



ALFA International
THE GLOBAL LEGAL NETWORK

**HOSPITALITY & RETAIL PRACTICE GROUP
REGIONAL SEMINAR**



Nashville, TN | November 3, 2022

SEMINAR PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Program at the Glen Campbell Museum

111 Broadway, Suite 200 | Rhinestone Stage

1:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION

2:00 P.M. – 2:10 P.M.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Speakers:

Kimberly Harris, *Regional Programming Co-Chair*, QUILLING, SELANDER, LOWNDS, WINSLETT & MOSER, P.C., Dallas, TX

Barath Raman, *Regional Programming Co-Chair*, LEWIS WAGNER, LLP, Indianapolis, IN

2:10 P.M. – 2:40 P.M.

BE THE T-REX: HOW TO ATTACK REPTILE THEORY FROM INCEPTION

Speakers:

Chris Page, YOUNG MOORE AND HENDERSON P.A., Raleigh, NC

John Tarpley, LEWIS THOMASON, Nashville, TN

This panel will discuss how to challenge the reptile theory from both traditional and non-traditional approaches from the inception of the case to the trial.

2:40 P.M. – 3:10 P.M.

THE BENEFITS AND CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILURE TO EXERCISE CIVILITY IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Speaker:

Robert Marzano, PLUNKETT COONEY, Detroit, MI

This presentation will provide a brief overview of what the word “civility” means, attorney obligations to their client as an advocate, acts of civility, benefits of civility and consequences for lack of civility.

3:10 P.M. – 3:40 P.M.

PITFALLS IN DE&I INITIATIVES

Speaker:

Karen Austin, *Contract Employment Counsel*, HELLOFRESH/RURAL KING, Franklin, TN

This session will address the pitfalls of rushing into a DE&I initiative without consideration of the proper communication, infrastructure and recognition of the existing management team and employee base.

SEMINAR PROGRAM SCHEDULE

3:40 P.M. – 3:50 P.M.

BREAK

3:50 P.M. – 4:20 P.M.

“HEY, HEY, MY, MY” VIRTUAL LITIGATION WILL NEVER DIE

Speakers:

Chris Bryan, HALL & EVANS, LLC, Denver, CO

Brooke Churchman, HALL & EVANS, LLC, Denver, CO

In this “turntable” session, the panel will lead a group discussion on a variety of litigation topics affecting our respective industries. Can you “Imagine” a world without virtual litigation...or is that “love here to stay?” The panel will also discuss medical lien financing (did somebody “call for a doctor?”) and “crazy” legislation affecting longstanding tort reform and other legal principles.

4:20 P.M. – 4:50 P.M.

LEADING, ENGAGING AND RETAINING MILLENNIALS AND ZOOMERS IN A MULTIGENERATIONAL WORKPLACE

Speakers:

Jennifer Lankford, CRACKER BARREL OLD COUNTRY STORE, INC., Lebanon, TN

Molly Lee, LEWIS WAGNER, LLP, Indianapolis, IN

Millennials and zoomers are making up a larger and larger portion of the population and workforce. Who are these individuals? What are their needs? What motivates them? What stifles them? What drives them away? This panel will discuss trends as well as ways to lead, engage and retain millennials and zoomers in a multigenerational workplace.

4:50 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

THANK YOU AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

Speakers:

Kimberly Harris, *Regional Programming Co-Chair*, QUILLING, SELANDER, LOWNDS, WINSLETT & MOSER, P.C., Dallas, TX

Barath Raman, *Regional Programming Co-Chair*, LEWIS WAGNER, LLP, Indianapolis, IN

S O C I A L E V E N T

THE GLEN CAMPBELL MUSEUM

Tour never-before-seen artifacts from Glen's early years on the farm in Arkansas through his climb to super-stardom!

111 Broadway, Suite 200
5:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

REDNECK RIVIERA

Enjoy a private rooftop experience with live music, dinner and cocktails!

208 Broadway
5:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.



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SPEAKERS



KAREN AUSTIN is currently serving as contract employment counsel for both HelloFresh, an international e-commerce fresh meal delivery service, and RuralKing, a regional rural lifestyle retailer headquartered in Mattoon, IL, and operating in 13 states. Karen recently retired as the Vice President-Legal for Tractor Supply Company, the largest farm and ranch retailer in the U.S. The company operates more than 1930 stores in 49 states. Karen received a BS in Business from Indiana University and a JD from University of Chicago. She is licensed in Illinois, Texas and Tennessee.



CHRIS BRYAN is a member of Hall & Evans, LLC, ALFA International's member firm in Denver, Colorado. He represents a variety of clients in matters involving premises liability, products liability, construction, professional liability, real estate and other general litigation matters, with a particular emphasis on hospitality and retail industries. He is well versed in all phases of litigation, and his trial and appellate experience include conducting jury trials and appeals in Colorado, New York and New Jersey. Before joining Hall & Evans, Chris was an associate at a large firm in New York City. He also served as an approved mediator for the New York Courts, EEOC and Safe Horizons Community Mediation Centers. As a mediator, he conducted over 75 mediations covering a wide range of cases, including personal injury, employment, disability discrimination, juvenile issues, landlord/tenant, creditor/debtor, construction, contracts and various community or family-based disputes. Chris has also completed more than 100 hours of mediation training, including advanced training in domestic violence, divorce mediation and cross-cultural issues.



