

# 2026 Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee CLE Seminar

March 4–7, 2026

Loews Ventana Canyon Resort  
Tucson, AZ



[ambar.org/litigationinsurance](https://ambar.org/litigationinsurance)

#LitigationInsurance

## Wi-Fi Information

Network: **2026ICLC**

Password: **aba2026!**



AMERICANBARASSOCIATION

Litigation Section

# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## Wednesday, March 4

**Early Bird & First-Time Attendee Reception** | 5:30 PM–6:30 PM |

*Included in Registration*

Join us at our kick-off reception to catch up with ICLC colleagues and friends and create new connections. Drinks and light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

**Networking Dine-Arounds** | 6:30 PM–9:00 PM | *Pay on Own*

Sign up for the very popular pay-on-your-own dine-arounds to continue the conversation from the day's sessions and reinforce lasting relationships with fellow attendees. Please sign up [here](#) as space is limited. For those who have already signed up, we kindly ask that you please be prepared to pay your host using cash, Venmo, or Zelle, or request that the restaurant split the check. You will receive a confirmation email from Maria Gamboa with instructions and the list of participants in your dine-around.

## Thursday, March 5

**Networking Breakfast** | 8:00 AM–9:15 AM | *Included in Registration*

Start the day by networking in small groups over breakfast.

**Grab-and-Go Lunch** | 12:15 PM–1:15 PM | *Ticketed: \$55*

Fuel up for our afternoon sessions with a grab-and-go lunch buffet.

**Subcommittees Meet-Up** | 5:00 PM–5:30 PM | *Included in Registration*

All ICLC attendees are invited to this interactive session. Connect with peers, hear directly from leadership on the committee's current initiatives, and learn about opportunities to get involved with subcommittees and develop content.

**Welcome Reception** | 5:30 PM–6:30 PM | *Complimentary*

Mix and mingle with fellow attendees before heading out to one of your favorite Tucson dinner spots. Drinks and light hors d'oeuvres will be served.



# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## Friday, March 7

### **Networking Breakfast** | 7:00 AM–8:00 AM | *Included in Registration*

Enjoy breakfast with Section friends and the new contacts you have made at the seminar.

### **Roundtables Luncheon** | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM | *Ticketed: \$65*

The roundtable discussions are open to all seminar attendees and merge valuable networking with programming. Select one of the 18 topics and discuss with your tablemates over lunch. Each table will have a maximum of 11 spots available, with up to two seats reserved for the speakers. Sign-ups are on a first-come, first-served basis. A full list of topics and descriptions can be found on pages 29–36.

### **Round Robin Tennis Tournament** | 2:45 PM–4:30 PM | *Ticketed: \$30*

A Round Robin Doubles Tennis Tournament will be coordinated by the resort's tennis pro. Playing partners will be assigned upon arrival. Contact [Maria Gamboa](#) with any questions.

### **Golf Tournament** | 2:45 PM–5:00 PM | *Ticketed: \$150*

The Golf Tournament will begin shortly after the Roundtables Luncheon. Participants will receive an email requesting preferred playing partners and club rental information.

### **Women's Reception** | 6:00 PM–7:00 PM | *Included in Registration*

All attendees are invited to join us in support and celebration of women litigators at the seminar. Drinks and light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

### **Reception and Dinner** | 7:00 PM–10:00 PM | *Ticketed: \$110*

Step right up for an evening of carnival fun! Join us for a carnival-themed dinner party packed with festive fun, delicious bites, exciting games, and karaoke.



# SCHEDULE

## Wednesday, March 4

TIME	CLE	EVENT	LOCATION
4:00 PM–6:30 PM		Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
4:30 PM–5:30 PM		Editorial Board Meeting <i>(Open to All)</i>	Rincon
5:30 PM–6:30 PM		Early Bird & First-Time Attendee Reception <i>(All attendees welcome)</i>	Ventana Heights Terrace
6:30 PM–9:00 PM		Networking Dine-Arounds <i>(Pay on own)</i>	Various Restaurants
9:00 PM–12:00 AM		After-Hours Hospitality Suite	Suite 2205

## Thursday, March 5

TIME	CLE	EVENT	LOCATION
7:30 AM–6:00 PM		Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:00 AM–5:30 PM		Speaker Ready Room	Coronado
8:00 AM–9:15 AM		Networking Breakfast	Grand Ballroom Foyer
9:15 AM–9:30 AM		Opening Remarks	Salon AB
9:30 AM–10:45 AM	General	Plenary: Personal Jurisdiction and Insurance Coverage: Time to Break Out of Your 1L Civ Pro Outline	Salon AB
10:45 AM–11:00 AM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer
11:00 AM–12:15 PM	General	Plenary: Clause and Effect: An Environmental Coverage Update on Emerging Contaminants and Other Hot Topics	Salon AB
12:15 PM–1:15 PM		Grab-and-Go Lunch <i>(Ticketed: \$55)</i>	Grand Ballroom Foyer

# SCHEDULE

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

TIME	CLE	EVENT	LOCATION
1:15 PM–2:15 PM	General	Breakout: Five Years Later: The Impact of COVID-Era Physical Loss Rulings on Non-COVID Rulings	Salon A
	General	Breakout: Shifting Sands: Tackling Attribution Disputes and the <i>Kane</i> Ruling in Cyber Coverage	Salon B
	General	Breakout: Déjà Sued: Coverage Pitfalls and Possibilities for Related Claims Under Claims-Made Liability Policies	Salon C
	General	Breakout: Keys to a Successful Claim Submission: A Multi-Perspective Panel	Catalina Ballroom
2:15 PM–2:30 PM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer
2:30 PM–3:30 PM	General	Breakout: A D&O Conversation: Cutting-Edge Issues in D&O Insurance and Coverage Disputes	Salon A
	General	Breakout: No Safe Harbor Here—Keep Rowing!: Recent Developments in First-Party Bad-Faith and the Risks of Disputed Value of Damaged or Destroyed Property	Salon B
	General	Breakout: Framing the Issue: Trends in Coverage Litigation Arising from Large-Scale Construction Projects	Salon C
	General	Breakout: Mediating Insurance Disputes: Paths to Success in Both Underlying and Coverage Mediations	Catalina Ballroom
3:30 PM–3:45 PM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer

