



ALFA International
THE GLOBAL LEGAL NETWORK



CHANGING THE GAME

Rewriting the Rules and Reinventing the Tactics to Meet Tomorrow's Challenges

2022 PRODUCT LIABILITY & COMPLEX TORTS PRACTICE GROUP SEMINAR

June 1-3, 2022

Fairmont Grand Del Mar
San Diego, California

www.ALFAInternational.com



About the Fairmont

Capturing the elegance and charm of an old-world Mediterranean estate, the Fairmont Grand Del Mar welcomes guests to Southern California with breathtaking architecture, nestled on 400-acres in a pristine coastal canyon just five miles from the Pacific Ocean.

Touted as one of America's Coolest Cities by Forbes, San Diego offers a wide range of experiences. From the property, it's a short drive to many of the best attractions San Diego has to offer. Enjoy time shopping and walking the sand in the seaside village of La Jolla (Jewel by the Sea) before spending an evening enjoying the nightlife in the Gaslamp District. Or, visit Balboa Park which boasts 16 museums, arts venues and gardens for those looking for an immersive cultural experience just steps from the hustle and bustle of Downtown San Diego. East of the city, the terrain is more rugged, the perfect opportunity for hiking, rock climbing, and mountain biking.

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.

CHANGING THE GAME



Rewriting the Rules and Reinventing the Tactics to Meet Tomorrow's Challenges

2022 PRODUCT LIABILITY & COMPLEX TORTS PRACTICE GROUP SEMINAR

June 1-3, 2022

Fairmont Grand Del Mar
San Diego, California

The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence—it is to act with yesterday's logic. The events of the past two years threw all industries a curve ball the severity of which had not been seen in over a century. Turbulence came in many forms, including remote work arrangements, virtual trials, supply chain disruptions, and tight labor supply from the "great resignation." Companies had to dodge and pivot to play defense against an invisible opponent. The stakes could not be higher.

It's time to go on offense. The ALFA Product Liability and Complex Tort group has prepared a game plan to navigate new and old challenges based on innovative strategies to stay in front of the competition. Join us in San Diego at the Fairmont Grand Del Mar where industry leaders will discuss transformations in their business that are propelling them into the future. This June the ALFA Product Liability and Complex Tort conference will cover a wide range of topics to help businesses manage risks. We will open the conference with a session tackling changes in litigation forged out of a global pandemic. Our breakout sessions will cover core product liability and business tort topics from tackling problematic warning cases to managing risks under white label arrangements to developments in class actions and the Internet of Things to artificial intelligence. Building diversity and inclusion will be a major theme. The hot topics hour will include three mini sessions to address the burning issues of the day. We have also empaneled leaders from three different industries to discuss how they vaulted the hurdles created by COVID 19, social unrest, and a changing world, and re-tooled their businesses using new strategies to shore up gaps exposed by these unprecedented challenges. The educational portion of the conference will close with a panel focused on maximizing legal competency by building a diverse litigation team and an inclusive environment for employees.

The programs will conclude in the early afternoon, giving attendees time to catch up on other events of the day, network with colleagues, and enjoy all the amenities the beautiful Fairmont Grand Del Mar San Diego has to offer. Be sure to sign up for one the offered activities to revitalize yourself and reconnect with peers. It's time to reconvene in person to discuss changes in the law and in our businesses. Please join us June 1 through 3 in San Diego. I look forward to seeing all of you.



Colleen Murnane

Program Chair, ALFA International 2022 Product Liability & Complex Torts Practice Group
FRANTZ WARD LLP
Cleveland, Ohio

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

EARLY REGISTRATION

West Foyer

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

FACULTY REHEARSAL

Ballroom B

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

CLIENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Bordeaux

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

ALL ALFA INTERNATIONAL ATTORNEY MEETING

Ballroom A

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S INITIATIVE EVENT
Putting and Pinot

Driving Range

Join your fellow female colleagues at the Golf Club's spectacular driving range, where you can combine putting, Pinot wines and great conversation. Instructors will be available to provide attendees with putting tips and techniques. Putters and balls will be provided by the resort, and hopefully there will be no need to yell out "Fore!"



Monica Garcia
Women's Initiative Liaison
BUTT THORNTON & BAEHR PC
Albuquerque, New Mexico



6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

*Welcome Reception,
Buffet Dinner & Registration*

Aria Lawn

Welcome to California! Reconnect with colleagues and meet new connections while enjoying cocktails and a buffet dinner on the Aria Lawn.

Suggested Attire: Come as you are after a day of travel. This evening's event is outside and on grass so a light jacket or sweater is recommended and flat shoes for women.



2020-2022 PRODUCT LIABILITY & COMPLEX TORTS PRACTICE GROUP LEADERSHIP

Beth S. Rose
Practice Group Chair
SILLS CUMMIS & GROSS P.C.
Newark, New Jersey

Colleen Murnane
2022 Program Chair
FRANTZ WARD LLP
Cleveland, Ohio

Matthew J. Stanczyk
Chair Emeritus
PLUNKETT COONEY
Detroit, Michigan

Michael Rainey
Marketing Chair
YOUNG MOORE AND HENDERSON P.A.
Raleigh, North Carolina

Sheila Kerwin
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Liaison
NILAN JOHNSON LEWIS PA
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Kimberly Jones
Webinar Chair
HUIE, FERNAMBUCQ & STEWART, LLP
Birmingham, Alabama

Adam Cooper
Regional Programming Chair
MONACO COOPER LAMME & CARR, PLLC
Albany, New York

Christen Blackburn
2024 Program Chair
LEWIS THOMASON
Nashville, Tennessee

Justin Hardin
Course Book Editor
BROWN & JAMES, P.C.
St. Louis, Missouri

Mark Hayes
Course Book Editor
ROBINSON & MCELWEE PLLC
Charleston, West Virginia

Kimberly Jones
Course Book Editor
HUIE, FERNAMBUCQ & STEWART, LLP
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FRANTZ WARD LLP
Cleveland, Ohio

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San Antonio, Texas

Kehl Friesen
Assistant Compendium Editor
BAKER STERCHI COWDEN & RICE L.L.C.
Kansas City, Missouri

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

BREAKFAST BUFFET

North & Capella Courtyard

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. – Meeting Attendees
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Spouse/Guest Attendees

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

CLIENT ROUNDTABLE BREAKFAST

Capella Chapel

This is a chance for clients to discuss issues that keep them up at night and what outside counsel can do for them. This ALFA International clients-only session is a great opportunity to network and share candid thoughts about your business and how ALFA International can better serve you. While a topic outline will be provided to spur discussion, attendees can offer their thoughts on any issue. One or two designated clients will lead the discussion and take notes of the responses. Those designated clients will provide a summary of their discussions to the ALFA International Product Liability and Complex Torts Strategic Committee before the final general session on Friday.

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

PROGRAM SESSIONS

The Ballroom

8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

Introductory Remarks



Kevin Owens
Chair, ALFA International Board of Directors
JOHNSON & BELL, LTD.
Chicago, Illinois



Jessica Zaroski Bauer
Chief Executive Officer
ALFA INTERNATIONAL
Chicago, Illinois



Beth Rose
Practice Group Chair, ALFA International Product Liability & Complex Torts Practice Group
SILLS CUMMIS & GROSS P.C.
Newark, New Jersey



Colleen Murnane
Program Chair, ALFA International 2022 Product Liability & Complex Torts Practice Group
FRANTZ WARD LLP
Cleveland, Ohio

8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION

A Brave New World or Much Ado About Nothing: Litigation and Trial in the Post-COVID Era

As the Bard once wrote, all the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players. That quote is particularly true in the context of litigation and trial, where the player capable of telling the best story always seems to come out on top. After the Tempest of 2020, whether the story we tell is a farce, a tragedy or a dramatic victory depends on the players and their ability to improvise. In this play, in three acts we will explore what things have changed in the Post-COVID era, what remains the same and how clients and outside counsel can effectively tell a winning story for 2022 and beyond.



