

Continuing Legal Education Attendance Affidavit
2025 Annual Meeting

Program Location: Austin Marriott Downtown, Austin, Texas
Program Dates: September 18 & 19, 2025
Program Fee: \$1,795

Date	Session Title	Time	Hours Awarded	Hours Completed
Thursday, 9/18/2025	Session 1a Work Without Borders: Navigating Immigration & Employment Law	2:00-3:00 p.m.	1.0	
	Session 1b From Wells to Wind: Navigating the Future of Oil, Gas & Renewables	2:00-3:00 p.m.	1.0	
	Session 2 U.S. Diplomacy Through Time with Canada & Europe	3:00-3:45 p.m.	0.75	
	Session 3 Generative AI & the Practice of Law: Current Realities & Future Possibilities	4:00-4:20 p.m.	0.25	
	Session 4 More Than Legal: Elevating Client Value Through Innovation & Collaboration	4:20-5:00 p.m.	0.5	
Friday, 9/19/2025	Session 5 Keynote – Mayor of Austin Kirk Watson - The Lawyer’s Role in Shaping Stronger Cities	9:00-10:00 a.m.	1.0	
	Session 6 The Rise of the Activator: Redefining Growth in Professional Services	10:00-10:20 a.m.	0.25	
	Session 7 Navigating Change: Forecasting the Trump Administration’s Impact on Local, State & Federal Governments	10:30-11:15 a.m.	0.75	
	Session 8 The Cyber Brief: Law, Liability & Response	11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	0.75	
	Session 9 Trade at a Crossroads: The Future of Global Commerce	1:30-1:50 p.m.	0.25	
	Session 10a From Boardroom to Browser: Navigating the Evolving Litigation Landscape	2:00-2:45 p.m.	0.75	
	Session 10b M&A Trends: Navigating Opportunities in a Shifting Market	2:00-2:45 p.m.	0.75	
	Session 11a Attorneys General in Action: Trends, Challenges & Impact	3:00-3:45 p.m.	0.75	
	Session 11b Intellectual Property Trends, Risks & the Road Ahead	3:00-3:45 p.m.	0.75	

SCG Legal will assist member-firm attorneys in complying with mandatory continuing legal education requirements in every jurisdiction. Attorneys should apply individually for credit and submit payment, if necessary, directly to the applicable state MCLE authority. We welcome your comments regarding the specific requirements that must be met in order to satisfy your state bar’s MCLE guidelines.

	Session 12 The Client's Perspective: What Matters, What Works & What Drives Loyalty	4:00-5:00 p.m.	1.0	
Date(s) Attended:		Total Hours Attended:		

Attorney Name:		State:	
Bar Member No.:		Reporting Period:	
Firm Name			
Firm Address:			
<i>I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the above information is complete and accurate.</i>			
Attorney Signature:		Date:	

Copy Received By:

Alina Gorokhovsky, CEO, SCG Legal

Date:

Wednesday, September 17

1:30 pm – 8:30 pm
@ McGinnis Lochridge **MEETING | BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

6:30 pm
Local Restaurants **DINNER | COO & CMO DINNER/ROUNDTABLE**
DINNER | GOVERNMENT RELATIONS PRACTICE GROUP
DINNER | EARLY ARRIVALS NO HOST NETWORKING

To assist Members in connecting, SCG will arrange restaurant reservations. Please contact Membership Coordinator Erin Kane (ekane@scglegal.com) for more details/to be included.

Thursday, September 18

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Waller Pre-Function **WELCOME DESK | ON-SITE CHECK-IN, REGISTRATION & INFORMATION**

8:30 am – 11:00 am
Waller EF **WOMEN IN LAW WORKSHOP | THE CONFIDENT ADVOCATE: SPEAKING UP & STAYING WELL**
This interactive workshop is designed for women in law who want to strengthen their public speaking and business development skills while also prioritizing their personal wellbeing. Through practical training, participants will gain tools to speak with clarity, confidence, and impact—whether in courtrooms, boardrooms, or client meetings. The session also explores strategies for managing stress, maintaining balance, and building resilience in high-pressure legal environments. Attendees will leave with actionable techniques to amplify their voices and sustain their energy—professionally and personally. *Breakfast is included.*
➤ **All female attorneys and professionals attending the meeting as well as female McGinnis Lochridge attorneys are invited.** Please contact Membership Coordinator Erin Kane (ekane@scglegal.com) for more details/to be included.

Wellbeing: Alina Gorokhovsky, CEO, SCG Legal

Enhance Your Executive Presence: Christine Clapp, President, Spoken with Authority

11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Level 3: Room 302 **PRACTICE GROUP MEETUP + LUNCH | CORPORATE/MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS**
This is an opportunity for participants to network while discussing industry trends and issues impacting their practice, firms, and clients.

11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Waller AB **INFORMAL NETWORKING LUNCH | CONNECT WITH SCG LEGAL'S BOARD & TEAM**
Please join us for this pre-event networking lunch, especially if it is your first SCG meeting.

