

# WELCOME TO THE 2022-2023 New Partner Institute

Business of Law and Business Development Program for SCG Legal Member Firms

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# THE NPI MODULES

INTRODUCTIONS & BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

**LEADERSHIP** 

PLANNING FOR SUCCESS



## **NPI Faculty**

#### **Catherine Alman MacDonagh**



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## INTRODUCTIONS & BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION



Catherine Alman MacDonagh, JD Catherine @LegalLeanSigma.com



## **Today's Program**

- Marketing and sales
- Effective introductions



#### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

#### sales + marketing

Centers around the present	Centers around the future
Focused on one-to-one transactions	Focused on one-to-many transactions
Meets needs in an opportunistic manner	Meets needs in a strategic manner
Makes a push	Pulls people in
Depends on tried-and-true best practices	Uses constantly evolving tools and tactics
Allows for a two-way dialogue	Directs one-way messages
Is driven by human interaction	Is driven by metrics
Provides short-term advantage	Facilitates long-term sustainable success







#### The Legal Marketing Funnel

The marketing channels that most commonly map to each phase

Social Media - Google - In-Person Events Referral - TV/Radio/Outdoor

Social Media - Website

Review Websites - Website

Website or GMB



Awareness of a legal practice is typically generated in one of four ways: a Google search, traditional media, a social media post, an in-person event, or a referral.

#### Interest

The interest phase is largely driven by social media posts and before and after galleries on your website

#### Consideration

The consideration phase is conducted on a practice's website, as well as on review websites such as Google, Avvo, etc. One can identify these review websites by checking the websites that rank on Google for a practice's name and keywords such as "best X lawyers in city." It's also important to check what websites rank for "firm name reviews."

#### Action

Action is almost always precluded by a visit to the practice website. Ensuring your website is mobile-friendly and your contact information is readily available is critical at this point



sect web design lopic

## I Say Sales, You Think...?





#### **Sales Defined**

- Asking
- Listening
- Being helpful
- Uncovering and addressing a need
- Relationship building
- Client service



Stages of Personal Selling

RETAIN & GROW CLIENTS

**OBTAIN CLIENTS** 

#### **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS**

Meetings
Build rapport and trust
Gather information
Identify legal and business needs
Develop solutions
Be helpful

#### **GET TO KNOW YOUR MARKET**

Gain credibility
Create awareness
Networking
Events, Speaking & Publishing

#### PLAN, TARGET, COMMUNICATE

Who needs the services I provide?
How do I do it differently than the competition?
Where can I reach my target market?



## **Top 5 Keys to Success**

- Attitude
- Invest time wisely lose fast
- Passionate
- Overcomes obstacles
- Likeable authentic



## Selling - Inside & Out

- You must connect personally
- Inside
  - Referral sources
  - Teams
  - Cross selling
- Out
  - Clients
  - Prospects
  - Referral Sources



#### What's Effective

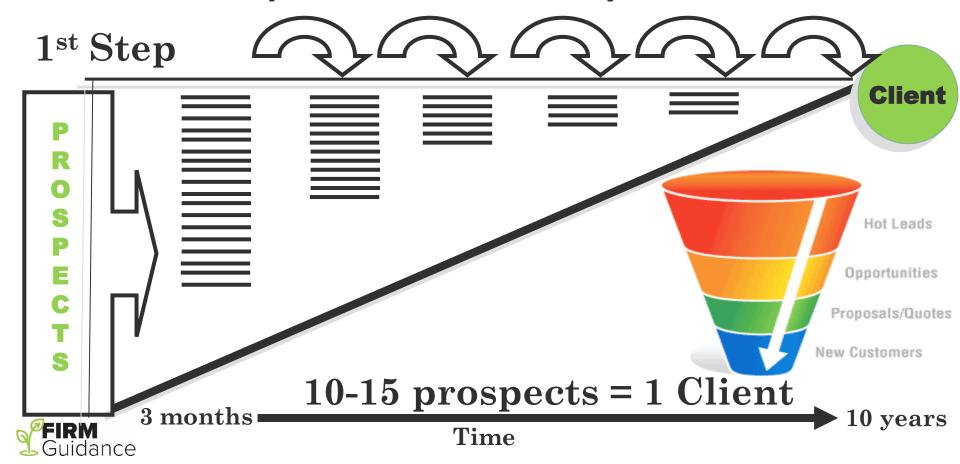
- Stay tuned to WII FM
- Ask good questions
- Listen. Listen. Listen.
- Be prepared
- Develop your skills
  - Communication styles
  - Personality types
  - Memorable introductions (aka the "elevator speech")



#### The Client Life Cycle

- 1. Pre-Qualify **\** 2. Gather and **Analyze Research** 3. Assess Needs & Develop **Solutions** 4. Draft Client Development Plan 5. Develop Proposal or Presentation **6. Provide Exceptional** Service, Retain & Grow
- -Determine whether worthwhile to pursue
- -Assess overall business development potential
- -Clients demand their law firms understand their business
- -It is important to understand the history of our relationship with the client
- -We want to be client not product focused
- -Uncover needs first, then develop solutions that fit those needs
- -A well thought out, written plan serves as the roadmap for developing the client relationship
- -Coordination, preparation and quality materials are keys to success
- -Service is what differentiates in the client's eyes

#### **Client Development: The Sales Cycle**



#### **Making - and Managing - Time**

- Engage in effective activities try to find those that cost only time
- Manage contacts
- Select targets
- Assess & qualify
- Forge, maintain and grow relationships



## **Get Organized (or Reorganized)**

- Clean up your contacts
- Categorize contacts
- Determine your targets and priorities



