Alabama State Bar Annual Meeting

Civility and Justice for All

147th Annual Meeting

Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa

June 26-29, 2024
Commercial insurance providers come and go, but AIM is celebrating 35 years of service here in the South. Created out of the Alabama State Bar by attorneys for attorneys, AIM provides lawyers’ professional liability and cybersecurity insurance, unmatched claims defense and free CLE for its Alabama and Tennessee insureds. Our AIM is your peace of mind...for 35 years and counting.

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Welcome to the 2024 Alabama State Bar Annual Meeting! We are excited to be back at the Sandestin Hilton. Many thanks to our dedicated state bar staff who have worked long and hard to put together a conference filled with great speakers and fun events.

In addition to fantastic CLEs, highlights this year will include the Thursday Bench & Bar Luncheon, which will feature Brendan Hunt who co-wrote and starred in “Ted Lasso,” and the Friday night party. Weather permitting, the Friday night party will be on the beach front deck, where we will enjoy excellent food, fireworks, and a great band (Pool Hall Special) led by several of our fellow state bar members.

Our big projects this bar year have been #Choose Civility and Justice4AL.com. I hope you leave this meeting with a good understanding of both of them. It has been the honor of my career to serve as President of the Alabama State Bar, and I look forward to closing out the year by spending time with so many of my favorite people. Thank you for joining me. Enjoy your stay and have a great time!
NOON – 6:30 P.M.
ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN
Emerald Registration Booth

12:50 - 1:00 P.M.
WELCOME FROM PRESIDENT BRANNON BUCK
Coastal B

1:00 P.M. – 1:50 P.M.
PROFESSIONALISM AND PERSUASION IN THE APPELLATE COURTS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Panelists: Justice Sarah Stewart, Justice Jay Mitchell, Judge Matt Fridy, Judge Bill Lewis, Judge Chris McCool and Judge Richard Minor
Moderator: Marc James Ayers
A panel discussion with members of each of Alabama’s appellate courts on the uniqueness of appellate argumentation, how to enhance one’s persuasive impact and how an advocate’s level of professionalism plays a key role in presenting cases before courts of review.
Sponsored by the Appellate Practice Section

2:00 P.M. – 2:50 P.M.
PEARLS OF WISDOM FROM ALABAMA MEDIATORS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Panelists: Eileen Harris, Jon Lewis, Bob Methvin, Holly Sawyer, Angeline Sperling, and Michael Upchurch
Join our panel of experienced attorneys/mediators as they share tips and insights for a successful mediation, how to deal with difficult parties, ways to handle impasse, concluding mediation, and Alabama trends in mediation.
Sponsored by the Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution and the Dispute Resolution Section

2:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.
BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Emerald C
3:00 P.M. – 3:50 P.M.
BEYOND THE PALE: PROTECTING YOUR CLIENT’S ASSETS FROM DIVORCE COURT
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speaker: Jessica Kirk Drennan
This presentation will be an overview of different property interests and how to protect them from distribution in divorce, traps to be wary of and how the equitable powers of divorce court can reverse transactions, including deeds, prenuptial agreements, postnuptial agreements, trusts, etc.
Sponsored by the Real Property, Probate & Trust Section

4:00 P.M. – 4:50 P.M.
WORKERS’ COMP TRIVIA
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speaker: John Civils
This presentation by Civils Mediation, LLC will be in a question-and-answer format. How do you know your workers’ compensation law? The attendees will be divided into teams and choose their questions from various categories. There will be verbal interaction on the questions and we will keep score. Very fast paced!
Sponsored by the Workers’ Compensation Section

5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.
LEADERSHIP FORUM ALUMNI RECEPTION
Sandpiper
Sponsored by the Leadership Forum Alumni Section and Veritext Legal Solutions

6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION
Emerald Ballroom
Join us as we kick off our Annual Meeting with dinner and dancing. Featuring music by Chambers Waller and The Troubadours
Sponsored by Insurance Specialists, Inc. and White Arnold & Dowd

Day-in-the-Life Videos
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THURSDAY, JUNE 27

7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.
“FRIENDS OF BILL W.” MEETING
Sandpiper A

7:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND COFFEE BAR
Coastal Foyer
Sponsored by Badham & Buck, LLC

7:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.
PAST PRESIDENTS’ BREAKFAST — OPEN ONLY TO ALABAMA STATE BAR PRESIDENTS
Emerald A

7:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.
ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN
Emerald Registration Booth

8:00 A.M. – 8:50 A.M.
ALABAMA STATE BAR ETHICS UPDATE
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speaker: Roman Shaul
General Counsel Roman Shaul will discuss changes and trends in the ethics and professionalism world, including modifications to existing rules, new proposed rules and how artificial intelligence may transform the practice of law.