Jacob Lehman
Moderator
GERMAN, GALLAGHER & MURTAGH, P.C.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



William Ellison
Assistant General Counsel
LOWE'S COMPANIES, INC.
 Mooresville, North Carolina



Josh Humphries
Senior Counsel
WESTROCK
Alexandria, Virginia



Gregory Farkas
FRANTZ WARD LLP
Cleveland, Ohio



Jennifer Pedevillano
HALLORAN SAGE
New Haven, Connecticut

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

BREAK

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

GROUP ONE BREAKOUTS

TRACK ONE: DON'T GET BLINDSIDED: LAYING THE GROUNDWORK TO BE CULTURALLY COMPETENT IN 2023

Businesses succeed when they build diverse teams and leverage the different perspectives and talents each player brings to the table. Implicit bias is one of the largest impediments to building that winning team. These diversity and inclusion leaders will explore the types of implicit biases that can sideline a company's workforce and offer strategies to overcome such biases. Panelists will discuss the necessities and nuances for fostering an inclusive environment. With shared language and a plan for conquering unconscious biases, this panel will "clear the groundwater" so attendees are better equipped to adjust their vision, move out of their blind spot and reach the spotlight of cultural diversity.



Monica Garcia
Moderator
BUTT THORNTON & BAEHR PC
Albuquerque, New Mexico



Ako Shimada
Vice President, General Counsel
and Corporate Secretary
USHIO AMERICA, INC
Cypress, California



Kimberly Wellons
VP, Human Resources, Legal
and Sustainability
SILGAN DISPENSING
Richmond, Virginia



Barath Raman
LEWIS WAGNER, LLP
Indianapolis, Indiana

TRACK TWO: DANGER! DANGER! WILL ROBINSON: ARE MY WARNINGS ENOUGH?

Plaintiffs frequently allege their accident would have been prevented if alternate warnings or instructions had been provided. These failure to warn claims are the bane of manufacturers' existence since they frequently involve disputed facts not suitable for summary judgment. This panel will address strategies for developing persuasive evidence for dispositive motions and trial on these claims, including initial investigative efforts and the use of warnings experts. The session will also analyze defenses for the heeding presumption, when the post-sale duty to warn arises, supplemental warnings from distributors and the use of on-line warnings in connection with these claims.



Matt Jacobson
Moderator
WHITFIELD & EDDY LAW
Des Moines, Iowa



Rita Castro
Director, Claims and Counsel
to Risk Management
UNITED RENTALS, INC.
Modesto, California



Collin Moore
Corporate Counsel and Project Manager
ALLTECH, INC.
Nicholasville, Kentucky



Craig Hamilton
MCDOWELL KNIGHT ROEDDER
& SLEDGE, L.L.C.
Mobile, Alabama

TRACK THREE: CONGRATULATIONS, YOU HAVE A NEW PRODUCT LINE! WHAT'S NEXT? BEST LEGAL AND BUSINESS PRACTICES WHEN DEVELOPING OR ACQUIRING A NEW PRODUCT

Acquiring a competitor to bring in a new high-flying product, service or territory? Bringing to market an internally developed new product or service that is outside the company's historic offerings? These new ventures are awash with legal and business landmines that require careful thought to avoid missteps as well as preparation to mitigate the explosion from a misstep. This panel will discuss these landmines and ways to avoid them as your company expands.



John Osgathorpe
Moderator
TAYLOR DAY, P.A.
Jacksonville, Florida



Quo Vadis Cobb
Vice President, Deputy General
Counsel, Global Litigation
JACOBS
Cleveland, Ohio



Mindy White
Chief Counsel, Litigation & Employment
QUANTA SERVICES, INC.
Houston, Texas



Michael Parrish
FASKEN MARTINEAU DUMOULIN LLP
Vancouver, BC, Canada

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

BREAK

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

GROUP TWO BREAKOUTS

TRACK ONE: NUCLEAR VERDICTS: WHAT THE \$#!& IS GOING ON?

The emergence of the nuclear verdict is currently the hottest topic of discussion in civil litigation for both the plaintiff and defense bars. There are several factors to blame, including juror psychosocial factors, growing litigation funding for plaintiff attorneys, slow development of young defense attorneys, political influences, growth of Reptile tactics, distrust of corporations and generational factors. This program will outline the influence of these factors on nuclear verdicts, provide practical solutions to avoid nuclear fallout for defendants and will cover the impact of COVID-19, politics and social injustice/unrest on juries.



Grace Garcia
Moderator
MORRISON MAHONEY LLP
Boston, Massachusetts



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

TRACK TWO: MANAGING RISKS WHEN YOU DON'T MANAGE THE MANUFACTURING: RECOGNIZING AND AVOIDING THE POTENTIAL PITFALLS OF "WHITE LABELED" PRODUCTS AND COMPONENT PARTS FROM US AND FOREIGN VENDORS

Hundreds if not thousands of companies market and sell products as their own, even though they do not manufacture them. Even more businesses rely on vendors for critical components that drive their products. While necessary, "white labeling" type arrangements and use of third party components can present unique challenges. Companies that are not careful could find themselves liable for defects in products they did not manufacture. This panel will discuss the crucial facets of "private/white labeling" relationships, buy/sell agreements, and third party component usage, and strategies for managing risk if products borne of these relationships become the target of a lawsuit.



Kevin Owens
Moderator
JOHNSON & BELL, LTD.
Chicago, Illinois



Scott Rusert
NILAN JOHNSON LEWIS PA
Minneapolis, Minnesota



Joe Kang
Senior Counsel
KONE, INC.
Lisle, Illinois

TRACK THREE: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND YOU: PERFECT TOGETHER?

Once little more than science fiction, products based on artificial intelligence (AI) are now part of our daily lives. Many of those products—automobiles and medical devices to name a few—use "machine learning", which enables the software in the product to "learn" and "adapt" to user behavior as additional data is collected. But what are the liability implications for a product manufacturer when AI fails? How is defect defined and established? How does the regulation (or lack thereof) of AI impact the analysis? This panel will address an emerging liability questions for AI and propose practical risk reduction strategies to address them.



Beth Rose
Moderator
SILLS CUMMIS & GROSS P.C.
Newark, New Jersey



Kate Klaus
Senior Risk Management
Attorney, FDA Specialist
MEDMARC INSURANCE GROUP
Chantilly, Virginia



Darth Vaughn
Litigation Counsel and Legal
Innovation & Technology
Operations Manager
FORD MOTOR COMPANY
Dearborn, Michigan



Kimberly Jones
HUIE, FERNAMBUCQ
& STEWART, LLP
Birmingham, Alabama

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

BREAK

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION: 2022 HOT TOPICS

These past two years have seen significant changes in various facets of the law and the way it is practiced. These new and evolving developments affect the way many companies do business and handle claims. This session will consist of three separate 20-minute presentations discussing current hot topics that impact organizations' business operations and litigation strategies.

HOT TOPIC 1 Get Ready for New Disclosure Requirements that Will Impact Diversity Jurisdiction and Removal

Description: The proposed changes to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 7.1 seek to facilitate an early determination on the existence of diversity jurisdiction. Under the new rule, parties must identify the name and citizenship of every individual or entity whose citizenship may be attributed to the party. No longer will there be question marks about whose membership in an organization counts for diversity jurisdiction purposes and the citizenship of that individual or entity. This lightning round will examine the changes to Civil Rule 7.1 and their impact on removal so defendants are better prepared to move cases from state to federal court when the time is right.