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Waller Pre-Function **COFFEE, CONFECTIONS & CONNECTIONS | NETWORK WITH FELLOW SCG MEMBERS**

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm
Waller CD **WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS**

- Celeste Bruce, Rifkin Weiner Livingston (US: Maryland) | Chair, SCG Legal
- Alina Gorokhovsky, CEO, SCG Legal
- Charles Van Horn, Berman Fink Van Horn (US: Georgia)
- Melissa Salhab Sykes, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Waller EF

BREAKOUT | WORK WITHOUT BORDERS: NAVIGATING IMMIGRATION & EMPLOYMENT LAW

As global mobility and workforce dynamics continue to evolve, the intersection of immigration and employment law has become increasingly complex. This panel will explore key legal considerations for employers navigating cross-border talent acquisition, work authorization, remote work, compliance obligations, and shifting immigration policies. Panelists will provide practical guidance on managing risks, supporting international hires, and aligning immigration strategies with broader employment law frameworks. Whether advising multinational corporations or local employers, this session offers essential insights into staying compliant and competitive in a global talent market.

Moderator: Felicity Fowler, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)

Panelists:

- Mary Kate Fernandez, Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana)
- Kristopher Kunasingam, Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)
- Lauren Sigg, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts)

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Waller CD

BREAKOUT | FROM WELLS TO WIND: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF OIL, GAS & RENEWABLES

As the global energy landscape shifts, the oil and gas industry is navigating new challenges and opportunities alongside the rapid growth of alternative and renewable energy sources. This panel will examine the evolving legal, regulatory, and market dynamics shaping the future of energy—traditional and emerging. Panelists will discuss trends in energy business strategies; cross-border investments; environmental, social, and governance (ESG) pressures; and innovations in technology and infrastructure. This session will provide a forward-looking view of how legal advisors can support clients through the complex realities of a dual-energy future.

Moderator: Jonathan Baughman, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)

Panelists:

- Jack Balagia, Former Vice President and General Counsel, Exxon Mobil Corporation
- J.D. Kesler, Parsons Behle & Latimer (US: Utah)
- Brett Koenecke, May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson (US: South Dakota)

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm
Waller CD

SESSION | U.S. DIPLOMACY THROUGH TIME WITH CANADA & EUROPE

This panel will explore the evolution of U.S. diplomatic relationships with Canada and Europe—from long-standing alliances to emerging rivalries—and the forces that have shaped them. Panelists will examine key moments and policy shifts that have defined America's global role and offer insights into where U.S. foreign relations may be headed in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.

Moderator: Martin Lutz, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)

Panelists:

- Gunnar Jonsson, Jonsson & Hall (Iceland)
- Aaron Makovka, Dunton Rainville (Canada: Quebec)
- Tom Pickthorn, Mills & Reeve (UK)
- Robert Theissen, GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany)

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm
Waller Pre-Function

BREAK | NETWORKING

4:00 pm – 4:20 pm
Waller CD

#RAPIDiNSIGHTS | GENERATIVE AI & THE PRACTICE OF LAW: CURRENT REALITIES & FUTURE POSSIBILITIES

Generative AI is transforming the practice of law. During this session, an international expert on AI for the legal market will survey the current use of GenAI in legal practice, the new benefits and pitfalls presented, and the likely impact of GenAI on the legal labor market.

- Dan Meyers, President, Consulting & Information Governance | TransPerfect Legal
- + Q & A with Andrew Edge, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)

4:20 pm – 5:00 pm
Waller CD

FIRESIDE CHAT | MORE THAN LEGAL: ELEVATING CLIENT VALUE THROUGH INNOVATION & COLLABORATION

In today's competitive legal market, delivering strong legal work is no longer enough. Clients increasingly expect strategic partners who offer added value through innovation, collaboration, and a deep understanding of their business objectives. This session will explore how law firms are going beyond traditional services—leveraging technology, cross-functional teams, data-driven insights, and creative partnerships to drive better client outcomes. Panelists will share real-world examples of client-facing innovations, business collaboration efforts, and law firm network-powered solutions that are redefining what it means to be a 'trusted advisor.'

Moderator: Alina Gorokhovsky, CEO, SCG Legal

Panelists:

- Jeff Dennis, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio)
- Stephen Rozen, Amit, Pollak, Matalon & Co. (Israel)
- Liz Sobe, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts)

5:00 pm
Waller CD

CLOSING REMARKS/ADJOURN

6:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Waller Pre-Function

RECEPTION | WOMEN IN LAW

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Waller Pre-Function

RECEPTION | BUSINESS MADE SOCIAL

7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Local Restaurants

DINNER | NO HOST NETWORKING

*Please refer to the calendar invitation (emailed to you) for final details/directions. Restaurant information is also available in SCG's mobile app under **2025 Annual Meeting: Venues**.*

9:30 pm – 11:30 pm
Waller EF

SUNDOWN SOCIAL | SPURS & SPIRITS NIGHTCAP RECEPTION

After dinner, please return to the Austin Marriott Downtown for local sweet treats, card games, two-steppin' fun, and plenty of mingling!

