



2024

Rhode Island Bar Association
ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 13TH & JUNE 14TH

Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence

WELCOME | 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

BAR OFFICERS



(L to R) Christopher S. Gontarz, President-Elect; Nicole J. Benjamin, President; Patrick A. Guida, Treasurer; Dana M. Horton, Secretary.

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2024 ANNUAL MEETING



Nicole J. Benjamin, Esq.
President

Dear Colleagues,

I look forward to seeing you at the Bar Association's 2024 Annual Meeting on Thursday and Friday, June 13th and 14th, at the Rhode Island Convention Center. This year's hard-working Annual Meeting Planning Committee, led by chairperson Zachary Mandell, produced a diverse and enriching program for us. Supporting this effort, many Bar members and the Bar staff have worked with the Committee to ensure a seamless presentation of workshops and social events. As a result, our Annual Meeting provides attendees with an outstanding opportunity to learn, improve your practice, socialize with your colleagues, and fulfill your annual CLE requirements.

We have a wide range of seminars scheduled over the two days of the Annual Meeting, providing guidance in family, probate, criminal, trial, and commercial law; a variety of ethics-related topics; the always popular State and Federal Court updates; and more. These seminars are enhanced by the participation of many distinguished and accomplished presenters, including many of our colleagues. Please also visit our exhibitors, offering a range of practice-related products and services.

This year, our Thursday morning plenary speakers are Dean Andrew Perlman from Suffolk University Law School, and Professor Sonia Gipson Rankin from the University of New Mexico School of Law. They promise enlightening insights on artificial intelligence in the legal profession. Our Friday closing plenary speaker is Kori Carew, Chief Inclusion & Diversity Officer at Seyfarth Shaw and a TEDx Speaker. Kori's dynamic presentation is designed to enhance your understanding of the importance of inclusivity while fostering a sense of belonging within our legal community.

On Thursday afternoon, in the midst of a lively reception, we will honor our Annual Bar Award winners (please see page 15 for a complete listing and description of this year's awards) for outstanding achievements. During our Annual Meeting Luncheon on Friday, we will honor our colleagues for their 50 years of service in the profession, following an address by our incoming Bar Association President, Christopher S. Gontarz. Additionally, we will have the pleasure of traditional remarks by Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell on the State of the Rhode Island Judiciary.

The 2024 Annual Meeting Planning Committee's attention to our diverse membership's interests and needs resulted in an excellent program, and I urge you to take advantage of the Annual Meeting's early registration fee savings by completing your registration before June 7th.

I thank you in advance for the honor and pleasure of serving you throughout the past year, and I look forward to seeing you on June 13th and 14th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicole J. Benjamin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Nicole J. Benjamin, Esq.
President
Rhode Island Bar Association

8:00 am	Registration Begins & Exhibits Open <i>Convention Center, Ballroom Foyer, 5th floor</i>						
8:40 - 9:10 am	Welcome by Nicole J. Benjamin, Esq., Bar President <i>Convention Center, Ballroom A, 5th floor</i>						
9:10 - 10:30 am	1 Opening Plenary - AI in Legal Practice: Balancing Innovation & Integrity Dean Andrew M. Perlman & Sonia Gipson Rankin, Esq. 0.5 CREDIT + 1.0 ETHICS						
10:30 - 10:45 am	Morning Break						
10:45 am - 12:00 pm	2 Family Case Law Update 0.5 CREDIT + 1.0 ETHICS	3 Navigating Criminal Courtrooms 1.5 CREDITS	4 Piercing the Corporate Veil 1.5 CREDITS	5 Comparative Civil Litigation 1.5 CREDITS	6 Lawyer Well-Being 1.5 ETHICS	7 Protected Employment Leave 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	8 Representing Special Immigrant Juveniles 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Members Luncheon <i>Convention Center, Rotunda, 5th Floor</i>						
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Rhode Island Bar Foundation Annual Meeting <i>Convention Center, 1st Floor, West Lobby</i>						
1:30 - 2:45 pm	9 Commercial Law Update 2024: Part 1 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	10 RI Traffic Tribunal 101 1.5 CREDITS	11 Rule 30(b)(6) Deposition 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	12 Top Ten Cybersecurity Mistakes 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	13 Updates in Land Use Laws 1.5 CREDITS	14 Succession Planning for the RI Family Business 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	15 Complex Construction Claims 1.5 CREDITS
2:45 - 3:15 pm	Afternoon Break						
3:15 - 4:30 pm	16 Commercial Law Update 2024: Part 2 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	17 Hot Topics in RI Supreme Court 1.5 CREDITS	18 Depositions of Medical Experts 1.5 CREDITS	19 LGTBQ+ Family Law Best Practices 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	20 The Aging Profession 1.5 ETHICS	21 Rise of the Machines 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	
4:30 pm	Awards Reception <i>Convention Center, Rotunda, 5th floor</i>						