## **Categorize Targets**

- Clients
- Family/friends
- Prospects
- Referral sources
- Hubs and connectors
- Allies and Others



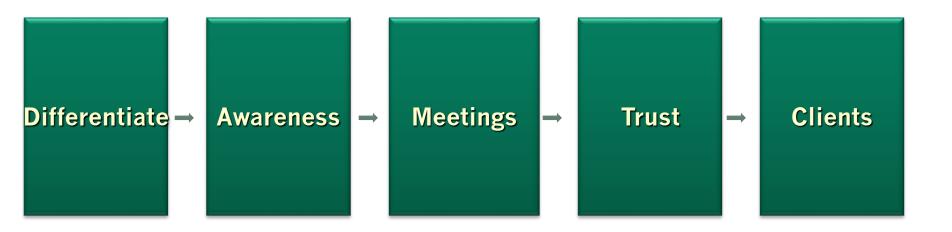
#### **Focus on Referrals**

When selecting firms, in-house counsel rely primarily on personal referrals from the following sources (top 2 choices selected):

- Recommendations from current outside counsel (79%)
   internal and external
- Company approved list (50.4%)
- Ask in-house counsel at their company (49.6%)
- Ask in-house counsel at other companies (48.9%)



#### Five Steps to a Referral





## **Identify Opportunities with Good Qs**

- What work are you currently doing? What work are other firms doing for them?
- What are the trends/issues impacting their industries?
- What are your clients' future plans?
- Are your clients aware of all the firm's capabilities?
- What are the career aspirations of your contacts?
- Are there seminars or CLE programs you could deliver to your clients?



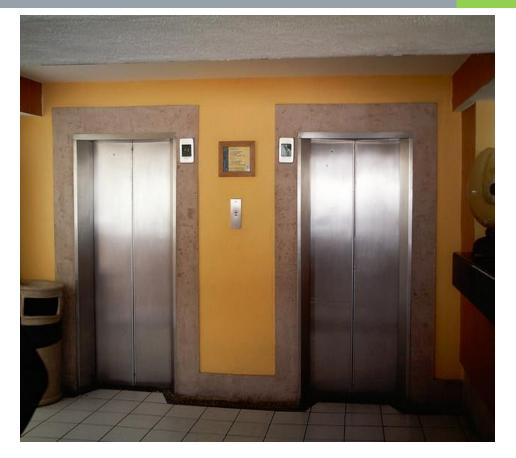
## The Fortune is in the Follow Up

- Build in the follow up to each contact
  - Be clear
  - Make it time bound
- Use the system that works for you
  - Call sheets
  - CRM
  - Outlook
    - Calendar
    - Action items use those flags!
- DO IT!



## **Elevator Speech Workshop**





"Hello"



## WHO ARE YOU



#### How do you answer this question?







#### Catherine Alman MacDonagh, JD

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#### ELEVATOR SPEECH WORKSHEET

#### What it is

- 20-30 seconds
- A succinct soundbite
- Memorable
- · Spotlights something unique about you
- Focused on what you offer and the benefits of working with you
- Delivered effortlessly and naturally

#### Guidelines

- · Keep it short
- · Think "tagline"
- · Describe yourself and what you offer
- Solve a problem
- · Offer a vivid example
- · Lay out the benefits
- Be excited about your work!
- Practice makes perfect
- Use this worksheet to get started
- Practice out LOUD

#### Rules

- Must have a hook something that inspires people to want to learn more about you
- Tell your listener why you are interested in them
- Must pass the "so what?" test
- Make it powerful and focused on what you can do for others
- Write
- No: "I'm a partner/counsel/associate"
- No: sales pitch
- No: legalese
- Generic for all purpose, specific for events / opportunities
- Try this: my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I
- · Feature, verb/action, benefit

What are your deliverables? Identify services or features:

Write a list of benefits your clients derive from working with you (make sure they pass the "so what?" test:

Combine the deliverables with the benefits to write your 15-25 second elevator pitch. PRACTICE IT until you can say it effortlessly.

## "So, what do you do?"

- 20-30 seconds
- A succinct soundbite
- Memorable
- Spotlights something unique about you
- Focused on what you offer and the benefits of working with you
- Delivered effortlessly and naturally

#### **Examples**

"I'm the sexual harassment go-to for medium sized businesses and I enjoy studying desert wildflowers when I'm not helping clients avoid (or handle) trouble."

"I'm an extreme skiing photographer . . . on the weekends. And a tax attorney helping my clients navigate the code on the other days of the week."





#### The Benefits of an Effective Introduction

Your elevator speech is your succinct introduction and description of who you are and what you do.

It is your opportunity to define (or redefine) your personal brand or your reputation.

Communicating your elevator speech to others allows them to remember how you help people.

Other people can literally be your commercial!



#### The Rules

It must pass the "so what?" test.

Try not leading with "I'm a lawyer."

No sales pitch.

No legal-ease!



#### Guidelines

- Keep it short
- Think "tagline"
- Describe yourself and what you offer
- · Solve a problem
- · Offer a vivid example
- Lay out the benefits
- Be excited about your work!
- Practice makes perfect
- Use this worksheet to get started
- Practice out LOUD



## **Elevator Speech Workshop**

- What are your deliverables?
  - Are services or features clear?
- How do clients/SCG referrers benefit from working with you?
  - Make sure they pass the "so what?" test
- Combine the deliverables with the benefits
  - Add what is unique about you
  - Craft/refine your 15-25 second elevator pitch
- Practice introduce yourself to the group!



#### Contact



Catherine Alman MacDonagh, JD

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