# SCHEDULE

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

TIME	CLE	EVENT	LOCATION
3:45 PM–4:45 PM	General	Breakout: Paper to Platform: Parametrics, Pop-Up Policies, and the Perils of Progress	Salon A
	General	Breakout: The Evolution of the Pollution Exclusion: Varying Interpretations and Evidence Required to Use It	Salon B
	General	Breakout: Arbitration, Mediation, Litigation, or Something Else? What Is the Best Option for Your Matter and Why?	Salon C
	Ethics	Breakout: If the Privileged Communication Ain't Broker, Don't Fix It!: When Broker Communications Are Protected by Privilege	Catalina Ballroom
5:00 PM–5:30 PM		Subcommittee ICLC Link: Learn, Lead, Connect <i>(All are encouraged to attend to join a subcommittee and learn how to become more active in the ICLC.)</i>	Grand Ballroom Foyer
5:30 PM–6:30 PM		Welcome Reception	Grand Ballroom Foyer
9:00 PM–10:00 PM		Nightcap with Litigation Section Chair-Elect Amy Stewart	Presidential Suite 4274
10:00 PM–12:00 AM		After-Hours Hospitality Suite	Suite 2205

# SCHEDULE

## Friday, March 6

TIME	CLE	EVENT	LOCATION
7:00 AM–1:00 PM		Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 AM–1:00 PM		Speaker Ready Room	Coronado
7:00 AM–8:00 AM		Networking Breakfast	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:00 AM–9:00 AM	General	Plenary: Are Bad Faith and Coverage Experts Admissible at Trial?	Salon AB
9:00 AM–9:15 AM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer
9:15 AM–10:30 AM	General	Plenary: View from the Bench: Effective Advocacy at the Trial Court Level and on Appeal	Salon AB
10:30 AM–10:45 AM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer
10:45 AM–11:45 AM	General	Breakout: Keep on Truckin': Insurers' Right to Be Heard in Mass Tort Bankruptcies After <i>Truck</i>	Salon A
	General	Breakout: The New Frontier: Data Centers, AI, and Insurance Implications	Salon B
	General	Breakout: Not Your [Grand]father's Allocations: Advanced Allocation Strategies for Modern Claims	Salon C
	General	Breakout: Who Files First? Navigating Insurer-Initiated Declaratory Relief Actions	Catalina Ballroom
11:45 AM–11:55 AM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer

# SCHEDULE

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

TIME	CLE	EVENT	LOCATION
11:55 AM–12:55 PM	General	Breakout: Autonomous Vehicles: Liability, Coverage, and ADAS Litigation	Salon A
	General	Breakout: Navigating the Landscape of Emerging Claims under Liability and Bermuda Form Policies	Salon B
	General	Breakout: Navigating Insurance Coverage Amidst Escalating Climate Risks	Salon C
	General	Breakout: Intelligent Coverage? How AI Is Reshaping Insurance	Catalina Ballroom
1:05 PM–2:20 PM		Roundtables Luncheon Buffet ( <i>Ticketed: \$65</i> )	Grand Ballroom Foyer
		Roundtables 1–4	Coronado
		Roundtables 5–7	Rincon
		Roundtables 8–10	Santa Rita
		Roundtables 11–13	Sabino
		Roundtables 14–15	Executive Boardroom
		Roundtables 16–18	Sonora
2:30 PM–5:00 PM		Golf Tournament ( <i>Ticketed: \$125; 2:45 PM Tee Time</i> )	Mountain Course
2:45 PM–5:00 PM		Guided Hike Sponsored by Round Table Group ( <i>Invitation Only</i> )	Meet in Main Lobby
2:45 PM–4:30 PM		Round Robin Tennis Tournament ( <i>Ticketed: \$30</i> )	Tennis Courts
6:00 PM–7:00 PM		Women's Reception ( <i>All attendees welcome</i> )	Kiva Patio (Outdoors)
7:00 PM–10:00 PM		Reception and Dinner ( <i>Ticketed: \$110</i> )	Kiva Ballroom
10:00 PM–1:00 AM		After-Hours Hospitality Suite	Suite 2205

# SCHEDULE

## Saturday, March 7

TIME	CLE	EVENT	LOCATION
7:00 AM–12:30 PM		Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 AM–12:00 PM		Speaker Ready Room	Coronado
7:00 AM–8:15 AM		Networking Breakfast	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:15 AM–9:15 AM	General	Plenary: The Risk That Never Ends: Insurance Coverage for Long-Tail Claims in 2026	Salon A
9:15 AM–9:30 AM		Networking Breakfast	Grand Ballroom Foyer
9:30 AM–10:30 AM	General	Plenary: Towers of Risk: Duties, Ethics, and Extracontractual Exposure in Multi-Layer Coverage	Salon A
10:30 AM–10:45 AM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer
10:45 AM–11:45 AM	General	Plenary: How Much Is One Picture Worth?: Visual and Data-Driven Tools for Clarifying Coverage and Illuminating Claims	Salon A
11:45 AM–11:55 AM		Networking Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer
11:55 AM–12:55 PM	Ethics	Plenary: Ethics, AI, and ADR: A Practical Guide to Using Generative AI Effectively and Ethically	Salon A

# PROGRAMMING

Thursday, March 5

**Plenary: Personal Jurisdiction and Insurance Coverage: Time to Break Out of Your 1L Civ Pro Outline**

9:30 AM–10:45 AM

*General CLE*

Insurance coverage disputes can hinge entirely on where a case is filed, as the forum's law typically controls under the Second Restatement unless an actual conflict exists. The choice of forum can mean tens of millions of dollars to policyholders and insurers alike. In recent years, the arcane rules of personal jurisdiction have become a new battleground, especially after the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions in *Daimler AG v. Bauman* (2014) and *Mallory v. Norfolk Southern Ry. Co.* (2023). This mock class will explore the evolving doctrines of specific and general jurisdiction, consent, the McCarran–Ferguson Act, service-of-suit clauses, and jurisdictional discovery—along with why, in the spirit of *Pennoyer v. Neff*, the Fourteenth Amendment still cares about these concepts. Join us for a lively, law school–style discussion and leave with practical insights to better serve your clients.

**Moderator: Jeffrey W. Stempel**, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV

**Panelists: Christopher Kozak**, Plews Shadley Racher & Braun LLP, Indianapolis, IN; **Chris Popecki**, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, Los Angeles, CA; **Chad Schreiber**, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Houston, TX

# PROGRAMMING

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

### **Plenary: Clause and Effect: An Environmental Coverage Update on Emerging Contaminants and Other Hot Topics**

11:00 AM–12:15 PM

*General CLE*

This program will feature a lively conversation on cutting-edge environmental insurance coverage issues under current and historic policies. The panel will provide a technical, legal, and market update on PFAS, as well as explore other hot topics such as recent coverage issues and developments with ethylene oxide, microplastics, and other emerging contaminants; biosolids; products pollution; and noteworthy case law developments.