Imran Shaukat
SEMME, BOWEN & SEMME
Baltimore, Maryland

HOT TOPIC 2 No, That Witness is Not Going to Appear for Trial

The return to courtroom trials brings excitement and the persuasion of in-person testimony. However, the excitement disappears when your opponent tries to compel the appearance of a witness that you do not want anywhere near the witness stand. With the advent of videoconference testimony and the use of Federal Civil Rules 43 and 45, plaintiffs are attempting to extend the federal subpoena power to cyberspace to obtain jurisdiction over undesirable witnesses whose unavailability is preferred. This 20-minute primer will analyze this emerging trend and provide strategies to fight subpoenas for videoconference trial testimony and to prepare a witness when he or she is compelled to appear virtually at trial.



Adam Cooper
MONACO COOPER LAMME & CARR, PLLC
Albany, New York

HOT TOPIC 3 The Proof is in the Product: An Update on The Duty to Preserve Evidence and Modern Trends in the Law of Spoliation

To ensure the ability to present necessary evidence at trial, attorneys must be intimately familiar with the legal doctrine of spoliation of evidence. This includes knowing when clients are subject to a duty to preserve evidence, understanding the scope of that duty, identifying the representatives (both within and without of the client organization) who are subject to the duty, and taking appropriate affirmative steps to comply with the duty. It also includes knowing when to take advantage of preservation missteps by opponents. In product liability cases, both sides must be especially mindful of spoliation considerations because "the proof is in the product". In this fast-paced and informative 20-minute "hot topics" session, attendees will learn about the current preservation duty and recent cases setting the trend on spoliation and sanctions for failure to preserve evidence. It will also provide tips for tackling common preservation issues and best practices for protecting evidence and avoiding sanctions.




Nathan Alder
CHRISTENSEN & JENSEN, P.C.
Salt Lake City, Utah

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.


LUNCH & LEARN:
A Conversation About Equity

TBD


Join us over lunch for a discussion about equity (and inequity) in the practice of law, promoting equity within law firms and legal departments, and making sure all lawyers receive the same opportunities and experiences necessary for achieving the brass ring. Our conversation facilitators will share their own career experiences, hurdles they faced in obtaining partnership/leadership positions, mentorship and advocacy that made real a difference, and the importance of equal access to assignments, client interaction, and networking. All attendees are encouraged to share their perspectives and experiences in this open forum.



Scott Rusert
NILAN JOHNSON LEWIS PA
Minneapolis, Minnesota



Nicole Brunson
Head of Litigation & Disputes
ARRIVAL
Davidson, North Carolina



Jacqueline White
Associate General Counsel
ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.
Glenview, Illinois



Grace McDonell
FASKEN MARTINEAU DUMOULIN LLP
Vancouver, BC, Canada

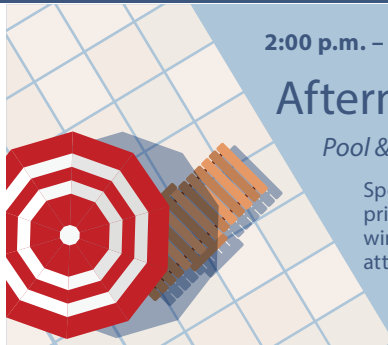
2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Afternoon at the Pool

Pool & Courtyard

Spend the afternoon enjoying the pool and the shade of the private cabanas while taking in the desert scenery. Enjoy beer, wine and light snacks as you relax and connect with other seminar attendees. No registration is necessary for this afternoon's event.

Suggested Attire: Swim attire, sunglasses and sunscreen.



6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Mediterranean Medley-Cocktails & Plated Dinner
Capella Chapel and Courtyard

After a day at the pool it's time for an elevated evening. Join us in the Capella Chapel and Courtyard for dinner surrounded by Mediterranean inspired architecture and stained glass. Enjoy a cocktail in the Courtyard before moving into the Chapel for a plated dinner.

Suggested Attire: Mediterranean-inspired resort ware is encouraged!

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

BREAKFAST BUFFET

North & Capella Courtyard

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. – Meeting Attendees

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – Spouse/ Guest Attendees

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

PROGRAM SESSIONS


The Ballroom

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION

COVID Schooled Us: Lessons Learned and New Strategies Devised from Managing Through the Pandemic


This general session will discuss the business and legal practices that different industries employed during the COVID pandemic that still make sense after the pandemic (optimistically believing the pandemic will be controlled or conquered by June 2022). The panelists will also explore what changes have emerged and the effects of those changes on businesses. The panel will conclude by reviewing and dissecting the company policies or procedures that have evolved so businesses can be better prepared if and when another crisis of pandemic proportions strikes.




Steve Hamilton
Moderator
HALL & EVANS, LLC
Denver, Colorado



Nicole Brunson
Head of Litigation & Disputes
ARRIVAL
Davidson, North Carolina



Chris Schilder
Deputy General Counsel & VP of Risk Management
BRANDSAFWAY
Waukesha, Wisconsin



Jolene Wall
Deputy General Counsel - Compliance, Risk & Litigation
REI
Sumner, Washington



9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

What's Happening at ALFAI Headquarters?

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

9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

BREAK

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

GROUP THREE BREAKOUTS

TRACK ONE: THE RISE OF VIRTUAL FOCUS GROUPS: HOW REMOTE VIDEOCONFERENCING PLATFORMS ARE CHANGING THE TRADITIONAL FOCUS GROUP AND HOW DEFENSE COUNSEL CAN LEVERAGE THESE TECHNOLOGIES.

COVID-19 and the resulting global pandemic brought about significant changes in litigation and preparations for trial. The plaintiff bar rapidly adopted and leveraged new technologies to evaluate their cases, test theories, and increase verdicts at trial. This presentation will delve into the use of remote videoconferencing platforms for virtual focus groups and ways the defense can leverage these platforms to its benefit.



Michael Rainey
Moderator
 YOUNG MOORE AND HENDERSON P.A.
 Raleigh, North Carolina



Jackie Bryk Welch
Vice President - Litigation
 THE J. M. SMUCKER COMPANY
 Orrville, Ohio



Amber Dove
Litigation Counsel
 BIG LOTS
 Columbus, Ohio



Nick Wheeler
 COSGRAVE VERGEER KESTER LLP
 Portland, Oregon

TRACK TWO: RISE OF THE MACHINES: THE INTERNET OF THINGS TODAY AND TOMORROW. REGULATIONS TO NAVIGATE, RISKS TO ADDRESS AND BEST PRACTICES FOR MANUFACTURERS

Products and services of every sort are "smarter" than ever and applicable regulations almost always lag behind. This session will help navigate the murky and frequently inconsistent legal waters and discuss strategies to address litigation risk and regulatory compliance. The panelists will present examples emphasizing the disparities in regulations around the world and within the U.S. They will also provide strategies and tips in this evolving environment to stay ahead of the curve when developing new products and associated features falling within the Internet of Things.



Bob deRosset
Moderator
 YOUNG MOORE AND HENDERSON, P.A.
 Raleigh, North Carolina



Jennifer Rosemark
Litigation Counsel
 RESIDEO TECHNOLOGIES, INC..
 Minneapolis, Minnesota



Chris S. Egner
*Global Expert Team -
 Product Liability/Product Integrity
 Commercial Law - Americas Region
 Labor & Employment - U.S. and Canada*
 CONTINENTAL CORPORATE
 LAW DEPARTMENT
 Fort Mill, South Carolina



Christin Krämer
 TIEFENBACHER
 Heidelberg, Germany

TRACK THREE: CALL ME WHEN YOU HAVE NO CLASS

A panel of in-house and outside experts explore up-to-the-minute trends in consumer and other class actions affecting product manufacturers, sellers and retailers. We will explore internal strategies for avoiding class actions and protecting your brand when they do occur. When do actual damages or injuries matter? When can you remove a case from a favorable plaintiffs' forum? What constitutes standing? Find out the answers to these questions and more when you join this interactive session.



