



# ALFA International

THE GLOBAL LEGAL NETWORK



# Know Better, Do Better, **Be Better.**

2023 TRANSPORTATION PRACTICE GROUP SEMINAR

APRIL 26-28, 2023 | MARRIOTT HARBOR BEACH RESORT & SPA | FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

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

**2022–2023 TRANSPORTATION  
PRACTICE GROUP LEADERSHIP**


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*Chair, ALFA International  
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 New Orleans, Louisiana



**Alan Easterly**  
*Chair, Transportation Practice Group*  
 LEITNER, WILLIAMS,  
 DOOLEY & NAPOLITAN, PLLC  
 Chattanooga, Tennessee



**Sean McDonough**  
*Vice Chair, Transportation  
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 MORRISON MAHONEY LLP  
 Boston, Massachusetts



**Mary Beth White**  
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 LEWIS THOMASON  
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**Paul Robinson**  
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*Regional Seminar Program Co-Chair*  
 STOLL KEENON OGDEN PLLC  
 Lexington, Kentucky

# Know Better, Do Better, Be Better.

**2023 TRANSPORTATION PRACTICE GROUP SEMINAR**
**APRIL 26–28, 2023**
**MARRIOTT HARBOR BEACH RESORT & SPA | FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**

The past few years have seen very large plaintiff verdicts and even larger settlements in the trucking and transportation industry. Such results must cause us, as outside counsel and those working claims in the transportation and trucking industry, to look at the ways we have handled cases and claims in the past and determine what we can do to combat those high verdicts and high settlements. Why are the verdicts and settlements so high? Is the plaintiff's bar doing a better job? Is there something more the defense side can and should be doing? Are there things the plaintiff's bar does that we, on the defense side, should be doing? Can we steal a few pages from the plaintiff's playbook? Is the plaintiff's bar collaborating better and sharing more than the defense side? In recent trial verdicts, what is working and what is not working from the defense perspective?

At the ALFA International 2023 Transportation Seminar, we will review recent verdicts and settlements and learn from these outcomes to help us KNOW BETTER in moving forward. We will then discuss ideas that we believe will help the defense side DO BETTER as we handle claims and cases moving forward, perhaps some ideas that are atypical of defense attorneys. We will also huddle up to collaborate and share our thoughts and insight on timely, relevant and unique issues that permeate many claims in the trucking and transportation industry so that we will DO BETTER in the future. Simply put, we must BE BETTER than we have been.

We are confident that after participating and attending this year's conference, you will KNOW BETTER, DO BETTER and BE BETTER in representing and defending the industry upon which this country's economy depends. We look forward to you joining us in Fort Lauderdale!



**Alan Easterly**  
*Chair, Transportation Practice Group*  
 LEITNER, WILLIAMS, DOOLEY & NAPOLITAN, PLLC  
 Chattanooga, Tennessee



**Mary Beth White**  
*Program Chair, 2023 Transportation Seminar*  
 LEWIS THOMASON  
 Nashville, Tennessee



## WELCOME TO FORT LAUDERDALE

Welcome to the "Venice of America"! Fort Lauderdale not only boasts 23 miles of oceanfront views, but the city is known for its winding Intercoastal Waterway through which boats, kayaks and wildlife roam. For those looking for adventure, the Everglades are just a short drive or take a boat out on the water to sport fish, scuba dive or sail. And of course, you can't beat a South Florida Golf Course. Fort Lauderdale also has a variety of cultural opportunities including a wide range of galleries, museums and cultural

centers. The Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa sits on one of the city's largest private beaches that invites guests to embrace beachfront living. With numerous on-site pools and terraces, it's the perfect location to relax in the South Florida sun! The hotel is located under seven miles from the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) making it a short Uber/Lyft or taxi ride to the hotel.

## 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 80 U.S. firms represent 95 of the 100 largest metropolitan areas. Our 60 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.

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**FACULTY REHEARSAL**

*Starboard Room*

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

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**REGISTRATION & HOSPITALITY**

*Ocean View Terrace*

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**CLIENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

*Tampa*

Open to members of the Transportation Client Advisory Board & Practice Group Leadership.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**WOMEN'S INITIATIVE EVENT  
Cocktails & Conversation**

*Palm Terrace*

Join your fellow women attendees for "Cocktails and Conversation" as we enjoy the South Florida sunshine and a signature cocktail! This reception is a great opportunity to connect with client and attorney attendees before the seminar is in full swing.



**Kate Martz**  
*Women's Initiative Liaison*  
BAYLOR EVNEN WOLFE & TANNEHILL, LLP  
Lincoln, Nebraska

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**TALK AMONGST YOURSELVES:  
CLIENT ONLY SOCIAL**

*Spa Terrace*

This event allows client attendees the opportunity to exchange ideas and share best practices in a social setting without ALFA International lawyers present.

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**ALFA INTERNATIONAL:  
ALL ATTORNEY MEETING**

*Caribbean Salons 1-3*

All attending ALFA International attorneys are required to attend.

6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Welcome Reception,  
Buffet Dinner &  
Registration**

*Ocean View Terrace*



Tonight, we welcome you to join us on the aptly named Ocean View Terrace for a cocktail reception and buffet dinner while the sun sets over the Atlantic. The sounds of the waves crashing will transport you to paradise for an evening catching up with old friends and making new acquaintances.

9:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

**Hospitality Lounge**

*Riva Restaurant*

Continue the fun at tonight's Hospitality Lounge!

Hospitality Suite Hosts:



**Alan Easterly**  
LEITNER, WILLIAMS, DOOLEY  
& NAPOLITAN, PLLC  
Chattanooga, Tennessee



**Sean McDonough**  
MORRISON MAHONEY LLP  
Boston, Massachusetts

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**BREAKFAST BUFFET**

*Ocean View Terrace*

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

**FIRST TIME ATTENDEE  
BREAKFAST**

*Caribbean Salons 1 & 2*

All first-time client and attorney attendees are encouraged to attend this breakfast to connect and get to know each other.

8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**PROGRAM SESSIONS**

*Ocean Ballroom*

8:00 a.m. – 8:20 a.m.