**Moderator:** **Nicole Weinstein**, Beveridge & Diamond PC, New York, NY

**Panelists:** **Michael Barden**, Hydro Geo Chem Inc., Tucson, AZ; **James Vetter**, Marsh USA, Cody, WY; **Vivian Villegas**, Zurich North America, New York, NY

### **Breakout: Five Years Later: The Impact of COVID-Era Physical Loss Rulings on Non-COVID Rulings**

1:15 PM–2:15 PM

*General CLE*

This program will analyze how COVID-era rulings finding that commercial property policies do not provide coverage for pandemic-related losses (including business interruption) have been applied to cases not related to COVID.

**Moderator:** **Michael Gehrt**, McGuireWoods LLP, Manhattan Beach, CA

**Panelists:** **Daniel Heidtke**, Duane Morris LLP, Seattle, WA; **Drew P. Rosell**, Herold & Sager, Encinitas, CA

# PROGRAMMING

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

### **Breakout: Shifting Sands: Tackling Attribution Disputes and the Kane Ruling in Cyber Coverage**

1:15 PM–2:15 PM

*General CLE*

In this highly interactive session, cyber insurance coverage lawyers square off to debate what happens when first-party losses become third-party claims, building off the New Mexico intermediate appellate court's June 2025 ruling in *Kane v. Beazley USA Services Inc.* The fact pattern and the ruling highlight the uniqueness of cyber policies and the benefits and challenges associated with their treatment of different types of overlapping risks.

**Panelists:** **Natalie DuBose**, Haynes and Boone LLP, Dallas, TX; **Jennifer Gibbs**, Zelle LLP, Dallas, TX; **Breanna Jones**, Covington & Burling LLP, San Francisco, CA; **Peter Rosen**, JAMS, Los Angeles, CA

### **Breakout: Déjà Sued: Coverage Pitfalls and Possibilities for Related Claims Under Claims-Made Liability Policies**

1:15 PM–2:15 PM

*General CLE*

A claims-made liability policy covers lawsuits filed against the insured during the policy period. But not so fast. Under a standard policy provision, “related claims” may be treated as a single claim and deemed to have been made in an earlier policy period. What makes two or more claims “related” is a famously nebulous concept that continues to confound insurance practitioners and the courts. And a relatedness determination can cut both ways—sometimes benefiting the insurer and other times the insured. This panel will discuss trends and developments in the law on this important topic.

**Moderator:** **Bradley J. Nash**, Hoguet Newman Regal & Kenney LLP, New York, NY  
**Panelists:** **Jennifer O. Farina**, McCarter & English LLP, Newark, NJ; **Jonathan S. Zelig**, Day Pitney LLP, Boston, MA

# PROGRAMMING

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

### **Breakout: Keys to a Successful Claim Submission: A Multi-Perspective Panel**

1:15 PM–2:15 PM

*General CLE*

This panel engages a multi-perspective conversation between policyholder counsel, insurer counsel, broker counsel, and a forensic accountant regarding best practices for a successful claims submission. This panel will discuss the claims submission process generally, how to best facilitate positive communication amongst all parties, and how to best evaluate a claim. This program is intended to provide an overview for newer attorneys while engaging in a collegial conversation from different perspectives, which will benefit all attorneys.

**Moderator:** **Haley H. Casper**, Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Chicago, IL

**Panelists:** **Bradley Dlatt**, Lathrop GPM LLP, Chicago, IL; **Stephen A. Melendi**, Tollefson Bradley Mitchell & Melendi LLP, Dallas, TX; **Lisa Syzmanski**, Aon, Philadelphia, PA; **QueChau Thai**, BRG, Portland, OR

### **Breakout: A D&O Conversation: Cutting-Edge Issues in D&O Insurance and Coverage Disputes**

2:30 PM–3:30 PM

*General CLE*

This session will explore evolving directors and officers (D&O) coverage in times of global and technological change, involving topics such as AI and changing government policies, and issues and claims that impact D&O policies. The panel will discuss trends in coverage disputes and cases of note in litigation involving D&O policies.

**Moderator:** **Michael W. Early**, Old Republic Professional, Chicago, IL

**Panelists:** **Ruth Kochenderfer**, Marsh, Washington, DC; **Arden Levy**, Arden Levy Law, Washington, DC

# PROGRAMMING

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

### **Breakout: No Safe Harbor Here—Keep Rowing!: Recent Developments in First-Party Bad Faith and the Risks of Disputed Value of Damaged or Destroyed Property**

2:30 PM–3:30 PM

*General CLE*

This panel will explore recent case law expanding exposure for bad faith in the first-party context, where “reasonable” disputes over values presumably precluded or impacted payment for property losses. There will be a discussion of the proper use of expert opinions and testimony to explain and justify claims determinations, and the limitations on expert battles in later claims of bad faith. Tips for preparing adequate claims submissions and conducting/documenting full claims investigations where agreement on values is unlikely will be explored, as well as strategies on both sides of the “v” for accomplishing a mutual beneficial adjustment where possible.

**Moderator: John C. Bonnie**, Weinberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn & Dial LLC, Atlanta, GA

**Panelists: Kimberly Grabarz**, AXIS, New York, NY;  
**Sherilyn Pastor**, McCarter & English LLP, Newark, NJ

# PROGRAMMING

Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

**Breakout: Framing the Issue: Trends in Coverage Litigation Arising from Large-Scale Construction Projects**

2:30 PM–3:30 PM

*General CLE*

This program will examine emerging legal issues and trends in insurance coverage litigation related to large-scale commercial construction projects. Panelists will discuss how courts are interpreting key CGL policy terms—such as “property damage,” “bodily injury,” and “occurrence”—and analyze the interplay between CGL policies, builder’s risk coverage, and performance bonds. The session will address common disputes involving policy triggers, overlapping policy periods, and frequently litigated exclusions, as well as the distinction between the duties to defend and indemnify. Additional topics include the impact of contractor conditions endorsements, additional insured provisions, and coordination challenges among OCIP and CCIP programs. Drawing on recent case law and real-world examples, the panel will highlight practical lessons and current trends affecting coverage outcomes in major construction projects, including data center developments and other complex builds.

**Moderator: Yonit Rosengarten**, Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP, Tampa, FL

**Panelists: James Croteau**, Markel, Nashville, TN; **Garrett S. Nemeroff**, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP, Miami, FL; **Samantha S. Rhayem**, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, Fort Lauderdale, FL

# PROGRAMMING

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

**Breakout:  
Mediating  
Insurance  
Disputes: Paths to  
Success in Both  
Underlying and  
Coverage  
Mediations**

2:30 PM–3:30 PM

*General CLE*

Mediating coverage disputes or underlying cases involving insurance can present unique challenges—especially when multiple insurers or claimants are involved. Success often depends on early planning and a focused mediation strategy. Policyholder counsel must consider what information to share with insurers, including settlement value estimates and potential excess verdict exposure, to ensure coverage issues and authority are addressed in advance. From the carrier perspective, key pre-mediation tasks include tracking legal deadlines, handling policy limits demands, managing allocation and contribution issues, and obtaining sufficient authority to support settlement efforts while avoiding extra-contractual risk. In mediations focused on coverage disputes, counsel must also frame policy interpretation and coverage analysis effectively for mediators and other parties with varying insurance experience. Featuring insights from insurer and policyholder counsel and an experienced mediator, this panel will equip attendees with sharper pre-mediation strategies, a practical checklist for managing complex negotiations, and insider tips for setting the stage for a successful resolution.