BROOKE CHURCHMAN is special counsel with Hall & Evans, LLC, ALFA International's member firm in Denver, Colorado. Brooke's practice centers on civil litigation with matters involving transportation, premises liability, employment, oil and gas, professional liability and insurance. She recently relocated to Colorado after practicing civil litigation in Austin, Texas. Before entering private practice, she served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Judge Raymond Moore in the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado and as assistant general counsel with the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety



KIMBERLY HARRIS is a shareholder of Quilling, Selander, Lownds, Winslett & Moser, P.C., ALFA International's member firm in Dallas, Texas. During her career, Kimberly has gained extensive experience in commercial and civil defense litigation, trying cases in both Texas state and Federal courts. She has also prosecuted and defended appeals in Texas courts of appeal and in the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Kimberly regularly defends both national and local companies on general liability and non-subscriber claims of premises liability, wrongful death and other general negligence claims. Kimberly also defends companies on contract, product liability and Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act claims.



SPEAKERS



JENNIFER LANKFORD is senior corporate counsel for Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores, Inc., where she handles all matters related to employment litigation. Jennifer manages the legal litigation team, which in addition to handling employment claims company-wide, supervises compliance measures and manages the company's ADR program. She also oversees the Employee Relations department, which ensures Title VII and Title II compliance related to employees and guests, respectively, through training and investigations. With over 650 stores in 45 states, Jennifer's role additionally includes advising on employment law matters affecting the store's 70,000 plus employees. Prior to joining Cracker Barrel, she was a partner with Thompson Burton, PLLC, in Franklin, Tennessee, where she practiced employment defense litigation and provided compliance training and advice to companies operating nationwide. In 2017, Jennifer was appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to the Tennessee Board of Appeals, the appeals panel for state employees seeking to appeal a demotion, suspension or termination by the State of Tennessee.



MOLLY LEE is a partner with Lewis Wagner, LLP, ALFA International's member firm in Indianapolis, Indiana. Molly concentrates her practice on defending a variety of civil litigation matters, including wrongful death, catastrophic personal injury, premises liability, product liability, construction liability, and various insurance defense cases. Molly also has substantial experience representing Indiana governmental entities in defense of lawsuits. While pursuing her law degree, Molly served as a Legal Extern for the NCAA and a Legal Intern for The Finish Line, Inc. For two years, she chaired the Young Lawyer Section of the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana. Molly currently serves on the Indianapolis Legal Aid Society Board of Directors.



ROBERT MARZANO is a partner with Plunkett Cooney, ALFA International's member firm in Detroit, Michigan. He currently serves as co-leader of Plunkett Cooney's Torts & Litigation Practice Group, which includes more than 40 attorneys across three states. Bob concentrates his practice in premises liability law, food service and hospitality law, real estate law, serves as general counsel for two southeastern Michigan cities and handles all aspects of civil litigation. He represents several national retailers, hotel chains, restaurants, religious institutions, and apartment complexes in disputes involving premises liability claims, security guard litigation, dramshop/liquor liability issues, general negligence claims, mold litigation, third-party auto negligence claims, and trucking litigation. He also routinely handles catastrophic accidents involving gas stations, parking lots and premise design.



SPEAKERS



CHRIS PAGE is a partner at ALFA International (ALFAI) member firm, Young Moore and Henderson P.A., in Raleigh, North Carolina. Chris is an experienced trial attorney, with special emphasis on representation of clients in the hospitality and retail industries, where he represents several national clients with all their legal needs, including claims relating to employment, business disputes, trademark infringement, false advertising, premises accidents, 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 a frequent speaker at ALFAI seminars and has created many presentations on a variety of litigation and management topics.



BARATH RAMAN is a partner with ALFA International's member firm, Lewis Wagner, LLP's litigation group in Indianapolis, Indiana. Barath's practice area includes the defense of personal injury, product liability, construction accident and defect, and environmental insurance coverage cases. Before law school, utilizing his B.S. from Purdue University in Construction Engineering, Barath worked as a field engineer for Mass Electric Construction Company on projects in Houston, Texas and Los Angeles, California. Barath embarked on his legal career in 2011 by enrolling at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, where he hoped to leverage his engineering background to develop a law practice including construction and environmental law. Prior to joining the firm in 2014, Barath worked as a summer associate for Lewis Wagner, LLP and the Marion County Public Defender Agency in the Major Felony and Appeals Divisions. Since joining the firm, Barath has been involved in the preparation of several pleadings, responding to discovery, successfully arguing motions before the court, and has been involved in several jury trials. In 2020, Barath was awarded the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana's Young Lawyer of the Year title, and he was selected as a "Rising Star" by his peers.



JOHN TARPLEY is a shareholder with Lewis Thomason, ALFA International's member firm in Nashville, Tennessee. He joined the firm in 1989 after clerking with an appellate judge and serving as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Tennessee. He is a leader in the firm's Commercial Transportation and Complex Litigation Practice Group. As a certified mediator, he is called regularly to mediate and arbitrate a wide range of disputes. He has been inducted into the Tennessee Academy of Mediators. John is a former president of the Tennessee Bar Association, the Nashville Bar Foundation and of the American Bar Association's Tort, Trial and Insurance Practice Section. He also is a former chair of the Board of Editors of the ABA Journal. Likewise, he is a member of the ABA's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary, which conducts evaluations of all nominees for federal judgeships.