**Introductory Remarks**



**Eddy Hayes**  
*Chair, ALFA  
International Board  
of Directors*  
LEAKE &  
ANDERSSON, L.L.P.  
New Orleans, Louisiana



**Alan Easterly**  
*Chair, Transportation  
Practice Group*  
LEITNER, WILLIAMS,  
DOOLEY &  
NAPOLITAN, PLLC  
Chattanooga, Tennessee



**Jessica Zaroski  
Bauer**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
ALFA INTERNATIONAL  
Chicago, Illinois



**Mary Beth White**  
*Program Chair,  
2023 Transportation  
Seminar*  
LEWIS THOMASON  
Nashville, Tennessee

8:20 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.

**GENERAL SESSION ONE**

**Dissecting the Past: Lessons Learned from Prior Trials**

In the words of the famous quotation, "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." Trucking litigation is not immune from this observation. We learn from every trial—both what works and what does not. In this interesting discussion, experienced attorneys will provide examples from past trials to offer insight and guidance to apply in the future. Don't be doomed by the past—learn from it and succeed.



**Gene Vance**  
STOLL KEENON  
OGDEN PLLC  
Lexington, Kentucky



**Eric Nau**  
*Corporate Counsel*  
PRIME INC.  
Springfield, Missouri

9:20 a.m. – 9:35 a.m.

**BREAK**

9:35 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

**GENERAL SESSION TWO**

## Dealing with Extraneous, Unnecessary, Burdensome, Laborious, Oppressive, Troublesome, Arduous, Pointless, Onerous, Exhaustive and Downright Appalling Written Discovery

In a time of vanishing trials, cases are often won and lost on discovery. With the growing reliance on written discovery has come increasingly burdensome and uncontrolled discovery efforts employed by the plaintiffs' bar. This panel will discuss tools for handling onerous written discovery and balancing the right to discovery with the right to avoid oppression.



**Rod Fracassi**  
Co-Moderator  
PLUNKETT COONEY  
Detroit, Michigan



**Katie Strawbridge**  
Co-Moderator  
LEWIS WAGNER, LLP  
Indianapolis,  
Indiana



**Bill Molter**  
Director of Safety  
CASSENS  
TRANSPORT  
COMPANY  
Edwardsville,  
Illinois



**Miranda Rogan**  
Litigation Leader  
AVERITT  
Cookeville,  
Tennessee

10:25 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**BREAK**

10:40 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**GENERAL SESSION THREE**

## Conducting Focus Groups Early and Often—Stealing a Tactic from the Plaintiff's Playbook

How much could the defense of high exposure trucking cases benefit from conducting early focus groups? Can the challenges to conducting focus groups early be overcome. Is there a significant return on investment in conducting such groups early, perhaps even pre-suit. Listen to experts who facilitate and participate in early focus groups share their experiences including the advantages and disadvantages of such an approach. We'll also hear the perspective of industry leaders and whether they have had success using this technique. Let's talk about how we can beat plaintiff's counsel at their own game and consider adding another weapon to our arsenal to dismantle nuclear verdicts.



**Sheila Kerwin**  
Moderator  
NILAN JOHNSON  
LEWIS PA  
Minneapolis,  
Minnesota



**Bill Kanasky**  
Senior Vice President  
of Litigation  
Psychology  
COURTROOM  
SCIENCES, INC.  
Orlando, Florida



**Cedar Abadie**  
Director of Litigation  
MOHAVE  
TRANSPORTATION  
INSURANCE  
COMPANY  
Phoenix, Arizona



**Larry Warren**  
NAMAN HOWELL  
SMITH & LEE, PLLC  
San Antonio, Texas

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**GENERAL SESSION FOUR**

## Wearing the Other Hat

As defense attorneys, we tend to be reactive. We react to the other side and what it does. What if we wear the other hat? What if we as defense attorneys become proactive and more aggressive? Can we do it? Should we do it? In this session, you will hear from defense attorneys and industry personnel that employ plaintiff tactics in defending claims and how that changes the playing field.



**David Ortega**  
Moderator  
NAMAN HOWELL  
SMITH & LEE, PLLC  
San Antonio, Texas



**Trevor Uffelman**  
General Counsel  
ATTIC, RRG  
Missoula, Montana



**Monique Iwaszko**  
Claim Analyst  
RYDER SYSTEM, INC.  
Englewood,  
Colorado



**David Chapman**  
LEWIS THOMASON  
Knoxville,  
Tennessee

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**LUNCH BUFFET**

Ocean View Terrace

12:45 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**GOLF**

See optional activities brochure for details.

*Prior registration is required.*

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

See optional activities brochure for details.

*Prior registration is required.*



6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

## Reception & Dinner Buffet

North Beach & Ocean Terrace

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

### COCKTAIL RECEPTION & BUFFET DINNER ON THE BEACH

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

### DESSERT & AFTER-DINNER DRINKS ON THE TERRACE

Kick off your shoes and let your cares float away! Join fellow attendees for a quintessential South Florida night enjoying cocktails and dinner with your toes in the sand before making your way up to the Ocean Terrace for dessert and after-dinner drinks.

9:30 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

## Hospitality Lounge

**RIVA RESTAURANT**

Join your fellow attendees for a night cap or a snack before turning in for the evening.

Hospitality Suite Liaisons:



**Paul Robinson**  
MEYER, DARRAGH, BUCKLER,  
BEBENEK & ECK, P.L.L.C.  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



**Rob Foos**  
LEWIS WAGNER, LLP  
Indianapolis, Indiana

# Do Better

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**BREAKFAST BUFFET**

Ocean View Terrace

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**PROGRAM SESSIONS**

Ocean Ballroom

8:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

**Transportation Town Hall Forum**

8:00 a.m. – 8:20 a.m.

**Collaborating and Sharing: A Must from the Industry Perspective**

For years, we have been aware that the plaintiff's bar is sharing information and documents among themselves. We have seen it. While trucking companies and defense counsel have talked about sharing as well, it has not happened. In this session, you will hear from the industry itself about what it is doing to collaborate and share as it joins forces to finally take action.