**Moderator: Jonathan Cohen**, K&L Gates, Washington, DC

**Panelists: Carl Forsberg**, Kubik Mediation Group, Seattle, WA; **Sumera Khan**, Tokio Marine HCC, Houston, TX; **Carrie Mount**, Miller Nash LLP, Seattle, WA

# PROGRAMMING

## Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

### **Breakout: Paper to Platform: Parametrics, Pop-Up Policies, and the Perils of Progress**

3:45 PM–4:45 PM

*General CLE*

The rise of parametric, index-based, episodic, and other non-traditional insurance products driven by data analytics aims to reduce risk on all sides by providing faster and more transparent payments, greater pricing accuracy, and decreased underwriting risk. But this panel will explore the new uncertainties and legal and practical challenges presented by the interaction of these products with traditional policies. The issues of allocation, “other insurance” clauses, deductibles, gaps in coverage, double recovery, and subrogation and contribution rights present a delectable smorgasbord of coverage disputes to feast on for years to come!

**Panelists:** **James P. Bobotek**, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, McLean, VA;  
**Vanessa Durante**, Kennedys, Houston, TX;  
**Scott Greenspan**, Sills Cummis & Gross PC, New York, NY

### **Breakout: The Evolution of the Pollution Exclusion: Varying Interpretations and Evidence Required to Use It**

3:45 PM–4:45 PM

*General CLE*

This panel will discuss the evolution of the total and absolute pollution exclusion, the varying interpretations of the pollution exclusion across the United States, and the evidence needed (including expert testimony) to use it to enforce or prevent an insurer’s duty to indemnify.

**Moderator:** **Christina A. Culver**, Thompson Coe Cousins & Irons LLP, Houston, TX  
**Panelists:** **Daniel Lockwood**, Selective Insurance Company, Chicago, IL; **William E. McMichael**, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, Houston, TX; **Stephen Moseley**, BRG, Chicago, IL

# PROGRAMMING

Thursday, March 5 (cont.)

**Breakout:  
Arbitration,  
Mediation,  
Litigation, or  
Something Else?  
What Is the Best  
Option for Your  
Matter and Why?**

3:45 PM–4:45 PM

*General CLE*

This program will explore the advantages and disadvantages of various ADR and litigation options for resolving insurance coverage disputes. Hear from industry experts, coverage counsel, and neutrals on the different approaches, what works and doesn't work for each circumstance, and ideas on ways to improve the process going forward.

**Moderator: John J. Ellison**, Reed Smith LLP, New York, NY

**Panelists: Erica J. Kerstein**, Robinson & Cole LLP, New York, NY; **Andrew Nadolna**, JAMS, New York, NY; **Paul Van Osselaer**, Van Osselaer Dispute Resolution PLLC, Austin, TX

**Breakout: If the  
Privileged  
Communication  
Ain't Broker, Don't  
Fix It!: When  
Broker  
Communications  
Are Protected by  
Privilege**

3:45 PM–4:45 PM

*Ethics CLE*

This program covers different scenarios and legal theories in which insured and insurer communications with an insurance broker are protected by privilege. Attendees will gain knowledge of common law privilege doctrines that could potentially encompass communications with insurance brokers and claims adjusters, like the employee-equivalent doctrine, common interest privilege, dual agency, and expert witness privilege. Additionally, attendees will learn best practices for communicating with brokers and gain tools to persuade courts that such communications are protected by privilege before litigation begins.

**Moderator: Timothy Bruno**, Neal Gerber & Eisenberg LLP, Chicago, IL

**Panelists: Michelle N. Houry**, Duane Morris LLP, San Francisco, CA; **Christina Q. Nguyen**, HUB International, Toronto, ON

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6

### **Plenary: Are Bad Faith and Coverage Experts Admissible at Trial?**

8:00 AM–9:00 AM

*General CLE*

This program will explore whether bad faith and coverage experts can meet *Daubert* standards and how best to support and attack the admissibility of those experts.

**Moderator: Jay M. Levin**, Flaster Greenberg PC, Merion Station, PA

**Panelists: Hon. Pamela Carlos**, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Allentown, PA; **Jonathan R. MacBride**, Zelle LLP, Philadelphia, PA; **Heidi Hudson Raschke**, Carlton Fields LLP, Tampa, FL; **Jennifer C. Wasson**, Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, Wilmington, DE

### **Plenary: View from the Bench: Effective Advocacy at the Trial Court Level and on Appeal**

9:15 AM–10:30 AM

*General CLE*

This panel brings together exceptional judges from across the country to offer their perspectives on effective advocacy, whether during the course of litigating coverage disputes, before the trial court, or advocating coverage positions on appeal. As several members of the panel also served as state court judges before accepting appointments to the federal bench, a principal topic of discussion will be the similarities and differences between litigating disputes in state and federal court, both at the trial court level and on appeal.

**Moderators: Jamie R. Carsey**, Markel, Houston, TX; **J. James Cooper**, Reed Smith LLP, Houston, TX

**Panelists: Hon. Jeffrey V. Brown**, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Galveston, TX; **Hon. Andrew M. Edison**, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Galveston, TX; **Hon. Ralph R. Erickson**, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, Fargo, ND; **Hon. John C. Hinderaker**, U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

### **Breakout: Keep on Truckin': Insurers' Right to Be Heard in Mass Tort Bankruptcies After Truck**

10:45 AM–11:45 AM

*General CLE*

This panel will evaluate various courts' interpretation of the Supreme Court's blockbuster ruling in *Truck Insurance Exchange v. Kaiser Gypsum Company* from June 2024, which addressed the rights of insurers to participate in mass tort bankruptcies. The panel will summarize the ruling and its immediate impacts and then compare divergent rulings from across the country that have interpreted the *Truck* opinion differently. Panel members will discuss the lingering ambiguity in the Court's opinion, if any, and try to predict whether courts will coalesce around a single view or continue to reach diverging opinions on the requirements an insurer must meet in order to "appear and be heard" in bankruptcy under Bankruptcy Code Section 1109(b).