8:00 A.M. – 8:50 A.M.
EFFECTIVELY MANAGING CONSERVATORSHIPS — WHAT HAPPENED TO MICHAEL OHER AND BRITNEY SPEARS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Emerald E
Speaker: Amy Bryant
What do Britney Spears, Michael Oher, Wendy Williams and Brian Wilson have in common? Why do celebrities have conservatorships and were they handled appropriately? This session will provide information on best practices for lawyers when advising clients on their fiduciary responsibilities. This presentation will also describe a model of managing conservatorships that has proven to be effective for protecting vulnerable adults.

8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
LEGAL EXPO
Coral Ballroom
Meet representatives from suppliers who tailor their products and services to the legal community. Be sure to have your drawing card signed by the exhibitors so you can enter to win prizes, including the Grand Prize!

NOTE: The Legal Expo is intended for registered lawyer attendees and their office administrative staff. We regret that children unaccompanied by a parent cannot be admitted to the Legal Expo.

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8:50 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.
BREAK — VISIT LEGAL EXPO

9:00 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.
PROFESSIONALISM: WHAT WOULD TED LASSO DO?
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speaker: Cindy Tisdale
What can lawyers learn from “Ted Lasso”? Join 2023-2024 State Bar of Texas President Cindy Tisdale as she explains how themes and scenes from the popular Apple TV+ series can help lawyers perform their work with civility and professionalism in this fun and engaging presentation.

9:00 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.
WORKPLACE HARASSMENT: HOSTILE WORK ENVIRONMENT CLAIMS AND DEFENSES
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Emerald E
Speakers: Yvonne Maddalena and Temple Trueblood
Join these attorneys, Yvonne Maddalena and Temple Trueblood, representing the employee’s and the employer’s perspectives on harassment claims, as they address common issues in hostile workplace environment cases: Is the alleged conduct unlawful harassment or not? What is a prima facie case? What are common defenses to these claims? How do credibility issues weigh in the value of the case?
Sponsored by the Labor & Employment Law Section

9:50 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
BREAK - VISIT LEGAL EXPO

10:00 A.M. – 10:50 A.M.
NFL, UFL, NIL AND CBA: FOOTBALL FOR LAWYERS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speaker: Alexa Stabler
This session will address current legal issues surrounding athlete representation, the NFL’s collective bargaining agreement, the rise of name and likeness laws and the merger of the XFL and USFL, among other issues relevant to college and professional football.
Sponsored by the Young Lawyers’ Section and the Intellectual Property, Entertainment & Sports Section

10:50 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
LEGAL EXPO BREAK

10:50 A.M.
BLOODY MARY AND MIMOSA RECEPTION
Coral Ballroom Foyer
Please join AIM as they honor their longtime employee, Wilma Fields, on her retirement.
Sponsored by Attorneys Insurance Mutual of the South, Inc.
11:00 A.M. – 11:50 A.M.
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND ELECTIONS UPDATE
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speakers: Representative Matt Simpson and Greg Butrus
Sponsored by the Elections, Ethics & Government Section

11:00 A.M. – 11:50 A.M.
THE FUTURE OF THE LAW IS HUMAN: HOW MIND MANAGEMENT, RESILIENCE AND PROBLEM-SOLVING WILL HUMANIZE THE LEGAL INDUSTRY
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Emerald E
Speaker: Dina Cataldo
As AI captures the collective consciousness, the humanization of the law and reconnecting with humans has become more important than ever. Master Coach and former criminal prosecutor Dina Cataldo will teach you skills that will revolutionize how you engage in your practice. In this timely training, learn to transform your most challenging interactions with clients and opposing counsel, keep your calm around even the most demanding situations in your practice, and develop problem-solving skills to help resolve overwhelming problems and feel more in control of your time. 
Sponsored by the Health & Wellness Committee

12:30 P.M. – 1:45 P.M.
BENCH & BAR LUNCHEON FEATURES
BRENDAN HUNT
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Emerald A-D
Speaker: Brendan Hunt
Hear from the co-writer and actor of the Apple TV+ show Ted Lasso.
Sponsored by Attorneys Insurance Mutual of the South, Inc.