Friday, September 19

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Waller Pre-Function

WELCOME DESK | ON-SITE CHECK-IN, REGISTRATION & INFORMATION

8:00 am – 9:00 am
Waller AB

BREAKFAST | NETWORKING

9:00 am – 10:00 am
Waller CD

KEYNOTE | THE LAWYER'S ROLE IN SHAPING STRONGER CITIES
MAYOR OF AUSTIN KIRK WATSON

10:00 am – 10:20 am
Waller CD

#RAPIDiNSIGHTS | THE RISE OF THE ACTIVATOR: REDEFINING GROWTH IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

In an era where client loyalty is fading fast, client expectations are increasing, and markets are hyper competitive, traditional approaches to rainmaking are losing effectiveness. Based on insights from The Activator Advantage—a study of nearly 3,000 professional services partners—this session unveils the emergence of a new kind of growth leader: the Activator. These elite professionals don't rely on instinct or legacy relationships—they use insights, collaboration, and systematic client outreach to drive success. Learn how technology can bring this model to life, empowering firms to activate their networks, orchestrate pursuits, and build resilient, growth-focused client relationships. This presentation is a call to arms for professionals who want to stay ahead in an industry being reshaped by expectations, competition, and innovation.

- Jon Brewer, Global Growth Director - Dealcloud | Intapp

10:20 am – 10:30 am
Waller Pre-Function

BREAK | NETWORKING

10:30 am – 11:15 am
Waller CD

SESSION | NAVIGATING CHANGE: FORECASTING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S IMPACT ON LOCAL, STATE & FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS

In this timely and thought-provoking session, government relations attorneys will examine the potential and lasting impacts of a second Trump administration on the legal and political landscape across all levels of government. Panelists will explore how federal policy shifts influence local, state, and national frameworks including a focus on key issues such as regulatory rollbacks, international supply chains, tariffs, and constitutional challenges. This discussion will offer forward-looking insights into how these developments may continue to shape the legal environment in the United States.

Moderator: Jamie Joiner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)

Panelists:

- Tray Adams, McGuireWoods (US: Virginia)
- Alexis Glascock, Fennemore (US: Arizona)
- Rob Rieger, Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana)
- Nick Tosco, Poyner Spruill (US: North Carolina)
- Randi Valverde, Capitol Counsel & Consulting (US: New Mexico | Government Relations)

11:15 am – 12:00 pm
Waller CD

FIRESIDE CHAT | THE CYBER BRIEF: LAW, LIABILITY & RESPONSE

As cyber threats grow in scale and sophistication, legal exposure and compliance obligations are evolving just as rapidly. This panel will examine key developments in cybersecurity law, emerging liabilities for law firms and their clients, and best practices for incident response. Panelists will share real-world insights on navigating regulatory requirements, managing risk, and responding effectively to cyber incidents across jurisdictions.

Moderator: Lyn Brown, Wiley (US: Washington, DC)

- Stephan Menzemer, GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany)
- Janet Peyton, McGuireWoods (US: Virginia)
- Kathryn Rattigan, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts)

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Waller AB

LUNCH + PRACTICE GROUP MEETUPS | NETWORKING FOR BANKRUPTCY & INSOLVENCY, CYBERSECURITY, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, IMMIGRATION, LABOR & EMPLOYMENT, LITIGATION, and REAL ESTATE

Lunch tables will be designated for these practice groups to network and discuss industry trends, business development, and collaboration opportunities. All other attendees are welcome to sit at any of the non-designated tables.

1:30 pm – 1:50 pm
Waller CD

#RAPIDiNSIGHTS | TRADE AT A CROSSROADS: THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL COMMERCE

The global trade landscape is being reshaped in real time—by shifting geopolitics, rising economic nationalism, rapid digitalization, and mounting climate and labor demands. In this session, Greta Peisch—former General Counsel for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR)—explores what’s coming next. Drawing on her deep legal experience and recent leadership at USTR, Greta will offer a strategic look at the forces driving change—from the evolution of supply chains and critical minerals agreements to the future of trade enforcement and dispute resolution.

- Greta Peisch, Wiley (US: Washington, DC)

1:50 pm – 2:00 pm
Waller Pre-Function

BREAK | NETWORKING

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm
Waller CD

BREAKOUT | FROM BOARDROOM TO BROWSER: NAVIGATING THE EVOLVING LITIGATION LANDSCAPE

As litigation risks continue to expand across industries and platforms, legal teams are navigating an increasingly complex landscape—from high-stakes business and government disputes to the rise of consumer class actions and website accessibility claims. This panel will explore the evolving litigation environment, highlighting key trends, regulatory developments, and emerging areas of exposure. Panelists will share practical insights on managing risk, responding to litigation involving digital platforms, and preparing clients for what’s ahead.