**Cheryl Ubick**  
Senior Claims Manager  
TFI INTERNATIONAL  
Eagan, Minnesota



**Paul Yabrough**  
HALL & EVANS, LLC  
Denver, Colorado

8:20 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.

**Huddle Up**

Collaboration and sharing is a must for the defense. The plaintiff's bar is definitely outperforming the defense on this point. During this session, attendees will huddle up in small groups to discuss timely and relevant challenges and issues facing the transportation industry and how best to tackle these challenges and issues. Final topics will be announced 2-3 weeks prior to the seminar.



**Brooke Churchman**  
HALL & EVANS, LLC  
Denver, Colorado



**Rock Wegmann**  
Director, Claims  
CRST INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa



**Charlie Kraft**  
BUTT THORNTON & BAEHR PC  
Albuquerque, New Mexico



**Tricia Martinez**  
General Counsel & Secretary  
FLIX NORTH AMERICA, INC.  
Dallas, Texas



**Greg Conforti**  
JOHNSON & BELL, LTD.  
Chicago, Illinois



**Janet Shelley**  
Manager – Liability Claims  
OLD DOMINION  
FREIGHT LINE, INC.  
Thomasville, North Carolina



**Jeff Levine**  
MATHENY SEARS  
LINKERT & JAIME LLP  
Sacramento, California



**Bryan Currie**  
Assistant Vice President of Claims  
NATIONAL INTERSTATE  
INSURANCE  
Lagrange, Ohio



**Craig Cousins**  
LEAKE & ANDERSSON, L.L.P.  
New Orleans, Louisiana



**Matt Paige**  
Executive Vice President of  
Risk Management and HR  
TMC  
Des Moines, Iowa



**Matthew McColgan**  
GERMAN, GALLAGHER  
& MURTAGH, P.C.  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



**Jim Mero**  
Client Performance Manager  
CORVEL CORPORATION  
Tampa, Florida



**Andy Douberly**  
DICKINSON & GIBBONS, P.A.  
Sarasota, Florida



**Eugene Lee**  
Senior Counsel  
UBER TECHNOLOGES, INC.  
San Francisco, California



**Annette Mijanovic**  
HAIGHT BROWN &  
BONESTEEL LLP  
Los Angeles, California



**Jen Eubanks**  
CANAL INSURANCE COMPANY  
Greenville, South Carolina



**Lesley Pflieger**  
LEWIS WAGNER, LLP  
Indianapolis, Indiana



**Antwan Phillips**  
WRIGHT LINDSEY JENNINGS  
Little Rock, Arkansas



**Vallie Dugas**  
Associate General Counsel  
MELTON TRUCK LINES, INC.  
Tulsa, Oklahoma



**Jason Goodnight**  
FRANDEN | FARRIS | QUILLIN |  
GOODNIGHT | ROBERTS + WARD  
Tulsa, Oklahoma



**Jeff Kaplan**  
Risk Manager  
UPS, INC.  
McKinney, Texas



**Bruno Renda**  
FOWLER WHITE BURNETT P.A.  
Miami, Florida



**Darren Mulford**  
Sr. Director of Litigation  
JB HUNT TRANSPORTATION INC.  
Lowell, Arkansas



**Duke Highfield**  
CLEMENT RIVERS, LLP  
Charleston, South Carolina



**Bill Upshaw**  
Claims Litigation Manager  
MCLANE COMPANY, INC.  
Millersville, Texas



**John Tarpley**  
LEWIS THOMASON  
Nashville, Tennessee



**Tim Oliver**  
Senior Claims Specialist  
COVENANT LOGISTICS GROUP  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

9:10 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.

**Present Backs**

After collaborating within your small group, we will move to a Town Hall Forum where those ideas and challenges discussed in small groups will be shared with the larger audience. We will discuss the challenges we all face and offer ideas that can be employed as we leave the conference and return to our company or private practice.

10:05 a.m. - 10:20 a.m..

**Florida Tort Reform**



**Chris Knight**  
FOWLER WHITE BURNETT P.A.  
Miami, Florida

10:20 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**BREAK**

10:40 a.m. – 10:55 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

10:55 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

**GENERAL SESSION FIVE**

## Call Me!?! A Discussion Concerning Post-Crash Forensic Analysis of Cell Phones and Other Data, Including Best Practices related to Policies, Procedures and Preservation.

One of the first questions asked following an accident is whether the drivers were distracted at the time of the accident. In this session, the panel will discuss what protocols should be in place for drivers and other responders to handle digital evidence, what kinds of forensic data can be recovered, how forensic data should be preserved, and how forensic data can be used as evidence to determine if a driver was distracted at the time of the accident.



**Philip Davidson**  
 Moderator  
 HINKLE LAW FIRM LLC  
 Wichita, Kansas



**Lars Daniel**  
 Practice Leader of Digital Forensics  
 ENVISTA FORENSICS  
 Morrisville, North Carolina



**Jeffrey Hickman**  
 Consultant  
 RIMKUS  
 Richmond, Virginia



**Dennis Davis**  
 Director of Safety  
 PRIME, INC.  
 Springfield, Missouri

11:55 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**LUNCH BUFFET***Ocean Terrace*

1:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

If you are staying over on Friday evening, please see optional activities brochure for more information.

*Prior registration is required.*

**SPEAKER BIOS**

**CEDAR ABADIE** is the Director of Litigation for Mohave Transportation Insurance Company (AZ), which serves the claims and insurance needs of Knight-Swift and its affiliated motor carriers, collectively the nation's largest truckload carrier. Prior to joining Knight-Swift in September 2020, she served as General Counsel of Dart Transit Company (MN), operated a solo general commercial defense practice, and spent 6 years with Jones Day and other BigLaw firms focused on products liability defense.

**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 of 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. She also enjoys swimming in Lake Michigan, playing beach volleyball and watching Oscar nominated movies.