1:45 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.
LEGAL EXPO BREAK

2:00 P.M. – 2:50 P.M.
TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP IN LAW ACROSS GENERATIONS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Moderator: Lisha Graham
Panelists: Judge Deborah Bell Paseur, Shelbie Hankey, Carrie McCollum, and Valynda Jerome-Williams
What does it mean to be a leader in the legal profession? How can you be a leader at each stage of your career? Attorneys who embody leadership qualities excel in their practice, assume roles as leaders in their law firms or companies, and are leaders in their community. Our panelists will discuss topics involving professionalism and civility, respecting colleagues and the judiciary, upholding the rule of law, being an advocate for your clients, providing mentorship and community service, and other qualities of strong leaders. Representing different generations, the panelists will provide tips for being a transformational leader at every point in your career.
Sponsored by the Women’s Section
2:00 P.M. – 2:50 P.M.
IP LAW FOR NON-IP LAWYERS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Emerald E
Speakers: Joe Bird, Rudy Hill and Jeremy Smith
A basic introduction to intellectual property law. Trade secrets are state common law in origin and are fairly intuitive to the non-IP lawyer, but the other IP law is not. The law of patent, trademark, and copyright is almost entirely federal and statutory. This discussion will help the non-IP lawyer recognize basic IP issues in order to guide his or her client.
Sponsored by the Intellectual Property, Sports & Entertainment Section

2:00 P.M. – 2:50 P.M.
DELVING DEEPER THAN SOURCE: DECIPHERING ACTIVITY LEVEL IN DNA ANALYSIS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal C
Speaker: Samantha Spencer
Sponsored by the Criminal Law Section

3:00 P.M. – 3:50 P.M.
FAMILY CASE LAW UPDATE
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speaker: Joan Marie Sullivan
Overview of family law and domestic relations case law from the past year, identifying key changes and updates for practitioners
Sponsored by the Family Law Section

2:00 P.M.
CHILDREN’S POOLSIDE ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Recommended for all children ages 12 and under.
Ice cream will be served.

3:00 P.M. – 3:50 P.M.
THE WHY
(1.0 HOUR MCLE CREDIT)
Emerald E
Speaker: Thomason Bryan Zoldock
Connecting in the Connection Age. Why communication? Why branding? What is your why?
4:00 P.M. – 4:50 P.M.
JUSTICE FOR ALL: LEGAL AID FOR THOSE IN NEED
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Panelists: Hilaire Armstrong, Brannon Buck, Peyton Faulk, Leon Hampton, and Felicia Long
For nearly one-million Alabamians who live in poverty, the judicial system is some far-away branch of government. In addition, residents of around 20 Alabama counties have access to fewer than one lawyer per 1,000 people. To help bridge the access to justice gap, Alabama State Bar’s VLP and other local VLPs provide an organized vehicle through which attorneys can provide pro bono services to citizens in need in their community. The panel will provide an overview of the state’s access to justice statistics, preview the justice4al.com website, and why pro bono matters.

4:00 P.M. – 4:50 P.M.
CYBERSECURITY FOR LEGAL PRACTITIONERS: SAFEGUARDING CLIENT DATA AND LEGAL INFORMATION
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Emerald E
Speaker: Brian Jackson
This presentation dives into the essential sphere of cybersecurity as it applies to the legal sector. With law firms intensifying their digital presence and strong sensitive case files and client data electronically, they face increasing risks from complex cyber threats.

Sponsored by Abacus Technologies and BMSS Advisors and CPAs

5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.
ANNUAL VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROGRAM RECEPTION
Emerald D
Sponsored by the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation and the Alabama Law Foundation
FRIDAY, JUNE 28

7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.
“FRIENDS OF BILL W.” MEETING
Sandpiper A

7:30 A.M. – NOON
ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN
Emerald Registration Booth

8:00 A.M. – NOON
LEGAL EXPO
Coral Ballroom
Meet representatives from suppliers who tailor their products and services to the legal community. Be sure to have your drawing card signed by the exhibitors so you can enter to win prizes, including the Grand Prize!
NOTE: The Legal Expo is intended for registered lawyer attendees and their office administrative staff. We regret that children unaccompanied by a parent cannot be admitted to the Legal Expo.

8:30 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.
LITIGATION SECTION BREAKFAST WITH C REighton W ATERS, PROSECUTOR FOR THE MURDAUGH TRIAL
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Emerald A-D
Speaker: Creighton Waters
Join us for breakfast as we hear from Creighton Waters, the lead prosecutor in the Alex Murdaugh murder trial.
Sponsored by the Litigation Section

9:50 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
LEGAL EXPO BREAK

10:00 A.M. - 10:50 A.M.
SUPREME COURT PANEL
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal C
Justice Kelli Wise will lead a panel discussion with members of the Alabama Supreme Court and Supreme Court Clerk Megan Rhodebeck regarding their perspective of the judicial process within the Alabama Judicial System.