Moderator: Frederik Kromann Jespersen, Skau Reipurth (Denmark)

Panelists:

- Krista Chaytor, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario)
- J.M. Durnovich, Poyner Spruill (US: North Carolina)
- William Egan, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts)
- Inga Kingland, Larkin Hoffman (US: Minnesota)

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm
Waller EF

BREAKOUT | M&A TRENDS: NAVIGATING OPPORTUNITIES IN A SHIFTING MARKET

While recent fluctuations in mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity have tempered overall deal volume, the landscape is showing signs of resurgence, presenting valuable opportunities for companies seeking to expand their market reach. This session will offer a deep dive into the latest trends, highlighting key considerations and challenges businesses face today.

Moderator: Vinita Mehra, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio)

Panelists:

- Mariano Batalla, ALTA Batalla (Costa Rica)
- Rob Bethea, Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana)
- Steve Doak, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario)
- Craig Hodgson, Mills & Reeve (UK)

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm
Waller Pre-Function

BREAK | NETWORKING

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm
Waller CD

BREAKOUT | ATTORNEYS GENERAL IN ACTION: TRENDS, CHALLENGES & IMPACT

U.S. State Attorneys General (AGs) play an increasingly influential role in shaping policy, enforcing laws, and driving litigation that impacts businesses, governments, and communities. This panel will feature former AGs sharing insights on the most pressing legal and political issues sitting AGs are addressing—from consumer protection and antitrust enforcement to environmental regulation, data privacy, and public health. Panelists will discuss recent trends, evolving challenges, and how AGs' actions across the U.S. are influencing political agendas and legal strategies. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how AG offices operate and what to expect as their impact continues to grow.

Moderator: Dean Grafilo, Capitol Advocacy (US: California | Government Relations)

Panelists:

- Doug Chin, Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher (US: Hawaii)
- Bob Cooper, Bass Berry & Sims (US: Tennessee)

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm
Waller EF

BREAKOUT | INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TRENDS, RISKS & THE ROAD AHEAD

As innovation accelerates and markets become more interconnected, intellectual property disputes are becoming more frequent, complex, and international. This panel will explore the latest developments shaping IP practice—from shifting enforcement strategies to the implications of high-profile cases like Jack Daniel's and headline-making entertainment disputes. The panel will examine emerging flashpoints such as AI-generated content, new technologies, and evolving forum-selection tactics. They will also offer practical strategies for safeguarding intellectual property assets, managing litigation risks, and anticipating future challenges across patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets.

Moderator: Eric Stevens, Poyner Spruill (US: North Carolina)

Panelists:

- Emily Evitt, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA)
- David Weslow, Wiley (US: Washington, DC)

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm
Waller Pre-Function

BREAK | NETWORKING

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Waller CD

SESSION | THE CLIENT’S PERSPECTIVE: WHAT MATTERS, WHAT WORKS & WHAT DRIVES LOYALTY

This candid panel brings together corporate clients to share what they truly value in their legal relationships—and what makes them walk away. From communication preferences and responsiveness to fee arrangements, collaboration, and commercial understanding, panelists will offer real-world insights into how law firms can build trust and deliver lasting value. They will also highlight common missteps and ‘deal-breakers’ that undermine relationships. This is a unique opportunity to hear directly from clients and gain actionable guidance on how law firms can better align their service with evolving client needs and expectations.

Moderator: Marla Broaddus, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)

Panelists:

- Lecia Chaney, Associate General Counsel, Insperity
- Neal Nobles, Senior Counsel, Exxon Mobil Corporation
- Lawrence Temple, Director, Legal Affairs, ABDM
- Shane Willoughby, Senior Vice President, Chief Legal & Strategy Officer, CB&I

5:00 pm
Waller CD

CLOSING | WRAP-UP REMARKS

6:00 pm
Hotel Lobby

TRANSPORTATION | CLOSING RECEPTION & BANQUET

6:30 pm – 10:30 pm

CLOSING RECEPTION & BANQUET | Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum

SCG Legal offers its deep appreciation to
HOST FIRM
McGinnis Lochridge
for its Generous Support & Hospitality!

Future In-Person Meetings
2026

26 - 27 March | Midyear Meeting > Melbourne (AUS)
September 18 - 19 | Annual Meeting > Washington, DC (US)

more details as available @ scglegal.com/events

A SPECIAL ‘THANK YOU’ TO OUR VETTED SOLUTION PARTNERS

This Annual Meeting is sponsored in part by the following Network Partners:



Empowering legal professionals to leverage AI, analytics, and multi-language technology across eDiscovery, forensic consulting, due diligence, privacy, managed review, and staffing projects.



Fuel faster growth with a proven approach to business development. Win more business and deepen client relationships with Intapp DealCloud Activator.

Stop by Waller Pre-Function to visit with on-site representatives or ask the SCG Team to be directly connected for more information.