**GREGORY D. CONFORTI** is co-chair of the Transportation group at Johnson & Bell, Ltd., the ALFA International member firm in Chicago, Illinois. Clients regularly retain Mr. Conforti for their most complex catastrophic litigated cases. Mr. Conforti has successfully tried cases to verdict in the Law Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County, as well as in the surrounding municipal districts and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Mr. Conforti has received numerous awards, including being named as one of the "40 Attorneys Under 40 in Illinois to Watch," by the Law Bulletin Publishing Company in 2003, and an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell and has also received the highest possible rating in ability and ethics from Martindale-Hubbell's judicial evaluations. He is also recognized as a Member of the Nation's Top One Percent of attorneys by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel. Mr. Conforti has given presentations across the country for the American Trucking Associations, Chicago Bar Association, the American Law Firm Association (ALFA International) and the Transportation Lawyers Association. Mr. Conforti earned his J.D. from Wake Forest University in 1988 and is admitted to the Illinois Supreme Court, Federal Trial Bar, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, and U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois.

**CRAIG M. COUSINS** is a partner in the New Orleans, Louisiana ALFA International law firm of Leake & Andersson, LLP where he

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serves on the firm's Management Committee. He maintains a personal injury defense trial practice focusing on trucking companies, auto insurance carriers, and retailers. He has been an active member of the ALFA Transportation Practice Group. He is a member of several defense organizations and has served as a Board Member of the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel. He obtained his BSM from Tulane University and his JD from Tulane Law School.

**BRYAN CURRIE** is an Assistant Vice President of Claims for National Interstate with responsibility for all bodily injury personnel and claims within the organization. He began his insurance career at North Carolina Farm Bureau as a multi-line adjuster and since his move to National Interstate in 2007, has held several adjusting and management positions within its claims department. He's a graduate of Elon University in North Carolina, and currently resides in LaGrange, Ohio.

**LARS DANIEL**, Practice Leader of Digital Forensics, joined Envista in 2016. He guides the growth and development of the practice, keeping Envista's digital forensic capabilities on the cutting edge through a combination of technological solutions and the growth and development of world-class experts. Before becoming a part of the Envista Family, Lars worked at Guardian Digital Forensics for seven years, which was acquired by Envista in 2016. While at Guardian, Lars was instrumental in the success and operation of the business, both in his roles as testifying expert and as an educator, teaching CLE (Continuing Legal Education) classes to attorneys across the United States, and through his books and articles. He is the co-author of the book *Digital Forensics for Legal Professionals: Understanding Digital Evidence from the Warrant to the Courtroom*, published by Syngress. He is also co-author of the book *Digital Forensics Trial Graphics: Educating the Jury Through Effective Use of Visuals*, Published by Academic Press. Lars holds numerous certifications in Digital Forensics, including the EnCase Certified Examiner (EnCE), Cellebrite Certified Operator (CCO), Cellebrite Certified Physical Analyst (CCPA), Certified Telecommunications Network Specialist (CTNS), Certified Wireless Analyst (CWA), Certified Internet Protocol Telecommunications Specialist (CIPTS), and the Certified Telecommunications Analyst (CTA) certifications. He has qualified as an expert witness and testified in both state and federal courts, qualifying as a digital forensics expert, computer forensics expert, cell phone forensics expert, video forensics expert and photo forensics expert. He has testified for both the defense and prosecution in criminal cases and the plaintiff and defense in civil cases. Every year, Lars teaches dozens of CLE and CE classes. In his career, Lars has provided training to many thousands of attorneys and claims professionals with over 300 courses taught, providing CLE (Continuing Legal Education) and CE (Continuing Education) classes.

**J. PHILIP DAVIDSON** is a leader of the insurance, transportation, construction & hospitality/ food/beverage practice groups at Hinkle Law Firm LLC, the ALFA International member firm in Wichita, Kasna. Mr. Davidson handles the defense of a full range of motor carrier/ transportation, construction (including blasting and explosives liability), food & beverage safety/hospitality industry, products liability and professional liability matters. Philip has an active litigation and trial practice, often involving catastrophic loss and wrongful death claims in these industry sectors. In the transportation arena, Philip has handled hundreds of commercial transportation cases, including direction of the initial response, investigation and defense of litigation arising out of motor carrier accidents, railroad derailments and motor coach/ school bus accidents. He has tried numerous civil jury trials, including high exposure personal injury and wrongful death cases. He is a frequent presenter for ALFA International, TIDA, ATA and state motor carrier associations on

issues germane to the transportation industry and motor carrier safety. He has also served as national coordinating counsel to an international restaurant franchise-holder's association for its delivery driver/commercial vehicle exposures and national coordinating/ trial counsel for an international food and beverage company on mass tort liability. Admitted in Kansas and Missouri, Philip has represented clients in litigated matters in more than 25 states. He is a Litigation Counsel of America Fellow, Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyer (2005-present), Best Lawyers in America (2007-present), and a member in the International Association for Food Protection; International Society of Explosives Engineers; and, International Society for Fall Protection.

**ANDREW DOUBERLY** is a partner with the ALFA International member firm Dickinson & Gibbons, P.A., in Sarasota, Florida. Andy's practice focuses on defending personal injury matters, including commercial transportation litigation, auto claims, and premises claims. Andy has tried numerous cases throughout the state of Florida. Andy graduated from the University of Florida with a B.A. in English, earned his J.D. from Florida State University, and is a member of ALFA's Future Leaders Forum, Transportation, and Hospitality & Retail practice groups.

**VALLIE DUGAS** attended Loyola University School of Law and the University of Arizona Law School before becoming licensed to practice in 1997. She began her career as a lawyer defending maritime lawsuits. Later, Vallie worked at a respected Plaintiff firm where she prosecuted catastrophic, multijurisdictional suits until leaving to start a family. When she returned to work, Vallie began working as the Claims Manager for an insurance holdings company who owned several insurers nationally. In that capacity, she managed claims personnel and monitored claims to minimize exposure, assisted in the preparation of trial and resolution strategies both pre-suit and in litigated claims, and managed panel counsel. Vallie's past work experience complimented Leake & Andersson's transportation team and she joined the firm in 2014. During her tenure, she litigated claims for trucking transportation and logistics companies. Following a career in private practice, Vallie joined the ranks of in-house counsel with Melton Truck Lines, Inc., a flatbed trucking company that operates in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Vallie manages the litigation department and is Director of Safety. She is licensed in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and Oklahoma.