Dina Cox
Moderator
 LEWIS WAGNER, LLP
 Indianapolis, Indiana



Edward Sullivan
General Counsel
 NIBCO
 Elkhart, Indiana



Sara Flowers-Dent
Manager, Litigation Attorney
 AUTOZONE, INC.
 Memphis, Tennessee



Steve Getzoff
 LESTER SCHWAB KATZ & DWYER, LLP
 New York, New York

11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

BREAK

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

REPORT FROM CLIENT ROUNDTABLE

An elected client representative will give a brief report on the topics discussed during the client roundtable that took place on Thursday.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION

The Case for Cultural Competency: How to Meet our Ethical Obligations as Lawyers and Create More Diverse and Inclusive Companies

The Model Rules of Professional Responsibility require lawyers to provide competent representation of their clients. Competency is maximized when it includes cultural awareness and an understanding of both our own biases and those existing in the communities where we practice. How can we create a diverse team to help identify cultural blind spots and provide the best representation for our clients? How can companies create ESG plans which include the robust diversity initiatives that will satisfy their investors and provide an inclusive environment for their employees? Our esteemed panel of diversity experts will share their diversity journeys and the business case for making change. Most importantly, we will share practical tips for enhancing diversity and inclusion in firms and companies to help yield the best result.



Sheila Kerwin
 Moderator
 NILAN JOHNSON LEWIS PA
 Minneapolis, Minnesota



Christen Blackburn
 LEWIS THOMASON
 Nashville, Tennessee



Leah Maguire
 Vice President, Inclusion and Diversity
 OWENS CORNING
 Ann Arbor, Michigan

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH

Aria Lawn

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

OPTIONAL AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

See optional activity brochure for additional information. Advance registration is required.

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

OPTIONAL DINNER

See optional activity brochure for additional information. Advance registration is required.

**FACULTY BIOS**

CHRISTEN BLACKBURN is shareholder at the Nashville, Tennessee ALFA International firm of Lewis Thomason. Christen's practice focuses on defending manufacturers and retailers of consumer goods, food products, automotive and construction equipment, against complex and high exposure personal injury claims. In 2021, Christen was named as one of Nashville's 40 Under 40 by the Nashville Business Journal and as Best Lawyers' 2021 "Lawyer of the Year" for Litigation/Insurance Law in Nashville. Christen is active in ALFA International where she serves in the leadership of the Product Liability & Complex Torts and Hospitality Practice Groups. She is also currently Chair of the Women's Initiative Practice Group.

NICOLE M. BRUNSON is Head of Litigation & Disputes at ARRIVAL. Nicole practices general litigation, product liability, corporate matters and commercial disputes. She focuses on global cost avoidance and risk mitigation through business engagement. Nicole is a 2006 graduate of Indiana University School of Law- Bloomington (n/k/a/ Maurer School of Law) and a 1998 graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana, where she received a bachelor's degree in Biochemistry. Nicole also obtained an MBA in Marketing and Management from Christian Brothers University in 2002. Before joining Arrival in 2021, Nicole served as Associate General

Counsel, Commercial Litigation Americas for Trane Technologies and worked as an associate with Swanson Martin & Bell, LLP, a boutique litigation firm in Chicago, Illinois.

RITA M. CASTRO is employed by United Rentals, Inc., the largest rental company in the world with an integrated network of over 830 rental locations in 49 states, and 10 Canadian provinces. She acts as the Company's Associate General Counsel & Director (Claims & Risk Management). She is based in Modesto, California, and oversees the handling of the Company's auto, general liability, property and workers' compensation claims. After graduating from U.C.L.A. School of Law in 1993, Ms. Castro was in private practice where she gained substantial expertise in the handling of construction coverage disputes, construction defect litigation and general business matters.

QUO VADIS COBB is Vice President, Deputy General Counsel, Global Litigation for Jacobs. Quo Vadis is responsible for leading a team of litigation attorneys and professionals, driving litigation management and strategy, preparing reports for the Board and its Committees, and keeping the Executive Leadership Team informed and advised of significant litigation matters. Prior to joining Jacobs, Quo Vadis was

in-house counsel at Rockwell Automation for 10 years, most recently holding the position of General Counsel, Global Market Access & Litigation, serving as primary commercial legal support and counsel for both the company's Global Market Access team and its \$7B Global Sales and Marketing Organization for the Americas. Quo Vadis has a wealth of litigation and cross-functional experience in support of business operations, including having managed a global litigation portfolio, advising on M&A, divestitures and other strategic transactions, and leading a company-wide enterprise risk management program. Prior to her employment with Rockwell, amongst other roles, Quo Vadis served as in-house counsel for 84 Lumber Company and was in private practice as an attorney at K&L Gates, LLP. She is actively involved in the community in which she lives and works, currently serving as a Board Member for the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, the Cuyahoga County Library Foundation, and the Cleveland Play House. Quo Vadis obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics from Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, a Masters degree in Rhetoric from Carnegie Mellon University, and a Juris Doctor and Masters of Public Administration from Syracuse University. She has been practicing law since 2002.

ADAM H. COOPER is a member of the Albany, New York, ALFA International firm of Monaco Cooper Lamme & Carr, PLLC, concentrating his practice in the fields of product liability, food law and liability, professional liability, personal liability, and premises liability. His clients include commercial retailers, industrial manufacturers, food producers and processors. He also represents professionals before administrative licensing boards in the context of investigations and disciplinary hearings. He has achieved successful results for his clients at the trial and appellate levels and has extensive experience in motion practice. He has an "AV" rating from Martindale Hubbell and is listed as a New York "Super Lawyer." He is Past-President of the Federation of Bar Associations for the Fourth Judicial District of New York and Past-President of the Defense Research Institute of Northeastern, New York. Mr. Cooper obtained a bachelor's degree from St. Lawrence University and his law degree from the Albany Law School of Union University.

DINA M. COX is a partner with ALFA International member firm, Lewis Wagner, in Indianapolis, Indiana and was the Program Chair for the 2021 International Client Seminar. Dina is a legal strategist and trial attorney who honors responsive client service as a top priority. She has served as lead counsel in numerous lawsuits and bet-the-company litigation involving multi-million-dollar claims ranging from breach of contract, false advertising, unfair competition, unfair commercial practices, consumer fraud, and breach of warranty to claims of serious injury caused by products liability and professional negligence. Dina is an aggressive yet civil trial lawyer who has significant jury trial experience in state and federal courts and substantial appellate experience. Dina defends mass torts, class actions, government enforcement actions, drug and medical device cases, toxic tort and chemical exposure cases, and professional liability lawsuits including legal malpractice. Dina also counsels clients during government investigations and assists professionals facing disciplinary grievances and licensing issues. Dina's mass tort and class action defense work is national in scope and has included lawsuits filed in numerous states from New York to California as well as lawsuits consolidated as part of multi-district litigation. Dina is a regular faculty member for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy

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ROBERT DEROSSET practices law in the field of civil litigation with a special emphasis on construction, business, and product liability litigation at ALFA International member firm Young Moore & Henderson in Raleigh. He is licensed to practice law in both North Carolina and South Carolina, and is certified by the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission to conduct mediated settlement conferences in Superior Court cases. He is an active member of the construction and products liability and complex torts practice groups of ALFA International. He holds an AV rating from Martindale- Hubbell. Prior to joining Young Moore and Henderson in 2001, Robert practiced law for two years in Columbia, South Carolina and served as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer in Leon, Nicaragua.

AMBER O. DOVE is Litigation & Claims Counsel for Big Lots Stores, Inc., a community retailer headquartered in Columbus, Ohio with over 1,400 stores in 47 states. She is responsible for the leadership of the in-house general liability claims team and the general liability litigation docket. Prior to joining Big Lots in 2018, she spent over 15 years working in the insurance industry in various roles within the claims organization, including overseeing product liability matters and aviation.