**Moderator:** **Brian P. Cawley**, Burns Bair LLP, Madison, WI

**Panelist:** **James Carter**, Blank Rome LLP, Washington, DC; **Jordan A. Hess**, Plevin & Turner LLP, Washington, DC

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

### **Breakout: The New Frontier: Data Centers, AI, and Insurance Implications**

10:45 AM–11:45 AM

*General CLE*

The rapid expansion of AI-powered data centers—such as Amazon’s \$20 billion hyperscale project in Pennsylvania—presents a new generation of insurance challenges. These projects blend complex construction, energy, cyber, and operational risks, many of which traditional insurance programs are ill-equipped to handle. From AI-specific exposures like data poisoning and algorithmic failures to regulatory, environmental, and community-facing risks, policyholders must rethink coverage strategies to stay protected. This session will explore how businesses can proactively manage insurance risks across the full lifecycle of an AI infrastructure project. Panelists will discuss key coverages, including OCIPs, builders’ risk, cyber/E&O enhancements, and excess layers, as well as how to navigate AI exclusions and regulatory hurdles.

**Moderator:** **Joseph M. Englert**, McGuireWoods LLP, Atlanta, GA

**Panelists:** **Katherine Mast**, Markel, Los Angeles, CA; **Tad J. Macfarlan**, K&L Gates LLP, Harrisburg, PA

### **Breakout: Not Your [Grand]father’s Allocations: Advanced Allocation Strategies for Modern Claims**

10:45 AM–11:45 AM

*General CLE*

Beyond “all sums” and “pro rata,” complex claims under modern insurance policies present nuanced allocation questions. How do you allocate claims triggering both standard occurrence and “occurrence reported” policies? What happens when some, but not all, triggered policies contain anti-stacking clauses? This panel will review relevant case law and practical approaches for handling these and other scenarios.

**Moderator:** **Suzan Charlton**, Covington & Burling LLP, Washington, DC

**Panelists:** **Rodrigo Garcia**, Thompson Coe Cousins & Irons LLP, Houston, TX;

**Elizabeth Hanke**, Alvarez & Marsal, Phoenix, AZ

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

### **Breakout: Who Files First? Navigating Insurer-Initiated Declaratory Relief Actions**

10:45 AM–11:45 AM

*General CLE*

Insurers are increasingly using declaratory judgment actions as a strategic tool to control the forum and framing of coverage disputes—but when and why they do so remain nuanced. From the insurer’s perspective, decisions to “strike first” often depend on the strength of the claim, jurisdictional considerations, and the insured’s posture, with client preference playing a growing role in the calculus. This session will examine the strategic considerations behind insurer-initiated declaratory relief actions and how policyholders can protect themselves from being preemptively sued. Speakers will explore best practices for policyholders to preserve leverage, including early engagement with insurers, leveraging broker relationships, and pursuing parallel negotiations. Attendees will gain insights into forum selection battles, timing considerations, and how to position coverage disputes for the most favorable resolution.

**Moderator:** **Shaun Crosner**, McGuireWoods LLP, Manhattan Beach, CA

**Panelists:** **Robert Lane**, Alliant Insurance Services Inc., Newport Beach, CA;

**Rachel Hudgins**, Lowenstein Sanders LLP, Roseland, NJ; **Annette Rolain**, Ruggeri Parks Weinberg LLP, Washington, DC

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

**Breakout:  
Autonomous  
Vehicles:  
Liability, Coverage,  
and ADAS  
Litigation**

11:55 AM–12:55 PM

*General CLE*

As advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) and semi-autonomous technologies become increasingly prevalent—penetration in U.S. vehicles reached over 70% in H1 2022, with Level 2 systems accounting for 46.5% of total sales—legal and insurance professionals face new and evolving challenges. This program will explore the current landscape of automated vehicle technologies, emerging liability and litigation issues, and strategies for addressing plaintiff theories and defense claims related to ADAS and autonomous vehicle use. Panelists will examine applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards, the shifting role of drivers as systems take on greater operational responsibility, and how comparative or contributory negligence considerations may evolve. The discussion will also address how insurance carriers can access and leverage vehicle data for claims and coverage determinations, as well as liability issues affecting automakers, software developers, and other contributors to full or partial self-driving systems. Attendees will gain practical insights into navigating present-day semi-autonomous systems while anticipating the future litigation landscape for fully autonomous vehicles.

**Panelists:** **John Pettit**, QuantivRisk Inc., New York, NY; **Kenneth P. Williams**, Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney, Detroit, MI

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

**Breakout:  
Navigating the  
Landscape of  
Emerging Claims  
under Liability and  
Bermuda Form  
Policies**

11:55 AM–12:55 PM

*General CLE*

Join us for what promises to be a thought-provoking and engaging panel discussion with leading experts in the field on the following issues: emerging claims impacting liability and Bermuda Form policies, potential coverage issues, practical tips for conducting these arbitrations, and arbitrators' duties to disclose prior appointments.

**Moderator:** **Mina Matin**, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Hoboken, NY

**Panelists:** **Alex Howard**, Ascot Group, Hamilton, Bermuda; **Richard Lewis**, Reed Smith LLP, New York, NY; **Lorelie Masters**, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Washington, DC

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

### **Breakout: Navigating Insurance Coverage Amidst Escalating Climate Risks**

11:55 AM–12:55 PM

*General CLE*

Climate change has intensified natural disasters, driving unprecedented claims activity, higher premiums, and shrinking coverage availability—particularly in wildfire-, flood-, and hurricane-prone regions. California and other West Coast states, for example, face destabilized homeowners' insurance markets as insurers retreat from high-risk areas. This breakout session will examine how policyholders, insurers, and regulators are responding to these systemic challenges, including strategies to secure and preserve coverage through manuscript terms, alternative risk transfer, captives, and the rise of parametric insurance solutions. Panelists will also address insurer insolvencies, reinsurance market pressures, and their implications for coverage litigation; the role of insurance commissioners and legislatures in balancing market stability with consumer protection; emerging litigation over climate-related exclusions, valuation disputes, and catastrophic loss claims; and practical advocacy tools for coverage counsel navigating delays, bad-faith exposure, and regulatory interventions in an era of increasing environmental volatility.

**Moderator:** **Cameron C. Zangenehzadeh**, Stoel Rives LLP, Portland, OR

**Panelists:** **Amy Bach**, United Policyholders, San Francisco, CA; **Laura A. Foggan**, Crowell & Moring LLP, Washington, DC; **Andrew Hahn**, Covington & Burling LLP, New York, NY

# PROGRAMMING

## Friday, March 6 (cont.)

### **Breakout: Intelligent Coverage? How AI Is Reshaping Insurance**

11:55 AM–12:55 PM

*General CLE*

AI is rapidly transforming the insurance industry, both as a powerful tool and as a new source of risk. On one hand, insurers have emerged as some of the most active adopters of AI technologies, leveraging them to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and customer experience. On the other hand, they are now tasked with addressing the growing range of AI-related risks and claims through their coverage offerings. This panel will examine the dual role of AI in insurance—exploring the operational benefits and implementation challenges faced by insurers, the evolving liabilities for policyholders using AI in their businesses, and how traditional insurance policies are being interpreted and applied to meet these emerging risks.