9:50 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
LEGAL EXPO BREAK

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9:50 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
LEGAL EXPO BREAK

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CONTACT US

Empowering Success Through Technology Transformation
10:50 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
LEGAL EXPO BREAK

11:00 A.M. – 11:50 A.M.
CELEBRITIES … THEY'RE JUST LIKE US! BUT WHAT ABOUT WHEN THEY ARE ON TRIAL?
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal C
Panelists: Bains Fleming, Jonathan Hooks, and Megan McCarthy
The widespread availability of video of key moments in celebrity trials offers the unique opportunity to lawyers to learn from these trials and utilize the lessons learned. Please join a panel of leaders from the Alabama Defense Lawyers Association as they present and discuss video clips from several celebrity trials and engage the audience in a lively discussion of what can be learned when we watch Hollywood stars in the courtroom.
Sponsored by the Alabama Defense Lawyers Association

11:00 A.M. – 11:50 A.M
CIVILITY MATTERS
(1.0 hour MCLE credit)
Coastal B
Speakers: Justice Sarah Stewart, Candis McGowan, George Newton, Whitney Seals and Leila Watson
Civility Matters is an effort to elevate the standards of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession. The panelists will be reviewing such topics as: What is civility and professionalism in today's environment? Dealing with improper conduct by opposing counsel in discovery and depositions, what if your client is acting uncivil in a deposition? What do you do if your trial judge is uncivil?
Sponsored by the Alabama Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates

11:50 A.M. – NOON
LEGAL EXPO BREAK

12:30 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.
WOMEN IN THE LAW RECEPTION
Emerald E
Sponsored by the Crew Law Group and Jinks Crow, P.C.

1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.
ANNUAL MAUD MCLURE KELLY AWARD LUNCHEON
Emerald E
Sponsored by the Crew Law Group; Jinks Crow, P.C; and the Women’s Section

1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
FRIENDS OF TONY MCLAIN GOLF TOURNAMENT
Baytowne Golf Course
Sponsored by Maynard Nexsen

2:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.
FAMILY TENNIS TOURNAMENT
Sandestin Tennis Center
Sponsored by Jinks Crow, P.C.

6:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.
WOMEN’S SECTION SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER
Sunrise Deck
Come bid on fabulous items at incredible prices!

7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.
PRESIDENT’S CLOSING NIGHT FAMILY RECEPTION
Barefoot and Sunrise Deck
Join us as we say thank you to Brannon Buck for his leadership as the 148th president of the Alabama State Bar. He has planned an evening of fun and fellowship with food, music from Pool Hall Special, and fireworks to conclude the evening!
Casual dress is recommended.
Sponsored by Bedford Rogers Bowling & McReynolds, P.C. and Cite Court Reporting
SATURDAY, JUNE 29

7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.
“FRIENDS OF BILL W.” MEETING
Sandpiper A

7:30 A.M. – 8:45 A.M.
CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY BREAKFAST
Coastal C
Speakers: Terri Bozeman Lovell and J. Mark Debro
Moderator: Samuel N. Crosby
Introductions: William T. Coplin, Jr.
Sponsored by William T. Coplin, Jr., LLC; The McElvy Law Firm, Stone Crosby PC; and Alyce Spruell

8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Coastal Ballroom Foyer
Sponsored by Alliance Insurance and the Solo & Small Firm Section

8:30 A.M. – 9:15 A.M.
WOMEN’S SECTION SILENT AUCTION WRAP-UP
Heron

9:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.
GRAND CONVOCATION AND AWARDS PRESENTATION
Emerald Ballroom A-D
Presiding: Brannon J. Buck, 148th president of the Alabama State Bar

11:15 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.
BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Emerald E

THE SOLO & SMALL FIRM SECTION IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE 147TH ANNUAL MEETING!

Congratulations
TOM PERRY
149TH PRESIDENT OF THE ALABAMA STATE BAR
Grand Prize Giveaway

Includes a Four night stay at Sandestin Hilton Grand Vacations

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> Look for a bar staff member wearing these colored t-shirts!

**CLE Form**

Scan below to complete the Official Certificate of Attendance & MCLE Credit.

To ensure you don’t receive partial credit, please submit this form only once, after the last CLE session you attend. Annual Meeting attendance can be submitted up to 60 days after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

![QR Code](image)

**Annual Meeting App**

Install on your mobile device.

- On your smartphone, scan the QR code below.
- Follow the instructions on-screen (it’s a quick, two step process).

![QR Code](image)

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