Tray Adams, Partner, McGuireWoods (US: Virginia): Tray directs McGuireWoods Consulting's Virginia government relations team. Prior to joining the consulting group, he was a partner in the Richmond office of an international law firm and served as vice president of the Virginia office of their public affairs group. He concentrates his practice on governmental law and legislative and regulatory matters with a focus on the telecommunications, healthcare, alcoholic beverage, and insurance industries.

Jack Balagia, Former Vice President and General Counsel, Exxon Mobil Corporation (US: Texas): Jack served as Vice President and General Counsel from March 2010 until reaching mandatory retirement in November 2016. As General Counsel, he reported directly to Chairman and CEO Rex Tillerson and to the ExxonMobil Board of Directors, providing strategic advice and direction in matters relating to all facets of the company's business. He worked closely with the company's business and support units, and led a law department of 450 lawyers and 350 support professionals in 31 offices around the world, with legal specialties that included oil and gas, chemicals, corporate compliance and securities, intellectual property, mergers and acquisitions, and litigation.

Mariano Batalla, Partner, ALTA Batalla (Costa Rica): Mariano helps the firm lead the area of foreign investment towards Central America, facilitating business opportunities for clients. He specializes in cross-border mergers and acquisitions, commercial law, and strategic advice for the establishment and restructuring of large companies in Central America with investments of more than \$5 billion dollars.

Jonathan Baughman, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Jonathan represents clients in a wide variety of complex civil litigation matters. He also serves as Partner-in-Charge of the firm's Houston office and chairs the Oil & Gas Practice Group. He has substantial experience in civil litigation, ranging from commercial contract disputes to matters involving real estate, construction, products liability, and insurance disputes. Jonathan's practice is particularly strong in oil and gas disputes.

Rob Bethea, Partner, Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana): Rob advises clients on business transactions in the southeastern United States and beyond. He provides counsel on startups, mergers, stock and asset acquisitions, recapitalizations, taxation, business contracts and agreements, corporate governance, succession planning, franchising, securities, and finance. Rob advises clients in a range of industries including health care, professional services, manufacturing, logistics and distribution, marine products, specialty software, and industrial services.

Jon Brewer, Global Growth Director – Dealcloud, Intapp: Jon is a creative marketing, business development, and sales professional with broad experience gained from working in professional services for more than 30 years. Throughout his career, he's worked with leadership teams to design and implement strategy with a focus on client development and sales. Jon joined Intapp's professional services team in 2024, helping to develop and evolve Intapp DealCloud as the most effective client intelligence solution for professional services firms and ensuring it remains innovative and impactful — both now and in the future.

Marla Broaddus, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Marla is an experienced litigator representing clients in state and federal courts throughout every stage of litigation from pre-trial investigation and discovery to trial and appeals. She is adept at understanding trial counsel's objectives and works to present compelling cases while preparing for appellate challenges. Marla specializes in complex oil and gas litigation, appeals, class action matters across the country, and frequently handles easement and other property disputes for individuals and businesses.

Lyn Brown, Partner, Wiley (US: Washington, DC): Lyn advises clients on a wide range of cybersecurity, national security, economic espionage, insider threat, ransomware, election security, and privacy issues. She specializes in helping clients prepare for and respond to cyber-attacks, including multi-million-dollar ransomware attacks, business email compromises, and other forms of information security incidents or data breaches. She frequently directs privileged internal investigations, works with forensic consultants, interacts with federal law enforcement or homeland security agencies, and prepares after-action guidance.

Krista Chaytor, Partner, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario): Krista is an experienced litigator with a practice focused on business litigation. Krista has experience litigating a large number of business disputes, including those related to commercial leasing, construction, real estate, shareholder rights and remedies, and employment. She has appeared before all levels of Ontario courts, numerous tribunals, and the Federal Court.

Doug Chin, Partner, Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher (US: Hawaii): Doug, a former Hawaii Attorney General, has extensive experience in state and federal courts – from Hawaii to the United States Supreme Court – and experience in managing state and local government agencies at the highest levels. Doug focuses his practice in commercial litigation, administrative law, and government relations.

Bob Cooper, Member, Bass Berry & Sims (US: Tennessee): As a member of the firm's Compliance & Government Investigations Practice Group, Bob has broad experience in consumer protection and compliance monitoring. He served eight years as Tennessee Attorney General and four years as legal counsel to Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen. Bob advises clients on matters related to compliance and enforcement issues and assists clients in responding to internal investigations from federal, state, or local governments.

Jeff Dennis, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio): One of the longest-tenured law firm business executives in the region, Jeff plays a key role in the firm's practice management operations. He co-founded the firm's Innovation Committee and leads its strategic initiatives, which include projects involving recruiting, performance evaluation, budgeting, pricing, process improvement, profitability, technology innovation, data analytics, DEI, strategic planning/direction, marketing, business development, and operations.