**ALAN EASTERLY** is a Managing Member of the ALFA International law member firm Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC. He practices out of its Chattanooga, Tennessee, office. His practice focuses on transportation, products liability, complex/mass torts, insurance, premises liability, auto liability, construction, and related matters. Mr. Easterly is a Martindale Hubbell AV-rated attorney, and is recognized by "The Best Lawyers in America" in the areas of Transportation Law, Products Liability Law - Defendants, Insurance Law, and Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants. He was named by Best Lawyers as the "Lawyer of the Year" in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in Transportation Law for 2020, and in Insurance Law for 2021. He is a Rule 31 Listed Mediator in the State of Tennessee, and active in the ALFA International Transportation, Hospitality and Retail, and Products Liability and Complex Torts Practice Groups. He received his BA from the University of Tennessee in 1985, and his J.D. from the University of Memphis in 1988.

**JENNIFER D. EUBANKS** is Director of Claims Legal at Canal Insurance Company, in Greenville, South Carolina. She assists the Claims organization with litigation management, litigation strategy, coverage issues and coverage training. She also manages appeals and coverage litigation involving Canal Insurance Company, including extra-contractual

litigation, and is involved in Canal's insurance product development. Prior to joining Canal, she was in private practice for 20 years, handling exclusively coverage matters, including extra-contractual litigation.

**RODERICK J. FRACASSI** is a Partner with the ALFA International member firm in Detroit, Michigan, Plunkett Cooney. Rod focuses his practice primarily on servicing the transactional and litigation needs of clients in the trucking and logistic industries. Prior to joining Plunkett Cooney, Rod served as Associate General Counsel for Con-way Inc., a \$5.2 billion freight transportation and logistics services company headquartered in Ann Arbor, Michigan. For over 18 years at Con-way, he provided legal counsel to the company and its affiliates. He served as an officer of several Con-way subsidiaries including Chief Counsel & Assistant Secretary for Con-way's \$3.5 billion less-than truckload business unit, Con-way Freight Inc. Mr. Fracassi has more than 28 years of experience in areas of litigation and transportation. Mr. Fracassi received his Degree of Juris Doctor from the Michigan State College of Law and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Wayne State University in Detroit Michigan. Mr. Fracassi is a member of numerous transportation associations and has served on the board of the Transportation Lawyers Association, the ATA's Insurance Task Force, and Transportation Loss Prevention & Security Association. Mr. Fracassi supports his community by actively participating in several local nonprofit organizations.

**EDWARD T. HAYES** is a partner at ALFA International member firm Leake & Andersson, L.L.P. where he leads the firm's international trade and business practice. The firm's international trade and business practice focuses on a wide variety of international issues, including customs matters; import/export transactions; international sales of goods and services; disputes under bilateral investment treaties; antidumping and countervailing duty proceedings before the Department of Commerce and International Trade Commission; and World Trade Organization dispute settlement. Mr. Hayes also maintains an active international public policy and government relations practice, where he advises businesses and local governments on international trade capacity and international economic development issues, including the business implications of international multilateral and regional free trade agreements. In January, 2014 the country of Ukraine appointed Mr. Hayes to serve as the Honorary Consul to Ukraine for the State of Louisiana. Mr. Hayes is charged with promoting and preserving the interests of Ukraine and her citizens throughout the State of Louisiana. Mr. Hayes serves as Chair of the ALFA International Board of Directors.

**DR. JEFFREY HICKMAN** has a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Florida and a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. His Ph.D. research focused on occupational safety using goal-setting and feedback techniques to increase safe work behaviors. After completing his Ph.D., Dr. Hickman was employed at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute for 18 years. He has considerable experience assisting clients understand issues related to occupational/ industrial safety and vehicle operator behavior. Dr. Hickman is a current member of the SAE Truck and Bus Automation Safety Committee, SAE Driver Metrics Committee, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities Council. He is the former chair of SAE Task Force: J3198 - Driver Drowsiness and Fatigue in the Safe Operation of Vehicles – Definition of Terms and Concepts. He has been the principal investigator or co-investigator on 65 research projects totaling over \$43 million. Dr. Hickman has delivered more than 130 professional presentations and published over 100 peer-reviewed publications and technical reports.

**DUKE R. HIGHFIELD** is a partner at Clement Rivers, LLP, the ALFA International member firm in Charleston, South Carolina, where he serves as chair of four of his firm's Practice Groups: Educational Institution Liability, Products Liability, Retail Liability and Trucking & Transportation. Duke represents a wide range of nationwide and local clients, primarily with an emphasis on defending those clients in pending or threatened litigation in South Carolina and the Southeast. Duke and his team are available (24/7) to handle catastrophic losses and accident investigations. In addition to the team's attorneys, they provide a network of experts, investigators and field adjusters, all available at any time. Duke is an experienced and successful trial attorney, having tried to conclusion a vast number of cases over the past 30 years. Duke was previously selected by his peers as Best Lawyers® 2019 Lawyer of the Year for Charleston in the specialty of Litigation-Insurance (only a single lawyer in each practice area in the community is honored with the "Lawyer of the Year" award). Duke is also a member of the local and national chapters of ABOTA (the American Board of Trial Advocates), which is dedicated to the highest ethical and technical standards of trial advocacy. Duke has been (and is) selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America and South Carolina's "Super Lawyers." Duke has also received the AV Preeminent™ Rating Judicial Edition, which is the highest possible rating an attorney may receive for both legal ability and ethical standards. Finally, Duke is serves as chair of his firm's Marketing Committee.

**DR. BILL KANASKY, JR.** is Senior Vice President of Litigation Psychology for Courtroom Sciences, Inc. and a nationally recognized expert, author, and speaker in the areas of advanced witness training and jury psychology in civil litigation. He consults on more than 200 cases annually in the areas of defendant witness training, jury decision-making research, and jury selection strategy. His empirically based consulting methods are specially designed to defeat plaintiff "Reptile" strategies, which have resulted in billions of dollars of damage awards across the nation. He earned his B.A. in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and his Ph.D. in Clinical and Health Psychology from the University of Florida.