**Moderator: Heather W. Habes**, Covington & Burling LLP, Los Angeles, CA

**Panelists: Julia Holt**, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Los Angeles, CA;

**Maria E. Kokiasmenos**, The Hartford, Los Angeles, CA; **Sara Schroeder**, Allied Professionals' Insurance Services, Plano, TX

# PROGRAMMING

Saturday, March 7

**Plenary: The Risk That Never Ends: Insurance Coverage for Long-Tail Claims in 2026**

8:15 AM–9:15 AM

*General CLE*

This program will provide an overview of insurance coverage for long-tail claims, which will include a panel discussion of significant types of long-tail claims, both historical and those that are new and emerging. The panel will also discuss major coverage issues implicated by long-tail claims, including trigger of coverage, allocation/scope of coverage, number of occurrences, and frequently invoked exclusions. The panel will also discuss emergent long-tail risks and coverage issues implicated by those risks.

**Moderator: Tim Greszler**, Covington & Burling LLP, Washington, DC

**Panelists: Amy Cassidy**, Nicolaidis Fink Thorpe Michaelides Sullivan LLP, Chicago, IL; **Jeff Kiburtz**, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, Los Angeles, CA; **Christopher Makuc**, PACE, Washington, DC; **Lauren McMillen**, Plunkett Cooney, Chicago, IL

# PROGRAMMING

## Saturday, March 7 (cont.)

**Plenary: Towers of Risk: Duties, Ethics, and Extracontractual Exposure in Multi-Layer Coverage**

9:30 AM–10:30 AM

*General CLE*

This program will explore the complex duties and ethical challenges that arise in multi-layer and excess insurance coverage disputes. Panelists will examine how the responsibilities of primary carriers are evolving, including obligations to preserve evidence, coordinate settlement efforts, and communicate with other insurers. The discussion will also address the distinct ethical considerations facing panel counsel in layered coverage situations, and whether primary carriers retain continuing duties after tendering their limits or seeking early settlement. In addition, the session will explore strategies insureds can employ to safeguard their interests when carrier objectives diverge and will define the types of conduct that may give rise to extracontractual liability in overlapping coverage arrangements. Attendees will gain practical insights into managing risk, maintaining ethical compliance, and navigating the complexities of multi-layer insurance disputes.

**Moderator: Craig Nierman**, Nierman ADR, Iowa City, IA

**Panelists: Jena G. Emory**, Morris Manning & Martin LLP, Atlanta, GA; **Meghan Ruesch**, Travelers, Indianapolis, IN; **W. Joel Vander Vliet**, Skarzynski Marick & Black LLP, Chicago, IL

# PROGRAMMING

Saturday, March 7 (cont.)

**Plenary: How Much Is One Picture Worth?: Visual and Data-Driven Tools for Clarifying Coverage and Illuminating Claims**

10:45 AM–11:45 AM

*General CLE*

Coverage claims often involve dense, even arcane, policy language coupled with complex facts and damage models that can confuse even experienced stakeholders. Common presentation approaches—foggy, formulaic text, lengthy string cites, and walls of numbers with no focus—often cloud the picture rather than sharpen it. This panel offers an effective alternative: visual communication and data-driven tools that demystify claims and map coverage exposures in a compelling and accessible way. Panelists will share real-world examples where visual and data strategies sway outcomes in advocacy, negotiations, and strategic claims management. Whether you're interacting with a judge, jury, client, adverse party, or mediator, this program will equip you with practical tools to make your coverage position more strategic and persuasive.

**Panelists:** **Diana Kantner**, KCIC, Chicago, IL; **Philip R. Matthews**, Duane Morris LLP, San Francisco, CA; **Donald Scaramastra**, Miller Nash LLP, Seattle, WA; **Peter H. Woodin**, JAMS, New York, NY

# PROGRAMMING

## Saturday, March 7 (cont.)

### **Plenary: Ethics, AI, and ADR: A Practical Guide to Using Generative AI Effectively and Ethically**

11:55 AM–12:55 PM

*Ethics CLE*

Increasingly, insurance coverage (and other) disputes are getting resolved through negotiation, including mediation (with a private neutral), settlement conference (with a judge), and direct negotiation (with neither). Over the years, we have been discussing the relative risks and benefits of using generative AI. We would have expected to see, by now, a reduction in the incidences of lawyers citing non-existent cases, or to cases that exist but that do not support the propositions for which they were provided, in submissions to courts. Unfortunately, our survey of the reports is that the problem appears to be getting worse, not better, which leads this panel to suspect that the problem may be infiltrating alternative dispute resolution as well. Our panel will address the applicable Rules of Professional Conduct, as well as provide practical guidance on using AI effectively and ethically.

**Moderator: Geoffrey J. Miller**, Custom House Risk Advisors, New Haven, CT

**Panelists: Mary E. Borja**, Wiley Rein LLP, Washington, DC; **Seth M. Friedman**, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, Atlanta, GA;

**Marialuisa S. Gallozzi**, Covington & Burling LLP, Washington, DC; **Neil B. Posner**, Much Shelist PC, Chicago, IL

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **1. Privilege or Peril? Navigating Attorney-Client Privilege in the Claims Handling Context**

When a third-party liability claim is submitted, several issues can arise with respect to attorney-client privilege before a coverage dispute ever materializes. This roundtable will discuss considerations of the insured regarding whether otherwise privileged information (exchanged between the insured and its defense counsel in the underlying suits) can be waived vis-à-vis underlying plaintiffs by sharing such information with the carriers it places on notice. The roundtable will also discuss considerations of the carrier regarding whether communications between it and an attorney acting as a claims handler are privileged.

**Speakers:** **Ben Boris**, Neal Gerber & Eisenberg LLP, Chicago, IL;  
**Chiara Tondi Resta**, Werner Ahari Mangel LLP, Washington, DC

## **2. From Wellhead to Wall Street: Cross-Border Insurance, Pollution, Greenwashing, and Securities Liability**

Join us for a spirited discussion of American and Canadian law impacting insurance coverage issues, touching on cross-border areas, including pollution claims, greenwashing enforcement, extreme weather risks, and transport and supply chain exposures. Through case studies, the roundtable highlights the contrast between the U.S.'s jury-driven litigation culture and Canada's more restrained, judge-led approach, with a focus on how these differences shape coverage, defense, and claims strategy.