Exhibitor Booths Open

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The RIBA assumes no responsibility for opinions, statements, and facts in any Continuing Legal Education/Annual Meeting program. Neither the opinions expressed in any program, nor its content represent the official view of the Rhode Island Bar Association or the views of its members.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

8:00 am	Exhibitor Booths Open	Registration Begins & Exhibits Open <i>Convention Center, Ballroom Foyer, 5th floor</i>						
8:45 - 9:00 am		Welcome by Nicole J. Benjamin, Esq., Bar President <i>Convention Center, Ballroom A, 5th floor</i>						
9:00 - 10:15 am	Exhibitor Booths Open	<u>22</u> Civil Case Law Update 1.5 CREDITS	<u>23</u> Effective Sentencing Advocacy 1.5 CREDITS	<u>24</u> Tax Considerations in Divorce and Custody 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	<u>25</u> Coastal Law Update 1.5 CREDITS	<u>26</u> Golden Nuggets 1.5 ETHICS	<u>27</u> Litigation in RI Probate Court 1.5 CREDITS	<u>28</u> Improving Trial Advocacy: Openings/Closings 1.5 CREDITS
10:15 - 10:45 am		Morning Break						
10:45 am - 12:00 pm	Exhibitor Booths Open	<u>29</u> Criminal Case Law Update 1.5 CREDITS	<u>30</u> Toxic Torts 1.0 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	<u>31</u> Insolvency of a Charitable Corporation 1.5 CREDITS	<u>32</u> Affordable Housing Development in RI 1.5 CREDITS	<u>33</u> Medical Expert Testimony in Workers' Compensation Court 1.5 CREDITS	<u>34</u> Improving Trial Advocacy: Direct/Cross Examination 1.5 CREDITS	
12:00 - 2:00 pm		Awards Luncheon <i>Convention Center, Ballroom B/C, 5th floor</i>						
2:00 - 3:00 pm	Exhibitor Booths Open	<u>35</u> Ethical Considerations for AI and the Law 1.0 ETHICS	<u>36</u> Estate Taxation 1.0 CREDIT	<u>37</u> Attorneys' Fees in Civil Rights Litigation 1.0 CREDIT	<u>38</u> Getting the VA to Pay 0.5 CREDIT + 0.5 ETHICS	<u>39</u> Combating Modern Lending Discrimination 1.0 CREDIT	<u>40</u> Public Accommodations Laws 1.0 CREDIT	
3:00 - 3:15 pm		Afternoon Break						
3:15 - 4:15 pm	Exhibitor Booths Open	41 Closing Plenary - Embracing Inclusive Leadership: Cultivating a Courageous Legal Community Kori S. Carew, Esq. 1.0 ETHICS						

We've gone paperless! You can find the schedule, event floorplan, and all program workshop materials in the RIBA Annual Meeting app. To use the app, download the Engagefully app from your device's app store and search for RIBar.

8:00 am

Registration Begins and Exhibits Open

Convention Center, Ballroom Foyer, 5th Floor

Welcome | 8:40 - 9:10 am

Welcome: Nicole J. Benjamin, Esq., *President*

In Memoriam: Dana M. Horton, Esq., *Secretary*

Nominating Committee Report: David N. Bazar, Esq., *Chairperson*

Treasurer's Report: Patrick A. Guida, Esq., *Treasurer*

1

Opening Plenary - AI in Legal Practice: Balancing Innovation & Integrity

9:10 - 10:30 am | 0.5 credit + 1.0 ethics | Level: All

Generative AI and the Future of Legal Services

Speaker: Dean Andrew M. Perlman

This program explains why generative AI is likely to transform the delivery of legal services in the years ahead. By demonstrating illustrative use cases and explaining why the latest technology is part of the longstanding trend towards greater automation, the program helps lawyers understand the significance of recent developments within a historical context. Additionally, the program offers practical tips for incorporating generative AI and advises on how to do so in a manner that complies with the relevant rules of professional conduct.