**SHEILA KERWIN** is a catastrophic injury trial lawyer defending product liability and truck accident claims and litigation throughout the country. Sheila is a shareholder at the Nilan Johnson Lewis firm, the ALFA International member firm in Minneapolis, MN, and led the product liability practice group for over a decade. She is a member of PLAC, the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDCC) serving as an active member of the Product Liability and Chair of the Transportation Sections. Sheila is on the steering committees of the ALFA International Product Liability and Transportation Practice Groups, is a former Chair of the Women's Initiative Practice Group, serves on the marketing committee and is the current Chair of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee. She is also a member of the Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA) and Women in Trucking. She serves as national and regional coordinating counsel for manufacturers defending product liability cases across the country.

**CHARLIE KRAFT** is a shareholder and officer with the ALFA International member firm Butt Thornton & Baehr PC in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Charlie's practice of law is largely focused on trucking/transportation and catastrophic personal injury/wrongful death matters, but also includes professional and medical malpractice claims, regulatory and licensure matters, and advising businesses on cannabis law related compliance. Charlie is a member of the Firm's Quick Response team, providing 24/7 on-site response and investigation in a variety of matters, and is



licensed to practice in all courts in the State of New Mexico. Charlie is also a member of ALFAI's Future Leaders Forum and Transportation Steering Committee.

**EUGENE LEE** is in house counsel at Uber Technologies, Inc. He is on the insurance litigation team, handling matters primarily in California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. He is also a member of the Defense Counsel Task Force at Uber, which is tasked with identifying new law firms to include in Uber's defense counsel panel that are committed to diversity and inclusion. Prior to working at Uber, Mr. Lee worked at several large national law firms and worked with various gig economy companies.

**JEFFREY LEVINE** is a partner at the ALFA International member firm Matheny Sears Linkert & Jaime LLP in Sacramento, California. Since starting at Matheny Sears Linkert & Jaime in 2010, Mr. Levine has represented individuals as well as international, national, and local companies. He focuses his practice on trucking and transportation, product liability and premises liability. Mr. Levine regularly litigates cases in California State Court and Federal District Court. He has been lead trial counsel in several trials to verdict and has also litigated several appeals.

**TRICIA A. MARTINEZ** is General Counsel & Secretary as well as Chief Compliance Officer and head of Insurance and Claims for Flix North America, Inc. Flix is a global mobility provider headquartered in Munich, Germany with worldwide operations. Since October 2021, Flix has been the owner of Greyhound Lines, Inc. and Tricia has been working for Greyhound and its owners since 2006. Prior to becoming in-house counsel, Tricia was in private practice in New Orleans, Louisiana for 11 years engaged largely in employment law and commercial litigation. Tricia works out of the Flix North America headquarters in Dallas, Texas where she lives with her husband, two sons and two huskies George and Yeti. Tricia is a graduate of Louisiana State University (Geaux Tigers!).

**KATE MARTZ** is a partner with Baylor Evnen Wolfe & Tannehill, LLP, the ALFA International member firm in Lincoln, Nebraska. She is a member of the firm's litigation practice group and handles matters involving transportation, premises liability, employment and professional malpractice. Kate has successfully tried cases in Iowa and Nebraska and handled appeals in the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Kate strives to simplify complex issues and provide practical advice throughout litigation to best achieve her clients' goals. Kate is a member of ALFAI's Future Leaders Forum, Transportation steering committee, Women's Initiative steering committee and the Diversity and Inclusion Leaders Forum. In addition, she is a leader and firm representative in initiatives supporting diversity and inclusion in the legal field.

**MATTHEW MCCOLGAN** is a partner with the ALFA International member firm of German, Gallagher & Murtagh, P.C. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Matt is a key player in the firm's transportation practice, 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 all of New Jersey and Pennsylvania at both the state and federal level. 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 ALFAI's Transportation and Insurance practice groups. Matt is also a member of ALFAI's Future Leaders Forum and TIDA's Young Professionals Committee.

**JIM MERO** is the Client Performance Manager for CorVel Corporation and has held this position since 2020. With 43 years' experience in claims and litigation management, he is well versed in providing direction to claims teams and participating in large loss mediations and trials. Jim previously spent 10 years as a field adjuster handling immediate response to catastrophic trucking accidents and has managed liability claims on six continents.

**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 sixteen 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 for transportation accidents and heads the firm's continuing education program, the Little Red Schoolhouse. She is admitted to practice law in all California state and federal courts.

**BILL MOLTER** is the Director of Safety at Cassens Transport Company located in Edwardsville, Illinois. Cassens Transport Company provides automotive logistics services to domestic and international automobile manufacturers and dealers. Mr Molter is responsible for the overall direction of the safety and compliance for the company. This includes injury prevention, safety and wellness training, defensive driving training, telematics, truck safety camera equipment, FMLA, OSHA and hiring. In addition, he oversees the handling of the Company's auto, general liability, property and workers' compensation claims in the US and Canada. Bill resides in Okawville, Illinois with his wife Robin.

**DARREN MULFORD** is originally from Northwest Arkansas and is the Senior Director of Litigation for JB Hunt. He has over 25 years of experience in Transportation Claims, Risk Management and Litigation and has previously worked for other Fortune 500 companies such as FedEx and Tyson Foods. He has been responsible for Claims and Litigation for organizational Enterprise Risk Management, International Risk, Process Improvement, as well as Employment Claims, Wage/Hour & Misclassification Class Actions, Discrimination, Texas Non-subscriber, Premise and Auto liability litigation.

**ERIC NAU** is corporate counsel for New Prime, Inc., the nation's largest refrigerated carrier headquartered out of Springfield, MO. In this capacity, his main job function is to oversee all aspects of trucking claims and litigation. Prior to working for New Prime, Inc. he was an associate attorney for the law firm of McDonald & Associates, which was a general civil litigation firm. In addition to his law degree from the University of Tulsa, Eric has an MBA from Drury University.

**TIM OLIVER** is a Senior Claims Specialist managing catastrophic claims for the past 15 years with Covenant Logistics Group. In the 20 years preceding Covenant, Tim was a claims adjuster with State Farm Insurance. He brings deep understanding and experience to the loss adjusting and mitigation process. A Graduate of UT-Chattanooga with B.S in Business Administration Tim has been married 33 years, and is the proud father of two sons, and grandfather to two girls.