CHRIS S. EGNER is a corporate attorney at Continental Tire the Americas, LLC in Fort Mill, South Carolina. Her global responsibilities include risk assessment and case evaluation for complex product liability, asbestos, toxic tort, and automotive systems matters. Ms. Egner also provides general legal advice and analysis of labor and employment matters, including responding to claims of discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, and conduct compliance training. She manages external counsel during all phases of litigation. She serves as the Chairman of the Information Governance Committee responsible for the management and evolution of Continental's U.S. legal hold data retention system. Prior to Continental, Ms. Egner practiced civil litigation at Thornton, Davis & Fein, P.A. n/k/a Clyde & Co. in Miami, Florida. She defended clients in product liability cases, including tire defects, pharmaceuticals, construction defects, and aviation matters. Prior to, she represented injured plaintiffs at Feldman & Getz in personal injury, medical malpractice, and securities arbitration and litigation cases. Ms. Egner is an active member of the Association of Corporate Counsel (Communications Committee, Charlotte, North Carolina Chapter), and American Bar Association. In 2016, she co-published, "Simplifying through Storytelling: Use of Animations and Graphics in Complex Product Liability Claims". She earned her J.D. from Nova Southeastern University. She is admitted to the Florida bar, Southern District of Florida, Middle District of Florida and Northern District of Florida.

BILL ELLISON serves as Vice President, Associate General Counsel for Lowe's. As vice president, associate general counsel, Bill is responsible for overseeing general liability litigation, legal technology and our insurance program. He joined Lowe's in 2014. Bill has more than 25 years of extensive litigation, risk mitigation and management experience. He served most recently as assistant general counsel. Previously, he served as senior counsel. Before joining Lowe's, he served

as a managing partner of The McIntosh Law Firm, where he led a broad practice, including jury trials, focused on complex commercial disputes, insurance, product liability and torts. Bill earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Campbell University and a law degree from Campbell's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law. He serves as officer/secretary of Lowe's Foundation.

GREGORY FARKAS is a partner with the ALFA International law firm in Cleveland, Ohio, Frantz Ward LLP. Greg's practice encompasses a variety of litigation matters, including commercial disputes, consumer fraud claims, and defense of bad faith and insurance coverage litigation. Greg has represented defendants in numerous class actions in state and federal courts and has authored several articles concerning class action practice.

SARA FLOWERS-DENT is Manager, Litigation Attorney for AutoZone, Inc. the leading retailer and a leading distributor of automotive replacement parts and accessories in the Americas. She began her career with AutoZone in 1998 at its headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee and handles an extensive litigation portfolio. She is directly responsible for asbestos, premises liability, commercial litigation, bankruptcy matters, merchandising and product liability litigation. In addition to her litigation responsibilities, she works with the Unemployment Compensation, Commercial Credit, Merchandising Claims, and Risk Management teams. She received a B.S. from Mississippi Valley State University and a J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law.

EMILY FRASCAROLI is Managing Counsel of the Product Litigation Group for Ford Motor Company, including the Product Litigation, Consumer, Asbestos, and Discovery teams. She also advises globally on automotive safety, regulatory, and product liability issues, including a focus on autonomous vehicles and mobility. She has extensive experience handling complex product litigation cases, regulatory matters with NHTSA and other governmental entities, and product defect investigations. She is also a lecturer at the University of Michigan Law School where she teaches a class about the legal issues involved with autonomous vehicles, and she is co-chair of the Legal and Insurance Working Group of MCity at the University of Michigan. In 2020, she was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Council on Future Mobility & Electrification, and in 2019 she was appointed by Governor Kasich to the DriveOhio Expert Advisory Board. She earned her JD, cum laude, from Wayne State University and was an editor of the Wayne Law Review. She received her BS in aerospace engineering from the University of Southern California and her MEng in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan. Prior to practicing law, she worked in engineering at both Ford and NASA.

GRACE V.B. GARCIA, a Partner in the Boston office of ALFA International member firm Morrison Mahoney LLP, concentrates her practice in the areas of product liability, construction law - including personal injury, construction defect, and contractual - OSHA, commercial litigation, employment litigation, premises liability and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) cases. Grace is the current Chair for the ALFA International Construction Practice Group, and

is the former Chair of the Women's Initiative Practice Group and a former member of ALFA International's Board of Directors. Grace has an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale Hubbell and in 2020 she was honored by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly with its "Circle of Excellence" after being honored in 2013 as a "Top Women of Law." Grace has almost 25 years of trial practice and litigation experience, and has obtained successful outcomes on behalf of her clients in both state and Federal Court trials. She also has successfully argued before the Appeals Court. Beyond ALFA, she is actively involved in many professional groups, and currently serves as President-Elect of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Grace is also a past President of the Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association and past DRI State Representative for Massachusetts. She is a routine lecturer on defending brain injuries, risk transfer and indemnity issues, best discovery practices and deposition techniques, and OSHA.

MONICA R. GARCIA is a Shareholder at the ALFA International member law firm of Butt Thornton & Baehr PC (BTB) in Albuquerque, NM, which she joined in 1998. Ms. Garcia litigates matters in federal and state courts of New Mexico in the areas of products liability, premises liability, trucking and transportation, wrongful death, consumer law, employment law, and general defense liability matters. Prior to joining BTB, she was an associate at Montgomery & Andrews PA, in Santa Fe, where she primarily practiced in the employment law arena.

STEVEN B. GETZOFF is a senior litigation partner at the ALFA International firm of Lester Schwab Katz & Dwyer in New York, NY, focusing in product liability, with an emphasis on Consumer and Recreational Products. His clients include manufacturers, distributors and national trade associations. For years he has represented manufacturers seeking to clarify and comply with the Federal and State product and safety legislation, including the new CPSIA, and the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act. He regularly serves as national and regional coordinator for multi-state litigations on behalf of nationally known product manufacturers. Mr. Getzoff has substantial experience with regard to manufacturer issues before the US Consumer Product Safety Commission. He has frequently served on CLE Programs addressing product liability law issues.

W. CRAIG HAMILTON is a partner in the ALFA International member firm McDowell Knight Roedder & Sledge based in Mobile, Alabama, where he is also Chairman of the Firm's Executive Committee. Craig has a diverse trial practice representing numerous product manufacturers and distributors, hospitals and medical clinics, trucking companies, and other businesses in a broad range of matters. Craig has tried a number of cases to verdict in state and federal courts in Alabama and Florida. Craig is a Sustaining Member of the Product Liability Advisory Council (PLAC) and he has been named to the Mid-South Super Lawyers in Product Liability since 2018. Craig obtained a B.S. in Marketing from Auburn University and he is a cum laude graduate of Cumberland School of Law. Craig has been active in the ALFAI Product Liability and Transportation Practice Groups for many years.

STEVE HAMILTON is a member of the ALFA International member firm, Hall & Evans, LLC, in Denver, Colorado. Steve is a litigation attorney with a diverse practice, but he mainly focuses on product liability defense.

His experience in the product liability field is national in scope and covers a broad spectrum of insured and self-insured manufacturers of automobiles, bikes, machinery and infrastructure components. He is a Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated attorney and has been recognized in the product liability practice area by Super Lawyers. Steve received his BS from Montana State University in 1994 and his JD from the University of Montana in 1997.