Steve Doak, Partner, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario): Steve assists businesses with issues that arise throughout various stages of the growth process, including corporate organization and reorganization, corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, regulatory compliance, and contract law matters. Steve works with established businesses and start-ups in a range of industries, including clean tech and renewable energy, manufacturing and distribution, services, and consumer products.

J.M. Durnovich, Partner, Poyner Spruill (US: North Carolina): J.M. serves as Co-Chair of the firm's Litigation department. He represents professionals, businesses, and government bodies facing a wide range of challenges. J.M. has successfully prosecuted and defended cases in state and federal trial courts across the Carolinas, with a concentration in complex business disputes and high-stakes government conflicts. In addition to his trial experience, he also maintains a robust appellate practice and crafts compelling arguments at all levels, including at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Andrew Edge, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Andrew's practice focuses on civil litigation, including intellectual property, constitutional, product liability, and commercial disputes. He represents a diverse set of clients, including governmental entities, corporations, and individuals. Andrew offers his clients a broad perspective on litigation matters, having significant experience representing plaintiffs and defendants. His experience spans state and federal courts at the trial and appellate levels, arbitration, and administrative forums.

William 'Bill' Egan, Partner, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts): Bill has +30 years of commercial litigation and business law experience. He handles trials at the state and federal level, along with arbitrations and mediations, involving domestic and international matters. Bill counsels clients on issues concerning commercial business matters including technology-related contracts, distributorship disputes, and real estate and commercial leasing-related matters. He is an arbitrator who serves on the American Arbitration Association's panel of arbitrators, and he also represents clients in arbitration matters.

Emily Evitt, Partner, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA): Emily is an experienced litigator who works with film and television studios, record companies, music publishing companies, video game companies, and other major online content providers. She specializes in copyright and trademark litigation; practices in related areas of law such as idea submission/breach of implied contract, right of publicity, First Amendment, and defamation, including California's 'anti-SLAPP' statute; and has experience representing entertainment clients in labor and employment matters.

Mary Kate Fernandez, Associate, Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana): Mary Kate focuses exclusively on business immigration, representing employers across a range of industries. With experience guiding clients through U.S. immigration regulations, she helps businesses sponsor and retain skilled talent from around the world. Mary Kate also assists employers in addressing a wide range of employment issues related to immigration and international employment, ensuring they remain compliant with regulations.

Felicity Fowler, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Felicity has more than 30 years of experience representing employers in all facets of employment law, including litigation, arbitrations, injunctive relief, administrative proceedings, counseling, and trainings throughout the United States and in several foreign jurisdictions. She has been certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1998 as a specialist in the field of Labor and Employment Law and chaired a multitude of lawsuits on behalf of employers in state and federal courts.

Alexis Glascock, Director, Fennemore (US: Arizona): Alexis is Chair of the Government Relations and Regulatory practice group, where she focuses on assisting businesses and associations to achieve their goals by advocating for or opposing changes to laws at the Legislature, agency, county and municipal level. Alexis has worked in both private practice and in senior staff positions in state government. She has served both as counsel to the President of the Arizona Senate and Assistant to the General Counsel of the Legislative Council.

Alina Gorokhovskiy, CEO, SCG Legal (US: Washington, DC): Alina is responsible for the strategy, oversight, and management of SCG Legal's tactical direction, business planning, and day-to-day operations. She has more than 25 years of diverse U.S. and international experience – including as one of the legal industry's first chief strategy officers – building and leading creative service-oriented operations, marketing and business development teams, developing and executing global strategic business plans, managing social media campaigns, and designing targeted and innovative brand campaigns and marketing programs.

Dean Grafilo, Partner, Capitol Advocacy (US: California | Government Relations): Dean brings more than 20 years of political and policy experience to his firm. His relational advocacy approach, deep-rooted knowledge on a wide range of issues, and ability to deliver results are invaluable assets to the firm. With decades of experience working on the state budget as legislative staff or more recently as Department Director, Dean is one of the firm's co-leads for the Procurement practice area. Additionally, he works within the firm's Healthcare, Financial Services, Technology, and growing Attorney General practices.

Craig Hodgson, Partner, Mills & Reeve (UK): Craig is a mergers and acquisitions specialist, advising multinationals, public companies, private equity houses, and individual investors on buying, selling, and/or investing in companies and businesses. As part of one of the UK's largest corporate law teams (+120 lawyers), he has considerable experience in major cross-border transactions, takeovers, and reorganizations. Craig co-leads the firm's food and agribusiness sector group and is the head of the Norwich office.

Jamie Joiner, Of Counsel, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Jamie has extensive experience representing U.S. and foreign companies on a wide range of international trade compliance requirements related to customs and cross-border trade. Her areas of practice include export controls, economic and trade sanctions, import and customs law, antiboycott restrictions, and requirements related to the USMCA and other free trade agreements and duty preference programs.