**Speakers:** **Keith Marlowe**, Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary, AB;  
**Benjamin Ritz**, Thompson Coe Cousins & Irons LLP, Houston, TX

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **3. Safety Net or Snare? Emerging Trends in Coverage for TVPRA Claims**

Courts have recently seen an explosion of lawsuits against the hotel industry under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), seeking to hold hotel owners and operators liable for sex trafficking. With a 10-year statute of limitations and regular eight-figure verdicts, these claims have presented challenges for insurers and insureds alike to determine how this new legal theory fits within traditional liability policies. This roundtable will provide an overview of the coverage issues raised by TVPRA claims and the differing ways courts have ruled on these issues, along with ways the insurance industry is attempting to address these claims in the future.

**Speakers:** **Ethan Knott**, Fellows LaBriola LLP, Atlanta, GA; **Tyler Walker**, Fields Howell LLP, Atlanta, GA

## **4. Sky-High Stakes: The Multi-Billion Dollar Russian Aviation Insurance Coverage Litigations**

Following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, hundreds of aircraft on lease from Western lessors to Russian airlines remained in Russia despite the lessors' demands for their return. Western lessors, deprived of their aviation assets, sought insurance recovery for their losses under their "contingent and possessed" aviation insurance policies, subscribed almost exclusively by participants in the London insurance market. Whether the Russian government forbade their return (and hence, triggering the policy's "War Risk" coverage) or the airlines to whom they were leased simply refused to give them back (i.e., thereby triggering the "All Risk" coverage)—or some combination thereof—was fiercely disputed. But when the lessors' insurance claims were either denied or constructively denied (at least from the insureds' perspective), an unprecedented number of simultaneously made insurance claims ultimately generated insurance coverage litigation from Los Angeles to London. This roundtable will explore the complex, multi-billion-dollar litigations that unfolded across various jurisdictions, examining the perspectives of both the insureds and insurers alike.

**Speakers:** **Aleksandra Kaplun**, McGuireWoods LLP, New York, NY; **Max Louik**, Reed Smith LLP, Pittsburgh, PA; **Zoheb Noorani**, O'Melveny & Myers LLP, Los Angeles, CA

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **5. Investigate This: Does Your D&O Policy Cover Government Inquiries and Investigations?**

Policyholders often assume that their D&O liability insurance policies contain broad coverage for inquiries and investigations by government entities; however, the scope of such coverage varies greatly in the marketplace. Learn what terms and conditions matter and practical tips for enhancing them to maximize potential coverage. Discuss the state of the market and receive insight into the best places to find broad coverage for government inquiries and investigations.

**Speakers:** **James W. Gaudette**, Gallagher, Boston, MA; **Jan A. Larson**, Jenner & Block LLP, Los Angeles, CA

## **6. When Does Fraud Vitate My Policy?**

Speakers will discuss what constitutes fraud that allows the insurer to void the policy. What if the insured, in completing an application or submitting a claim, unintentionally submits incorrect information? Must the insurer give some guidance for completing an application or submitting a claim, and the insured ignores or departs from such guidance, before fraud is committed? Can the insured challenge the insurer's determination of fraud on a motion for summary judgment?

**Speakers:** **Karin S. Aldama**, Gallagher & Kennedy, Phoenix, AZ; **Tred R. Eyerly**, Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert, Honolulu, HI

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **7. Purdue Pharma and Non-Consensual Releases of Third-Party Insurance Claims in Bankruptcy**

The U.S. Supreme Court recently held in *Harrington v. Purdue Pharma L.P.* that the Bankruptcy Code does not authorize creditors to release claims of non-debtor third parties without their consent. This roundtable addresses the impact of *Purdue* on settlements between debtors and their insurers involving the issuance of a court-ordered injunction prohibiting claims by third parties under the debtor's policies without the third-party claimants' consent. Specifically, the speakers will address competing positions that have arisen since the ruling as to whether an injunction against third-party insurance claims under a debtor's insurance policies without the consent of the claimants could constitute a prohibited "non-consensual release of third-party claims" under *Purdue*. Speakers will also address whether the holding in *Purdue*, which was decided in the context of a Chapter 11 plan reorganization, could equally apply to asset sales "free and clear" under Section 363 or settlements under Bankruptcy Rule 9019.

**Speakers: Alexander M. Bein**, McGuireWoods LLP, Atlanta, GA;  
**Jorge Gonzalez**, Proskauer Rose LLP, New York, NY

## **8. The Effect of Knowledge Qualifiers in Representations**

This roundtable explores "knowledge qualifiers" such as "to the Company's knowledge" that are in, or the Representations and Warranties Insurance (RWI) policy deems to be in, the acquisition agreement's representations. Speakers will discuss why RWI insurers request knowledge qualifiers and policyholders want to limit them. Specifically, how they may affect the claims process and the policyholders' ability or appetite to bring knowledge-qualified claims. Speakers will also address "knowledge qualifiers" during the selection and negotiation of an RWI policy, and when and how to address such provisions.

**Speakers: Michael J. Gridley**, Wiley Rein, Washington, DC;  
**John S. Vishneski**, Reed Smith LLP, Oak Park, IL

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **9. Big Property Claims & AI: Friend or Foe in Recovery?**

This roundtable will provide an all-encompassing view of how cutting-edge technologies are transforming the world of “big property claims”—those involving substantial losses, intricate coverage issues, and prolonged recovery processes. Speakers will explore the dual nature of AI’s impact, examining how it can be leveraged to streamline, optimize, and accelerate recovery efforts for policyholders, from initial loss assessment and data analysis to litigation support and predictive modeling. Simultaneously, speakers will address the unprecedented challenges posed by the rapidly evolving landscape of cryptocurrency. This discussion will offer a dual perspective from a leading insurance recovery attorney and a seasoned forensic accountant on the complexities of valuing crypto losses. Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of how to navigate new types of financial exposure, including those from exchange hacks, smart contract failures, market volatility, and regulatory uncertainty.

**Speakers: Christopher B. Hess**, Sigma 7/RWH Myers, Pittsburgh, PA; **Michael S. Levine**, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Washington, DC

## **10. 2025: Recap the Year of Disasters, Complex Coverage, and Claims Disputes**

This interactive roundtable will explore the most significant disasters of 2025 and the complex insurance coverage issues and claims disputes that followed. Participants will engage in a dynamic discussion on how insurers, policyholders, and counsel responded to evolving risks—from natural catastrophes to cyber events—and the litigation strategies that emerged. The roundtable will encourage open dialogue on lessons learned, regulatory developments, and best practices for navigating future coverage challenges.