JOSH HUMPHRIES serves as Senior Counsel for WestRock. In that role, he is responsible for all general litigation and asbestos matters in the United States, and he was previously responsible for all employment, general litigation, and business litigation that arose within the boundaries of the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits. WestRock is a multinational provider of sustainable, fiber-based paper and packaging solutions with approximately \$19 billion in revenue produced by fifty thousand team members working in approximately three-hundred and fifteen facilities around the world. Prior to joining WestRock, Josh served as Senior Counsel for Jack Cooper Holdings Corp., a North American transportation and logistics provider, where he was responsible for customer and vendor contracts, litigation, and real property. At Jack Cooper, he also assisted with M&A transactions, corporate debt restructurings, as well as corporate governance matters. Before moving in-house, Josh was a securities litigation associate with the law firm now known as Hunton Andrews Kurth in its Charlotte then Atlanta offices after clerking for one year for Judge Stan Birch with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Josh received his law degree from Washington & Lee University School of Law, graduating cum laude, and received his AB in History from Princeton University. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia and enjoys everything.

MATTHEW D. JACOBSON is a Member in the Des Moines, Iowa ALFA International law firm of Whitfield & Eddy, PLC. Matt's litigation practice includes representing product manufacturers at state, regional and national levels. His practice also includes consulting with product manufacturers on issues relating to accident prevention, including formation of safety committees, performance of hazard analyses and composition of safety labels and manuals. For the past 18 years, Matt has spoken to a group of product manufacturers on a biannual basis to address issues relating to production liability prevention and defending product liability lawsuits. Matt is admitted to practice in both Iowa and Illinois, including the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Iowa and the Northern, Central and Southern Districts of Illinois. He has also represented clients on a pro hac vice basis in Wisconsin, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Alabama, New York, Michigan, Louisiana, West Virginia, Oklahoma, California, Kentucky, Kansas, South Carolina and Colorado. Matt earned his B.S. from the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts (1990) and his J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law (1993).

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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.

JOE KANG serves as Assistant General Counsel at KONE. Joe leads the Legal Operations practice group within the KONE Law department responsible for providing advice to all business functions and senior management regarding general corporate matters, regulatory compliance, commercial agreements, data protection, IP protection, risk management as well as mergers and acquisitions. During his tenure at KONE, Joe has been the lead attorney on numerous multi-million dollar strategic acquisitions and mergers. Joe is a 1984 graduate of Grinnell College in Iowa and obtained his law degree from DePaul University in Chicago. KONE is a global leader in the elevator and escalator industry, providing elevators, escalators and automatic building doors, as well as solutions for maintenance and modernization to add value to buildings throughout their life cycle. Through more effective People Flow®, we make people's journeys safe, convenient and reliable, in taller, smarter buildings.

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 active members of the Product Liability and Transportation Sections. Sheila is on the steering committees of the ALFA International Product Liability and Transportation Practice Groups and is the chair of the ALFA International Diversity and Inclusion Committee and Chair Emeritus of the Women's Initiative Practice Group. She is also a member of the Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA) and Women in Trucking. Sheila serves as national and regional coordinating counsel for manufacturers defending product liability cases across the country.

KATHRYN TARALLO KLAUS, Esq., is the Senior Risk Management Attorney, FDA Specialist, with Medmarc Insurance Group. Her focus is on legal matters faced by participants in the life sciences industry, specifically FDA regulatory compliance. She began her career with FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, where she worked on the Broad Spectrum Autism litigation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act. After leaving FDA, she worked in private practice with two national law firms, counseling clients through all phases of

the regulated product life cycle, including development and approval, manufacturing, labeling and advertising, and post-market concerns and enforcement. She has advised clients regarding defense against regulatory enforcement actions, including FDA 483 Inspectional Observations, Warning Letters, U.S. Customs detentions, product recalls, and DHHS OIG exclusion proceedings. She has also counseled clients through all health law-related aspects of major transactions, from conducting facility and records compliance auditing during due diligence investigations, to federal and state licensure requirements, and the development and implementation of improved compliance programs post-closing. She brings this experience in navigating the FDA landscape to Medmarc, where she works with colleagues in-house, as well as with policyholders, in developing regulatory compliance strategies in an effort to mitigate products liability losses. Ms. Klaus is a graduate of The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, and the College of the Holy Cross. She is a member of the Massachusetts Bar.

CHRISTIN KRÄMER is a partner of ALFA International member firm, Tiefenbacher, in Heidelberg, Germany. She is co-heading Tiefenbacher's International Division and leading partner of its corporate and commercial practice. Christin advises both German and international clients in all fields of corporate and commercial law with a particular focus on cross-border transactions. In January 2019, she obtained the distinction of being a Certified Specialist in Commercial and Corporate Law. She is therefore well experienced not only in transactional law but in all ramifications of corporate law, such as disputes between shareholders, litigation, directors' and officers' liability. Since October 2020, Christin is a member of the ALFA Future Leaders Forum and liaison to the International Law Practice Group.

JACOB LEHMAN is a trial lawyer and partner with ALFA International member firm, German, Gallagher & Murtagh P.C., in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He focuses his practice on complex civil litigation splitting his time between claims of professional negligence, product liability, and other matters involving catastrophic injury. He also has a significant commercial litigation practice. Jake's focus is on creativity, aggressive advocacy, and most of all client service. He is a 2006 graduate of Temple University and completed his law degree at Rutgers University School of Law in 2009. In 2017, he obtained an LLM in trial advocacy with honors from Temple University's nationally ranked trial advocacy program. He is an active member of the Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Bar Associations and the Temple American Inn of Court. He writes and presents on legal topics in various venues and publications. Jake has been honored by his peers including selection in 2016 as one of 35 "Lawyers on the Fast Track" by the Philadelphia Legal Intelligencer and by repeated inclusion in Law & Politics Magazine as a Super Lawyer: Rising Star, a distinction given to only 2.5% of Pennsylvania Attorneys under 40.

LEAH MAGUIRE is the Vice President, Inclusion and Diversity, leading Owens Corning's commitment to developing and executing the long-term I&D strategy to accelerate the growth of our people and our company. Partnering with our global leaders, she increases employee engagement, creates an even more positive work environment, and implements best practices for attracting, growing, and retaining

outstanding talent. Leah joined Owens Corning in March 2011 as Director, Labor and Employment Law. She helped to lead legal matters for Owens Corning which included employment law, litigation management, agency charges, compliance policy and labor issues. Specifically, she led teams on HRIS capital spend compliance projects and affirmative action plans. Her diverse experience and expertise included responsibility for all facets of employment law in North America. She served on the global Business Conduct Code Compliance Committee and conducted pre-acquisition employment and labor due diligence and risk analysis. Leah received her graduate degree (J.D.) from Wayne State University Law School. Prior to joining Owens Corning, Leah held similar positions at RGIS and Borders, where she distinguished herself as a creative, results-oriented advisor to business leaders. In her spare time, Leah enjoys cooking, gardening, and spending time with her family and their three dogs.

GRACE MCDONELL is a litigation associate with Fasken LLP in their Vancouver office. She is a member of the firmwide Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee and helped develop the firm's pronoun usage resource guide in addition to other DEI educational materials. In addition to her general litigation practice, Grace advises clients on DEI issues, with a specific expertise in LGBTQ2SIA+ topics. Grace is a director of the Canadian Bar Association's Sexual Orientation & Gender Inclusion Committee (BC Branch) and was recently named an Emerging Leader by the University of Toronto, Victoria College.

COLLIN MOORE is Corporate Counsel and Project Manager for Alltech, Inc. with responsibility for litigation and ADR management, construction and EPC contracts globally, intellectual property, EHS, and commercial contract negotiations. Before joining Alltech in 2012, Collin worked in project management and research and development for Martek Biosciences Corporation and DSM. Alltech is a leading privately-owned global biotechnology company whose mission is to improve the health and performance of people, animals, and plants through natural nutrition and scientific innovation. Based in Lexington, Kentucky, Alltech has over 6,000 employees worldwide. They have 100 production facilities strategically positioned across the globe and three bioscience centers. Alltech also collects data from 144 countries and nearly 30,000 feed mills to compile its annual Alltech Global Feed Survey.