Gunnar Jonsson, Partner, Jonsson & Hall (Iceland): Gunnar's main areas of practice include aviation law, banking and finance, commercial and corporate law, contract law, intellectual property law, international business and trade law, litigation and arbitration, maritime and transportation law, mergers and acquisitions, and stock exchange regulation.

J.D. Kesler, Shareholder, Parsons Behle & Latimer (US: Utah): J.D. Kesler is a trusted adviser to clients, guiding them through transactional and litigation matters related to infrastructure projects primarily in the energy, mining and real estate development industries. As a former in-house attorney, J.D. understands how to easily and effectively navigate the complexities of a client's project-related legal decisions and legal challenges to accomplish his client's goals.

Inga Kingland, Shareholder, Larkin Hoffman (US: Minnesota): Inga represents clients in a wide variety of real estate and construction matters. She helps resolve disputes involving land use and development, professional services, mechanic's liens, construction delays and defects, workmanship issues, surety and bonding, leasing, and property ownership and sales. Inga also counsels clients on risk management strategies for real estate and construction contracts.

Brett Koenecke, Partner, May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson (US: South Dakota): Brett has been registered as a lobbyist at the South Dakota Legislature for more than 25 years. He's successfully represented many clients over that time, and as a result has very deep experience in many areas. Brett practices energy and telecommunications regulatory law. He is frequently found practicing at the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, appearing on behalf of his clients, including Montana-Dakota Utilities, MidAmerican Energy, Avangrid Renewables, Energy Transfer Partners, Geronimo Energy, ENGIE North America, and others.

Frederik Kromann Jespersen, Partner, Skau Reipurth (Denmark): Frederik specializes in commercial litigation and international arbitration. He heads the Specialized Dispute Resolution department at the firm and acts as legal counsel to Danish as well as international clients in disputes of various kinds, including disputes concerning commercial contracts, intellectual property law, competition law, mergers and acquisition disputes, management liability, marketing practices, and corporate criminal liability.

Kristopher Kunasingam, Partner & Head of Migration, Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne): Kristopher advises on all aspects of migration to Australia, with particular emphasis on employment-related migration. He has advised a wide range of clients, including large public and international companies and small-to-medium enterprises. Kristopher also has experience in assisting individuals with their migration matters, including skilled, business, investor, high net worth individuals, and family visa applicants.

Martin Lutz, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Martin has been recognized by Texas Monthly as a Top Attorney in Austin for international law. He advises a wide range of U.S. and foreign clients on international legal matters and has advised numerous public companies on the Fortune Global 500 list as well as foreign governments, universities, private equity funds, international charities, technology companies, and manufacturers of all sizes.

Aaron Makovka, Lawyer, Dunton Rainville (Canada: Quebec): Aaron specializes in labor, employment law, and administrative law. As a skilled negotiator with particular expertise in labour standards, employment contracts, grievance arbitration, and occupational health and safety, he regularly represents clients before various labor tribunals and other administrative bodies across Canada as well as before the civil courts. Aaron has considerable experience in claims made under the Act Respecting Industrial Accidents and Occupational Diseases and in those involving human rights issues and labour and employment standards.

Vinita Mehra, Director + Leader, Global Business Practice, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio): As leader of the firm's Global Business and Global Education practices, Vinita is a nationally renowned speaker and leading voice on global strategy and cross-border growth for some of the world's most well-known companies and institutions of higher learning. She has more than two decades of experience serving as outside general counsel to her clients, offering a unique and informed perspective on matters involving data security and privacy, tax mitigation, mergers and acquisitions, employment strategy, and other core elements of their global growth plans.

Stephan Menzemer, Lawyer and Commercial Mediator, GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany): Stephan heads the intellectual property, IT, and media practice group and is one of the leading IT lawyers in Germany. His experience and expertise include years of working with private and public sectors from start-ups to DAX companies.

Dan Meyers, President, Consulting and Information Governance, TransPerfect Legal: Dan advises clients on legal technology, artificial intelligence, eDiscovery and data privacy best practices. Prior to joining TransPerfect, he was a Commercial Litigation Partner at an Am Law 100 law firm and the Founder and Chair of the firm's eDiscovery & Information Governance practice group. Dan is certified as an eDiscovery Specialist (ACEDS) and an Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/E/US/C).

Greta Peisch, Partner, Wiley (US: Washington, DC): Greta has nearly 15 years of experience in international trade matters. Most recently, she served as General Counsel for the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) where she was a primary legal advisor to the agency, including with respect to trade enforcement and trade agreement implementation and negotiations. While at USTR, Greta led the agency's enforcement agenda, including World Trade Organization (WTO) and trade agreement dispute settlement and implementation of Sections 201 and 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Janet Peyton, Partner, McGuireWoods (US: Virginia): Janet serves as Office Managing Partner for the firm's Richmond office. She practices in the areas of intellectual property and data privacy and security. Janet provides worldwide brand protection, enforcement, licensing and transactional intellectual property services, and she assists clients with preventive data security as well as compliance issues in the aftermath of a data breach.