**Speakers: Lauren Brogdon**, Haynes Boone LLP, Houston, TX; **Jenny Ma**, BRG, San Francisco, CA

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **11. The Next Generation of Mass Tort: Taking on the Next Asbestos**

As the number of traditional asbestos claims being filed is gradually decreasing, a new generation of mass torts is rising to take its place—PFAS, talc, EtO, social media, sexual abuse, and beyond. This roundtable, featuring speakers from the next generation of insurance practitioners, will explore emerging risks and the evolving insurance coverage landscape surrounding them. From bodily injury trigger disputes to allocation strategies and long-tail exposure challenges, our speakers will share their fresh takes as to how insurers, policyholders, and courts are preparing for what's next.

**Speakers:** **Jazmin Gelbart**, KCIC, Washington, DC; **Lauren Sandground**, K&L Gates LLP, Washington, DC

## **12. It's a Small World After All: Risk Management for Globalized Insureds**

In this roundtable, speakers will explore the various insurance products and coverage issues applicable to overseas risks, including those impacting insureds' supply chains and those arising from political risks.

**Speakers:** **Gayle Jacobs**, Marsh Specialty, Kalamazoo, MI; **Andrew Van Osselaer**, Haynes Boone LLP, Austin, TX

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **13. From Crisis to Resolution: Navigating Cyber Business Interruption Claims and Other Cyber Coverage Challenges**

In the era of pervasive digital threats, cyber incidents pose significant business interruption risks, resulting in large and often (overly) complicated cyber insurance claims. This roundtable will discuss ways to streamline claim resolution for even the most complicated global cyber insurance claims. Speakers will explore the spectrum of losses that result from a cyber event and common coverage grants for each and provide an overview of the cyber insurance claims process and what to expect along the way, including war stories of multinational claims, and common catalysts of coverage disputes in cyber insurance claims and different business interruption methodologies. Speakers will also discuss how to craft a compelling business interruption claim that withstands scrutiny and proactive strategies to preempt coverage disputes and facilitate resolution.

**Speakers:** **Holly Dethero Bailey**, BRG, San Francisco, CA; **Alice Weeks**, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Miami, FL

## **14. Advanced Topics in Mediation Advocacy**

Mediation is different than it was ten—or even five—years ago. We're online much of the time, and we're more strategic all the time. What advocacy and negotiation techniques work in 2026? What new skills must lawyers learn? What old habits must we discard? Join this interactive discussion to contribute and learn.

**Speaker:** **Jeff Kichaven**, Jeff Kichaven Commercial Mediation, Los Angeles, CA

## **15. Experts 101: Selecting and Working with Experts in Insurance Cases**

Learn and share tips on determining what subject matter expertise is needed; how to find, select, and interview experts; doing due diligence; what to share (and possibly not share) with experts pre- and post-retention; and maintaining appropriate communication with experts.

**Speakers:** **Rina Carmel**, Anderson McPharlin & Connors LLP, Los Angeles, CA; **Richard N. Waldinger**, Round Table Group, Scottsdale, AZ

# ROUNDTABLES

**Friday, March 6 | 1:05 PM–2:20 PM**

## **16. Best Practices and Challenges in Achieving Effective Risk Transfer**

This roundtable discussion will focus on the best practices and challenges concerning contractual indemnity and additional insured status, including statutory impediments.

**Speakers:** **Matt Rigney**, Tollefson Bradley Mitchell & Melendi LLP, Dallas, TX; **Robert Sergesketter**, Talos Energy Inc., Houston, TX

## **17. Things I Learned on My Way to Becoming a Coverage Lawyer**

Join us for an engaging roundtable where coveted young lawyers share the pivotal lessons, insights, and unexpected turns that shaped their careers in coverage law. This candid discussion offers practical guidance, career wisdom, and behind-the-scenes perspectives for both emerging and established professionals. Whether you're charting your own path or seeking fresh inspiration, this session provides a thoughtful look at the experiences that define successful coverage lawyers.

**Speakers:** **Julia Kolwalsky**, Winstead PC, Houston, TX; **Bikram Toor**, Hinkhouse Williams Walsh LLP, Chicago, IL

## **18. The Magic 8 Ball Guide to Conditions: Practical Approaches to Better Questions and Answers Related to Policy Conditions**

Coverage counsel for both sides encounter (and draft!) affirmative, non-committal, and negative answers—much like the cryptic answers from shaking a Magic 8 Ball—when attempting to comply with or enforce policy conditions. This roundtable will cover best practices and various approaches for handling issues involving policy conditions in first party and liability policies, as well as addressing waivers, estoppel, and enforcement.

**Speakers:** **Vincent E. Morgan**, Winstead PC, Houston, TX; **Jeannie Nguyen**, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Houston, TX

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## MCLE Information

The ABA will seek **13.75** hours of CLE credit (including 2.0 hours of ethics CLE credit) in 60-minute states and **16.5** hours of CLE credit (including 2.4 hours of ethics CLE credit) for this program in 50-minute states. Credit hours are estimated and are subject to each state's approval and credit rounding rules. Please visit the seminar website at [ambar.org/litigation](https://ambar.org/litigation) **insurance** for program details or visit [ambar.org/mcle](https://ambar.org/mcle) for general information on CLE at the ABA.

## Program Course Materials

Course materials will be sent in advance via email to registrants and posted online before the seminar. Complimentary wi-fi access will be available to view the materials onsite.

## Registration/Participant Image and Voice Agreement

Registration for, attendance at, or participation in the 2026 Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee CLE Seminar and other associated activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to permit the American Bar Association to use and distribute (both now and in the future) the participant's image or voice in photographs, videotapes, electronic reproductions, or audiotapes of such event.

## Services for Persons with Disabilities

If special arrangements are required, please contact [Maria Gamboa](#). Please submit requests at least two weeks before the seminar.

## Litigation Section Code of Conduct and ABA Business Conduct Standards

Event attendees are required to review and consent to the [Litigation Section Code of Conduct](#) and the [ABA Business Conduct Standards](#).

## Health & Safety

The ABA takes the health and safety of our members, guests, and staff seriously. We know that the decision whether to attend a meeting is based upon a variety of personal and business considerations. We will continue to monitor a variety of sources, including the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and U.S. state and local health authorities for the latest public health updates, as well as applicable restrictions on events and gatherings. The ABA plans to hold this meeting in person but reserves the right to cancel or reschedule this event or convert it to a virtual event if health and safety restrictions require it. We will update the registrants and the website should the plans for this event change. As part of the registration process to hold this ABA meeting in person, every attendee is required to affirm his/her commitment to comply with the in-person meeting guidelines. Please review the requirements carefully prior to registering for the meeting.