**DAVID ORTEGA** is a bilingual native of San Antonio, Texas and is a member of the ALFA International member firm in San Antonio, Naman Howell Smith & Lee. He routinely handles complex litigation for national and international corporations. Mr. Ortega's trial practice involves a diverse array of cases but his primary focus is in the areas of oil & gas,

product liability, transportation, and business related litigation. Mr. Ortega has tried a variety of cases and he serves as regional counsel litigating cases across the southern United States. Mr. Ortega took a four-year hiatus (2000-2004) from private practice to serve as the Executive Vice- President of one of the largest, privately held truckload companies in the country. He was responsible for the company's daily operation and its 2,000 employees. As a result of this experience, Mr. Ortega represents long-haul and less-than truckload trucking companies, brokers and logistics firms with disputes involving commercial transportation, federal and state safety regulations, independent contractors, insurance coverage, freight claims, border issues and employment (including driver hiring) matters. Mr. Ortega's experience as a business executive has given him tremendous insight to corporate operation that has proven invaluable to his daily practice as a litigator and mediator.

**MATT PAIGE** is the Executive Vice President of Risk Management and Human Resources for TMC in Des Moines, Iowa. He has been at TMC for 22 years. He is responsible for all risk management functions, litigation management for auto liability, workers compensation, human resources and is responsible for safety and compliance. Matt has a total of 31 years of experience in the transportation industry. He has held prior transportation positions as a Director of Safety and as a Claims Manager for two national carriers. He is a member of TIDA. He graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Finance.

**LESLEY A. PFLEGING** is a partner at the Indianapolis, Indiana ALFA International firm of Lewis Wagner, LLP within the firm's Transportation Practice Group. Lesley's litigation practice involves defense of commercial carriers and drivers in catastrophic injury and wrongful death cases. She is actively involved in ALFA International's Transportation and Women's Initiative Practice Groups. In 2015, Lesley served as the ALFA International Women's Initiative Practice Group liaison for the Transportation Practice Group Seminar. She has been recognized by Martindale Hubbell with an AV rating, by Indiana Super Lawyers as a Rising Star since 2013, by the American Society of Legal Advocates as a Top 40 Litigator under 40 for the State of Indiana since 2013, and by the Indiana Lawyer as an Up & Coming Lawyer in 2014. Lesley attended the Indiana University Kelley School of Business and obtained her J.D. from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law.

**ANTWAN PHILLIPS** is a partner at the ALFA International member firm Wright Lindsey Jennings, in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he has practiced law for over a decade. He has a trial-oriented practice which includes trucking litigation, but he also practices personal injury defense, premises liability, products liability and dental malpractice. In 2017, Phillips was named to Arkansas Business' inaugural "Arkansas 200" as one of the 200 most influential Arkansans. In 2013, Arkansas Business included Phillips in the annual "20 in their 20s" issue. Mid-South Super Lawyers has recognized him as a "Rising Star" in the area of Civil Litigation Defense since 2014. In 2012, Phillips graduated as a Fellow of the American Board of Trial Advocates Trial College, after completing intensive trial training at Harvard Law School in Boston, MA. In November 2020, Phillips was elected to the City of Little Rock's Board of Director (its Little Rock's version of city council). In other community-oriented activities, Phillips is an alumnus of the Arkansas Commitment program and is the past President of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arkansas Board of Directors. He is also the President of the Public Education Foundation of Little Rock and a member of the Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholders Group as appointed by the State Board of Education. Phillips was also selected as one of the co-chairs for Think Big Little Rock, a group

established by Fifty for the Future and the Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce, which is charged with strategizing ways to enhance life in Little Rock and the surrounding communities.

**BRUNO RENDA** is a Shareholder with Fowler White Burnett P.A., the ALFA International member firm in Fort Lauderdale and Miami, Florida. Bruno is a civil trial lawyer dedicated to defending businesses and individuals in matters involving catastrophic personal injury arising from alleged conventional and professional negligence, product liability and toxic torts. Bruno dedicates the majority of his practice to defending commercial motor carriers and commercial drivers in high damages, high exposure motor vehicle accidents with complex legal, scientific and medical issues. Bruno is well versed in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Act (or FMCSA), and other federal, state and local regulations governing interstate and intrastate motor carriers and commercial drivers. He has spoken authoritatively on issues affecting claims against transportation companies and drivers, defense strategies and best practices.

**JANET SHELLEY** is the Sr. Manager of Liability Claims for Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc. She has been with Old Dominion Freight Line for 20 years as a Liability Claims Representative, the Liability Claims Supervisor, Manager of Liability Claims in October of 2011, and currently the Sr. Manager of Liability Claims. Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc. is a less than truckload carrier with over 24,000 employees, with corporate offices located in Thomasville, NC.

**KATIE STRAWBRIDGE** is a partner at ALFA International's Indianapolis law firm, Lewis Wagner, LLP. As a member of the firm's Transportation Practice Group, she devotes a substantial amount of her practice to representing commercial carriers and drivers in litigation involving wrongful death, catastrophic injury, and property damage claims. She frequently litigates in both state and federal court and assists clients in pre-suit investigation, including 24/7 state-wide emergency accident investigation. Katie is actively involved in all phases of the litigation process to protect the interests of motor carriers and their drivers; she zealously advocates on their behalf to reach the best possible outcome, whether it be through alternative dispute resolution or trial. She is a member of both the ALFA International Transportation and Women's Initiative Steering Committees.

**JOHN R. TARPLEY** is a shareholder residing in the Nashville office of Lewis Thomason, an ALFA International member firm. John has practiced in Nashville since graduating from the University Of Tennessee College Of Law. 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 on a regular basis to mediate and arbitrate a wide range of disputes. He has been inducted into the Tennessee Academy of Mediators. In addition, 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. He is active in the community and formerly served as the president of the Music City Chapter of the March of Dimes and as a member of the leadership team of Leadership Nashville. John is a former Transportation Practice Group Chair for ALFA International.