Tom Pickthorn, Partner, Head of International, Mills & Reeve (UK): Tom leads the International practice and is a corporate partner, advising on mergers and acquisitions transactions, equity investments, ECM matters, and restructuring. As Head of International, he works globally to manage relationships with the firm's hand-picked network of firms. Last year, the team supported clients in more than 75 countries including U.S., Germany, France, China, India, and Australia.

Kathryn Rattigan, Partner, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts): Kathryn advises clients on data privacy and security, cybersecurity, and compliance with related state and federal laws. She assists clients in assessing risks related to technology and software contracts as well as with compliance-related issues with outsourcing and vendor management. She represents clients across all industries, including but not limited to manufacturing, insurance, health care, education, energy, and construction.

Robert Rieger, Partner, Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana): Robert advises clients in government relations and related litigation matters. He focuses his practice on the needs of individuals and companies in the public utility, telecommunications, electricity generation, and health care industries as well as addressing corporate law, governmental ethics, campaign finance, and general administrative law issues. He devises and implements legislative and litigation solutions designed to curb agency overreach and promote a level playing field for entities subject to governmental or professional licensing or regulation.

Stephen Rozen, Partner, Amit, Pollak, Matalon & Co. (Israel): Stephen is a partner in the firm's High Tech and Venture Capital practice and chairs its Food-Tech and Ag-Tech practices as well as its Israel Innovation Authority practice. He is also instrumental in fostering the firm's relationships with law firms around the world as Head of International Relationships. Stephen's expertise spans a wide range of legal areas, including buy and sell-side mergers and acquisitions, equity financing transactions, private equity, and venture capital funds.

Lauren Sigg, Partner, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts): Lauren practices in the area of U.S. immigration law with a focus on business immigration. She is a member of our firm's Immigration group. Lauren helps multinational companies, organizations, and institutions staff their U.S. offices by obtaining appropriate immigration status for their employees. She represents a range of clients, such as manufacturing and technology companies, hospitals, and academic institutions.

Liz Sobe, Director of Business Development, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts): Liz leads business development efforts, working closely with the firm's leadership, practice group leaders, and industry leaders to attract, retain, and grow client relationships while developing business growth strategies. She is focused on identifying and developing data-driven initiatives that advance the firm's overall client and industry business strategies to broaden and strengthen client relationships.

Eric Stevens, Partner, Poyner Spruill (US: North Carolina): Eric focuses his practice on intellectual property law and litigation. He prosecutes trademark registration applications before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and handles opposition and cancellation proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board of the USPTO. He assists clients in negotiating technology transactions such as software license agreements, software as a service agreements, agreements for the development of software and mobile applications, and agreements for the sale or licensing of trademarks, copyrights, patented inventions, trade secrets, and proprietary and open source software.

Robert Theissen, Co-Managing Partner, GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany): Since the beginning of his career, Robert has specialised in private construction and architectural law and related areas of law. His advice begins with the conception of complex construction projects – in particular building construction, civil engineering, and infrastructure projects – and the selection of the appropriate contract model. In addition to classic solutions, he has extensive knowledge and experience of cooperative contract models. For example, he drafted and negotiated the multi-party contract for Amprion GmbH A-Nord, currently the largest IPA project in Germany.

Nick Tosco, Partner, Poyner Spruill (US: North Carolina): Nick assists municipalities, counties, governmental agencies, and private clients on matters related to zoning, permitting, variances, annexations, condemnation/eminent domain, public records, special use permits, site plans, subdivisions, and administrative law issues. He also devotes part of his practice to civil litigation, representing clients in a wide range of complex government-related disputes, land use litigation, zoning disputes, and condemnation/eminent domain litigation.

Randi Valverde, Partner, Capitol Counsel & Consulting (US: New Mexico | Government Relations): Randi is an experienced attorney and government affairs expert with a deep commitment to New Mexico communities. Born and raised in southern New Mexico, she brings more than a decade of legal and policy experience, with a focus on employment law, labor relations, and strategic government advocacy. Her career spans private practice, public service, and legislative consulting. In 2023, Randi joined the firm, continuing her work at the intersection of law, leadership, and public policy.

Kirk Watson, Mayor of Austin: For three decades, Mayor Watson has been immersed in public policy, spanning local and state government in Texas. He served in the Texas Senate for more than 13 years, leading on a wide range of issues including education, health care, transportation, and government transparency. He was first elected Austin Mayor in 1997, where he won praise for bringing different political sides together around transformative environmental and economic development initiatives.

David Weslow, Partner, Wiley (US: Washington, DC): David focuses his practice on intellectual property litigation and transactions involving trademarks, copyrights, and domain names. A former software and web developer, he regularly handles cutting-edge disputes involving law and technology. David has developed particular expertise helping businesses navigate Internet, software, and anti-counterfeiting issues, and assists clients with application of intellectual property claims to business and product impersonations, intangible and digital asset thefts, business email compromise scams, social media issues, and other Internet and software-based disputes.