked in Office Management for Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises. In addition to her marketing responsibilities, Arielle will be assisting Practice Group and Event Managers [Michelle Jones](#) and [Aria Wolf](#) with the following practice areas: Transportation, Construction, Labor & Employment, Business Litigation, Insurance and Professional Liability. Arielle will also assist with the Future Leaders Forum and Diversity & Inclusion initiatives and help [Katie McCormack](#), ALFAI’s Marketing Director, with the ongoing website redesign project. Please join us in welcoming Arielle!
 - The **ALFAI Future Leaders Forum** is putting together a **Client Advisory Board (CAB)** and is requesting names of Assistant/Associate GC-types who would be interested in getting involved. Those “next in line” clients will help these young leaders expand the ALFAI relationship. If you have suggestions for potential CAB members, please reach out to [Jessica Zaroski Bauer and Matt Parsons](#).
 - Cowell Clarke, the ALFAI member firm in Adelaide and Sydney, Australia, hosted an **Australia/New Zealand Management Committee meeting** on June 3rd. Adelaide, Sydney, and Perth member attorneys joined live, while Melbourne and New Zealand members joined via Zoom. Matters relevant to them as ALFAI members in the Australia and New Zealand region were discussed and best practice tips relating to a broad range of firm management issues were exchanged. Following the meeting, the firm conducted a **client seminar dealing with cyber resilience for companies**. The seminar was targeted to company directors, senior personnel and their advisers and had approximately 70 registrations with half attending in person and the balance joining virtually. A job well done by our Australasian members!
 - Our legal network is **mourning the loss of longtime member, Paul R. Leitner**. Paul was a partner with Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC, the ALFAI member firm in Chattanooga and Nashville, Tennessee for more than 60 years. He was a U.S. Army veteran, an avid runner and a distinguished trial attorney. [Click Here to view the ALFAI In Memoriam](#). Our thoughts are with Paul’s family and his firm.
 - The most recent version of the **ALFAI Advantage Newsletter** was sent to clients and ALFAI attorneys on June 24, 2021. The newsletter highlighted a topic of interest, the *Daubert* Standard, and included a [Compendium](#) and [Color-Coded Map](#). ALFAI member firm [Quilling, Selander, Lownds, Winslett & Moser, P.C.](#) was featured, and the News Around the Network section included articles, awards, highlights and member firm deals and wins. A recap of our social media efforts was included along with items previously mentioned above regarding the passing of Paul Leitner and ALFAI’s new Marketing Coordinator. We want to highlight your firm’s awards, articles and success stories, so please send [Katie McCormack](#) or [Taylor Doherty](#) any information you would like us to consider sharing in future newsletters.

- ALFAI member firm in the U.K., Charles Russell Speechlys (CRS), is a long-time member of the **Commonwealth Lawyers Association**. [Commonwealth](#) is a group of 54 countries most of whom are former colonies of the UK. While the U.S. is not a Commonwealth member there are opportunities for U.S. firms attending the events, particularly those with business in those countries. The next annual conference is in The Bahamas, September 5-9, 2021, and U.S. member firms are encouraged to attend. Contact [John Sykes](#) from CRS if you have any questions.

Enjoy the fireworks this 4th of July (for our U.S. members) and please reach out to me with any questions regarding the items listed above.