**CHERYL UBICK** is the Senior Accident Claims Manager of TFI International and oversees all claims for a number of US and Canadian based trucking

companies. She is responsible for the oversight of Auto Liability, General Liability, Workers Compensation, Cargo, first party insurance claims along with subrogation and any ensuing litigation. She works closely with safety, finance, division leaders and other stakeholders in the company. In addition to her role at TFI, she also serves on the board of directors for the Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA). Prior to TFI International, Cheryl worked at Schneider National and their captive insurance company, INS Insurance. Mrs. Ubick has a proven track record of pro-actively mitigating risk exposure and liability to the company. She is responsible for oversight of both in house claims adjusters as well as claims being handled by a TPA. She works closely with her peers to develop programs and strategies to enhance processes and accomplish the best possible outcomes on claims. At TFI International Mrs. Ubick is tasked with helping to create and manage the overall strategic operating plan for the Claims Department. She is responsible for oversight and resolution of all claims for any TFI divisions under her assign, the largest being TForce Freight, a Virginia based LTL carrier. Cheryl is also accountable for staff development of adjusters as well as cultivating and maintaining relationships with outside vendors.

**TREVOR UFFELMAN** is General Counsel, Chief Claims Officer, and Corporate Secretary for the American Trucking and Transportation Insurance Company, a Risk Retention Group headquartered in Missoula, Montana providing liability insurance to mid and large fleet motor carriers. In this role, Mr. Uffelman oversees the company's claims operations and legal affairs, which has him involved in an array of corporate, contract, insurance and reinsurance matters. Prior to joining ATTIC, Mr. Uffelman was the General Counsel for Watkins and Shepard Trucking, Inc., a 1200 employee transportation company based in Missoula and Helena, Montana. Before that, he spent many years litigating complex tort, commercial, insurance coverage and employment cases. He has tried a number of cases to verdict.

**PALMER GENE VANCE II** is a member of the ALFA International member firm Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC in the Lexington, Kentucky office. His practice entirely focuses on litigation including trucking/transportation matters, products liability cases and business/commercial litigation. He has tried cases in both federal and state courts throughout Kentucky and has practiced cases in a number of other jurisdictions. Long active in the American Bar Association, he is a former Chair of the ABA Section of Litigation, and currently serves as Chair of the ABA House of Delegates—the ABA's second ranking officer. He has been listed in Best Lawyers in American and Kentucky Super Lawyers for many years and holds an AV rating from Martindale Hubbell. He is a 1990 graduate of the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law and a 1987 graduate of Transylvania University.

**LARRY D. WARREN** is a Member at the ALFA International member firm Naman Howell Smith & Lee PLLC in San Antonio, Texas. He is a graduate of St. Mary's University School of Law. Mr. Warren's practice focuses on the Transportation Industry here he represents several major trucking companies and Insurers who have a strong emphasis on the Transportation Industry. Mr. Warren is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and was the Program Chair for the 2004 ALFAI Transportation Annual Meeting and was the 2005-2006 ALFAI Transportation Practice Group Chair.

**MARY BETH WHITE** is a shareholder in the ALFA International member firm Lewis Thomason in Nashville, Tennessee. She is a graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law, where she graduated with honors. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Union University, where she played college basketball all four years. She was captain of the team her senior year. Ms. White's practice focuses on the transportation industry where she represents large, medium and small size trucking companies and insurers that focus on the trucking industry. She also represents other commercial motor vehicles, including the public transit company in Davidson County, Tennessee. Ms. White is the Chair of her firm's Transportation Practice Group, and she helped develop her firm's rapid response program. She is a graduate and former faculty member for the ABA/TIPS National Trial Academy in Reno, Nevada. She is a member of the Trucking Industry Defense Association and recently elected to the American College of Transportation Attorneys.

**PAUL YARBROUGH** is a member of Hall & Evans, LLC, the ALFAI member firm in Denver, Colorado. He is a past Chair of the ALFAI Transportation Practice Group and continues to serve on the TPG steering committee. He is a current board member of the Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA) and formerly served as President of the New Mexico ALFA firm, Butt Thornton & Baehr PC, before relocating to Colorado in 2015. Mr. Yarbrough has 35 years of trial experience, and his practice focuses on defending trucking and transportation matters, and general liability complex pre-litigation and litigated cases. He handles motorsports related matters nationwide. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, received the *Best Lawyers*®, "Lawyer of The Year" in New Mexico for Transportation, 2015; is Martindale-Hubbell®, AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated, and is a Colorado Bar Foundation Fellow. He received his JD from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1988, and actively participates in Hall & Evans' 24/7 accident rapid response program. He lives with his wife in the mountains west of Denver.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### MEETING LOCATION

Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa  
3030 Holiday Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316  
Tel: (954) 525-4000  
[Hotel Website](#)

### 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 throughout the conference is "business casual". The dinners on Wednesday and Friday evening are "resort casual" attire. Khaki pants and polo shirts are acceptable for men and dresses, skirts or pants for women. No jackets are necessary at any evening events, but all dinners are outdoors, so layers are recommended. The beach dinner on Thursday evening is also "resort casual" and flat shoes/sandals are recommended as the reception and dinner will take place on the sand.

### CLE CREDIT

ALFA International is an approved CLE provider in Illinois, California & Pennsylvania and certifies this program has been approved for 6.5 hours of CLE. However, seminars are designed to meet CLE requirements, regardless of jurisdiction. To receive CLE credit outside of these states, attorneys should apply directly to their state's governing CLE board. 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.

### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION

If you need any special accommodations, including a nursing room, special dietary meals, ADA access or other needs, please reach out to ALFAI staff in advance of the meeting and we will ensure that necessary accommodations are provided.

### SAFE RETURN TO LIVE MEETINGS PROTOCOL

The health and safety of all attending ALFA International clients, member attorneys, guests, vendors and staff are of the utmost importance to ALFA International. Please review the [Safe Return to Live Meetings Policy](#) on the ALFA International website for current protocols in place for live meeting attendance. Please note, this policy may change as CDC guidelines are updated so, please check back as the program approaches.

### SEMINAR CONTACT

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### STAY CONNECTED WITH ALFA INTERNATIONAL



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