JOHN OSGATHORPE is a managing partner and shareholder with Taylor Day, the ALFA International member firm in Jacksonville, Florida. In his practice, John protects the interests of companies, management teams, and business owners in a diverse array of commercial and torts disputes in Florida. His broad experience includes representing companies contract disputes, corporate control/fiduciary litigation, business torts, and real property disputes, as well as the defense of retailers, manufacturers, and trucking companies in significant injury claims. He is a member of the Florida Bar and Illinois Bar (inactive). John graduated from Indiana University (Economics) and Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis. He served as an Associate Editor for the Indiana International and Comparative Law Review and studied law at East China University of Political Science in Shanghai and Temple University's School of Law-Tokyo. John is active in both ALFA's Products Liability Practice Group and Business Litigation Practice Group (including as Chair for the 2021 Seminar rescheduled to September

2022 due to COVID). He previously served as ALFA's Treasurer and on ALFA's Board of Directors, as well as continuing to serve on special committees for ALFA from time to time.

KEVIN OWENS is an equity shareholder in the ALFA International Chicago member law firm of Johnson & Bell, Ltd., and is co-chair of the firm's Product Liability Practice Group. His trial practice includes the defense of catastrophic injury, consumer, industrial, medical device, and other product liability actions, construction and general negligence actions, and the litigation of commercial disputes in state and federal courts. His experience also includes the defense of construction product defect actions, and litigation of contract actions at law and equity. He is also a certified mediator, having completed intensive mediation training and certification through Chicago's prestigious Center for Conflict Resolution. As a complex case mediator, Mr. Owens focuses his mediation practice on civil and commercial disputes involving product liability, complex and catastrophic injury cases, and construction matters. He is a graduate of Marquette University and DePaul University College of Law. Mr. Owens is past Chairman of ALFA International's Product Liability and Complex Litigation Practice Group, and is presently a member of its Steering Committee. He is also currently Chair of the ALFA International Board of Directors.

MICHAEL PARRISH is a partner at ALFA International member firm Fasken LLP in Vancouver, Canada. He is recognized as one of the leading product liability, insurance and complex tort litigators in western Canada. Michael regularly defends and advises manufacturers and their insurers in a wide variety of claims and regulatory matters. He has been involved in numerous significant cases which have generated leading and ground-breaking court decisions. Michael regularly writes and speaks on topics related to product liability, insurance, torts and civil litigation.

JENNIFER PEDEVILLANO is a partner with ALFA International member firm, Halloran Sage, in New Haven, Connecticut. She focuses her practice in the areas of Construction, Labor & Employment, and Litigation, and has extensive experience in contract disputes, products liability, complex commercial and corporate litigation matters as well as representing employers in all areas of labor and employment law. Jen's clients range from large corporations to individuals. She has experience trying cases before arbitrators, judges, and juries, and she frequently handles large complex matters involving significant electronic discovery. Jen uses technology to the client's benefit in the preparation of a case for litigation as well as during trial/arbitration. She earned her BA, magna cum laude, from DeSales University and her JD, magna cum laude, from Quinnipiac University School of Law.

MICHAEL RAINEY is a shareholder of the ALFA International member firm of Young Moore and Henderson, P.A. in Raleigh, North Carolina. Michael focuses his practice on the field of complex civil litigation including the defense of catastrophic injury and wrongful death actions in product liability, commercial trucking, and premises liability cases. He is a member of the firm's emergency response "Go Team" and has substantial experience in coordinating emergency response and investigation of catastrophic losses throughout North Carolina. Michael also represents landowners, businesses, and developers whose

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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. Barath also is the Co-President of Friends of Riley, a local young professional fundraising organization for the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

BETH ROSE is a member of ALFA International member firm Sills Cummis & Gross in Newark, New Jersey, where she chairs the Product Liability Practice Group and is a Co-Chair of the Litigation Practice Group. She has tried complex product liability cases to verdict in state and federal courts throughout the country. Ms. Rose has over 25 years of experience successfully defending complex product liability matters for consumer products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, foods, chemicals and construction/ industrial machines to name a few. During her career, she has served as national counsel to several companies, including those in the pharmaceutical, medical device and contract research organization spaces, defending mass tort litigation. She has also served as New Jersey counsel to entities defending complex product liability claims in New Jersey's Multi-County Litigation system. Since 2008, she has been recognized in the Chambers USA® Guide to America's Leading Lawyers for Business. Since 2014, she has been named in Benchmark's Top 250 Women in Litigation: the Definitive Guide to the Leading Female Attorneys in the U.S.® Ms. Rose received her B.A. with honors from Wesleyan University and her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

JENNIFER ROSEMARK is Litigation Counsel for Resideo Technologies, Inc., a leading global provider of home comfort and security solutions that spun off from Honeywell International Inc. in 2018. Prior to joining Honeywell, Jenny was outside counsel for 20 years for Honeywell and other manufacturers defending them across the country against fire, explosion, carbon monoxide, and scald claims, involving products ranging from gas valves to alarm systems to temperature controls. She joined Honeywell in 2012 and Resideo in 2018. She is responsible for overseeing and managing all of Resideo's litigation, including product liability matters and commercial disputes.

SCOTT RUSERT is a shareholder of ALFA International member firm, Nilan Johnson Lewis PA, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is a board-certified civil trial specialist who has handled cases as lead counsel in state and federal courts in 34 different states. Scott has served as national product liability counsel to two different Minnesota-based Fortune 500 manufacturers and is currently national coordinating counsel on asbestos cases for a subsidiary of an Illinois-based Fortune 200 company. Scott is chair of the Civil Litigation Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association, a member of the Minnesota Civil Trial Specialist Certification Board, and a Qualified Neutral under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice for both mediations and arbitrations. He is also a past Board Secretary for the Hennepin Health Foundation and a member of the Board of Governors for the Minnesota State Bar Association.

CHRIS SCHILDER is Deputy General Counsel & Vice President of Risk Management at BrandSafway, a conglomeration of entities which combine into one of the world's largest scaffolding, access and industrial insulation and painting service providers. With more than 350 locations in 30 countries worldwide, the BrandSafway companies deliver efficient, high-performance multiservice solutions to a diverse customer base. Chris has responsibility for BrandSafway's Litigation and Contracts practices and oversees its Risk Management Department. Prior to joining BrandSafway in 2009, Chris was in private practice in Milwaukee, WI. Chris received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin and his JD from the University of Michigan.

JEFF SEFTON is Senior Litigation Counsel and National Trial Counsel for Cintas Corporation. He serves as first-chair counsel on many of the company's high-exposure cases and oversees numerous other active litigated matters throughout the country. He is also involved in the company's numerous risk reduction efforts. He holds an undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and J.D. and LL.M degrees from Capital University Law School. Jeff served two two-year terms as a federal law clerk to two different federal judges and was a partner at Keating Muething and Klekamp in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he represented both plaintiffs and defendants in contentious litigation in numerous areas of the law, including antitrust, class action, financial, product liability, personal injury litigation, and complex commercial litigation. He joined Cintas Corporation in 2014.

IMRAN SHAUKAT is a principal with the ALFA International member firm of Semmes, Bowen & Semmes in Baltimore, Maryland, where his practice focuses on maritime law, products liability, commercial litigation, transportation, and employment-related disputes. Imran regularly represents clients in Maryland and Washington D.C. courts. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland and his law degree from the University of Baltimore.

AKO SHIMADA is Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary of Ushio America, Inc., in Cypress, California. Ushio America is a leading provider of light sources and solutions for a variety of applications including scientific, medical, infection prevention, semiconductor, entertainment, horticulture, and architectural applications. Ushio America is a subsidiary of Ushio Inc., a publicly traded global manufacturer in Tokyo, Japan. In her role as General

Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Ako oversees the company's legal, compliance, risk management, and corporate governance matters. She also serves on the board of directors of KA Imaging Inc. in Kitchener, Canada, a developer of cutting-edge multi-energy X-ray detectors and micro-CT scanners for a wide variety of applications. Ako serves as the Regional Chair for the Southern California/Southwest Region of the U.S.-Japan Council. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) and as Chair of ACC's International Legal Affairs Network. Ako was born and raised in Japan and received her B.S., highest distinction, from Northwestern University and J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law where she was on the school's law review and Editor-in-Chief of the Loyola Forum of International Law.

ROBERT G. SMITH is a shareholder with ALFA International member firm Lorance Thompson PC in Houston, Texas. Rob is on the steering committee for the ALFA International Product Liability & Complex Torts Practice Group and has presented at multiple ALFA International events. In the International Association of Defense Counsel, Rob currently serves as the vice chair of Programs and Projects for the Medical Defense & Health Law Committee, and he is a member of the Product Liability and Business Litigation Committees. Rob has defended manufacturers (heavy equipment, durable medical equipment, sporting goods), health care providers, and other businesses, both large and small, in litigation as well as assist with contractual and transactional matters. Rob graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in mathematics from Louisiana State University and attended law school at the University of Houston College of Law. He is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and has tried a wide variety of cases during his 25+ years of practice.

EDWARD SULLIVAN is the Vice-President, General Counsel and Secretary of NIBCO INC, a leading manufacturer of flow control products. After 25 years as a commercial litigator in private practice with Faegre Baker Daniels (now Faegre Drinker), Ed joined NIBCO in 2017 and now oversees all legal matters for the company, plays a key role on the executive leadership team and acts as counsel to the Board of Directors. For many years Ed has been a frequent teacher in programs offered by the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) on deposition skills, trial advocacy, negotiations and legal ethics. Recently he was appointed by the Indiana Supreme Court to the Indiana Disciplinary Commission. He earned his B.A. degree from Villanova University and his J.D. degree from the Notre Dame Law School where he is an adjunct member of the faculty.

DARTH VAUGHN is Litigation Counsel and Legal Innovation & Technology Operations manager for Ford Motor Company, where he oversees Autonomous Vehicles and Dealer Franchise Litigation for Ford's Office of General Counsel. Darth is a former trial attorney and data-driven lawyer who previously represented corporations in a wide-range of tort-based litigation. As a former business technology consultant with Accenture, Darth utilized his substantial technical knowledge and expertise to partner with in-house legal departments to implement legal operations and technology platforms to better manage resources and facilitate innovative problem solving. Darth also consulted on the application of artificial intelligence to analyze and

identify potential legal risk to companies. Darth now utilizes these skills to lead the Legal Innovation & Technology Operations team at Ford Motor Company's Office of General Counsel, where he has pioneered and implemented a number of technologies and process upgrades to improve the function of legal operations and the business. Over Darth's career, he has handled all aspects of case management and litigation from beginning to end and was a successful trial lawyer who defended clients in both local and national state and federal courts, including the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Darth has extensive experience representing manufacturers and suppliers of various consumer and industrial products and he has successfully defended automotive manufacturers and dealers in product liability, asbestos, and consumer fraud matters.

JOLENE WALL is Deputy General Counsel at REI, a national retail cooperative providing quality outdoor gear and apparel. Jolene supports the organization by providing legal review and advice in all aspects of the company's business. Responsibilities include providing legal support to the Human Resources and Merchandising Departments and the Coop Brands Division of the company, which designs, develops, and sources REI-branded gear and apparel. She also facilitates the company's Enterprise Risk Management program and oversees corporate compliance programs including the Code of Conduct, Records Management, Trade Compliance, Product Regulatory Compliance and Employment Practices as well as provides support to the Board of Directors and oversees the Litigation function of the department. Jolene joined REI in June 2007 from RadioShack Corporation, where she served as in-house counsel and Senior Director of Ethics and Compliance. As a corporate attorney at RadioShack, her primary areas of responsibility included advertising and marketing, product safety and compliance, supply chain management, and privacy matters. In her ethics and compliance role, Jolene was responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring an enterprise-wide ethics and compliance program. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Washington State University and her Juris Doctorate from Texas A&M University School of Law. She is licensed to practice in Washington and Texas.

JACKIE BRYK WELCH is Vice President - Litigation at The J. M. Smucker Company based in Orrville, Ohio. She graduated from John Carroll University in 2001 followed by The Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University in 2004. Following law school, Jackie joined Flaherty Sensabaugh Bonasso PLLC in Charleston, West Virginia. In 2010, she joined Tucker Ellis LLP in Cleveland, Ohio, followed by Smucker in October 2011. Her practice entails managing the Company's litigation portfolio and claims including class action litigation, California's Proposition 65 litigation, and commercial disputes. Jackie resides in Cleveland with her husband (Brian), their three children (Christian - 13, Emely - 3, and Megan - 2), and rambunctious Cavapoo (Penny).

KYM WELLONS is VP, Legal, HR & Sustainability for Silgan Dispensing Systems, a global provider of dispensing solutions for some of the world's most iconic brands - from triggers and pumps to sprayers and closures. SDS has a team of 6400 associates in over 20 locations in over 9 countries working to deliver meticulously engineered solutions that make dispensing cleaner, more comfortable and more efficient. Kym leads a cross functional team of 100+ associates spanning legal services, human resources, sustainability, product stewardship, environmental compliance and safety. Kym formerly worked for WestRock Company as VP, Global Litigation and for Massey Energy as Senior Counsel and Special Counsel to the CEO. Prior to her in-house roles, Kym worked as a litigator specializing in employment at Stoll, Keenon & Park and Squire, Sanders & Dempsey. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School.

JACQUELINE A. WHITE is Associate General Counsel for Illinois Tool Works Inc. (ITW), providing legal counsel to ITW's decentralized businesses and managing the company's litigation, with a particular focus on product liability, toxic tort and complex civil litigation. Ms. White is also Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Hobart Brothers Company. In this role, she manages the company's toxic tort litigation and represents Hobart Brothers on an executive committee comprised of current and former welding consumable manufacturers who manage and direct welding litigation nationwide. Prior to joining ITW, Ms. White was a partner at Kirkland & Ellis in Chicago. Ms. White is a graduate of Harvard Law School and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from New York University. Ms. White is a member of the American Bar Association and the Minority Corporate Counsel Women of Color. She is a former board member of the Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic, the Chicago Committee on Minorities in Large Law Firms and The Hyde Park Suzuki Institute. Currently, Ms. White serves as an advisory committee member to "Forward" - an organization whose mission is to accelerate the advancement of diverse corporate counsel and other business professionals in the Chicago area.

MINDY WHITE serves as Chief Counsel, Litigation & Employment for Quanta Services, Inc., a Fortune 300 integrated infrastructure solutions provider for the electric power, oil & gas and telecommunications industries, overseeing all litigation and employment matters companywide. Previously, Mindy served as Associate General Counsel for Layne Christensen Company, a global water management, construction and drilling company. Mindy started her career in at Shook, Hardy and Bacon where she practiced litigation. Mindy also owned and managed the Kansas City Tribe Women's Tackle Football Team from 2008 -2012. She played linebacker and receiver for the Tribe and won a National Championship in 2009, and Gold Medal at the IFAF Championship in 2010. Mindy earned her Juris Doctorate from the University of Missouri, Kansas City.

GENERAL INFORMATION

MEETING LOCATION

FAIRMONT GRAND DEL MAR
5300 Grand Del Mar Court
San Diego, CA 92130
Tel: (858) 314-2000
[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 Thursday 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 have an outdoor element and it may get chilly so a sweater or light jacket is recommended. The optional off-site Friday dinner is also “resort casual” and will be an indoor/outdoor event.

CLE CREDIT

ALFA International is an approved CLE provider in Illinois, California & Pennsylvania and certifies this program has been approved for seven hours of general CLE in these states. 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 ALFA International 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. .

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