Code and Order: AI's Impact on the Justice System

Speaker: Professor Sonia Gipson Rankin, Esq.

In this insightful lecture, we will delve into the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the realm of criminal law, particularly within the courtroom setting. As AI technologies become increasingly integrated into the legal system, we are witnessing a paradigm shift in how justice is administered. Topics will include AI-driven evidence analysis, predictive algorithms in sentencing and bail decisions, considerations of bias and fairness, as well as future prospects and ethical considerations. Through a blend of theoretical insights and real-world examples, attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the opportunities and challenges presented by AI in the criminal law courtroom.



Dean Andrew M. Perlman

Andrew M. Perlman is a nationally recognized voice on the future of legal education and law practice. In 2024, *National Jurist* named him as one of the top-20 most influential people in legal education. Among other leadership roles, Andy has served as an Advisory Council member of the American Bar Association Task Force on the Law and Artificial Intelligence, as the inaugural chair of the governing council of the ABA's Center for Innovation, as the vice chair of the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services, and as the chief reporter of the ABA Commission on Ethics 20/20. This commission was responsible for updating the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct to reflect changes in technology and increased globalization. Andy's service has also been dedicated to national and local reform efforts, encompassing issues from police practices and access to justice to the development of alternate paths to law school and bar admission. Andy has served as a presenter or panelist at more than 100 academic, judicial, and other professional programs in more than 20 U.S. jurisdictions, three continents, and six countries. Prior to entering academia, Andy clerked for a federal district court judge in Chicago and practiced as a litigator there. He is an honors graduate of Yale College and Harvard Law School, and he received his LL.M from Columbia Law School.



Professor Sonia Gipson Rankin, Esq.

Sonia Gipson Rankin, a Professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law, skillfully blends her computer science background with legal expertise, teaching courses such as Torts, Family Law, and Technology and Law. Her scholarship in artificial intelligence has been featured in prestigious journals including the *Washington and Lee Law Review*, *NYU Law Review Online*, and will be forthcoming in the *Wisconsin Law Review*. As an engaged member of the legal community, Professor Gipson Rankin is an American Bar Foundation Fellow, a key member of the New Mexico Supreme Court Commission on Equity and Justice, and a past president of the New Mexico Black Lawyers Association. Her technological insight is further highlighted in her role with the UNM-Santa Fe Institute Interdisciplinary Working Group on Algorithmic Justice, where she collaborates with experts across fields to advise on AI-related legal matters. She co-founded the UNM Algorithmic Justice Project and regularly speaks on AI, technology, algorithmic justice, constitutional law, and inclusive leadership, having been featured in media outlets such as *BBC World News*, *Reuters*, *NPR*, and *Yahoo! Finance*. Above all, Professor Gipson Rankin's mission is to inspire students, communities, and systems to seek justice with a spirit of excellence—and to read comic books.

Morning Break | 10:30 - 10:45 am

Enjoy a range of refreshments and conversation while connecting with our sponsors and exhibitors who are offering valuable law practice and business management services. Once again, we will be joined by many of our local affinity groups, who will be located across from the registration area. Please plan to stop by to learn more about their organizations!

10:45 am - 12:00 pm

Concurrent Workshops

(Choose one from #2-3)

2

Family Case Law Update

0.5 credit + 1.0 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Moderator: Joanna M. Achille, Esq., *Burns & Levinson, LLP*

Speakers: Jane F. Howlett, Esq., *Howlett Law, Inc.*

Alexander Terry, Esq., *RI Family Court*

Meredith F. Howlett, Esq., *M. F. Howlett Law*

This workshop updates Rhode Island Family Court practitioners on recent statutory legislation, as well as federal and Rhode Island case law relating to the practice of family law in Rhode Island.

3

Navigating State Criminal Courtrooms

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner

Moderator: Alyse Antone Smyth, Esq., *Department of the Attorney General*

Speakers: John R. Grasso, Esq., *Attorney at Law*

John E. MacDonald, Esq., *Law Office of John E. MacDonald, Inc.*

This program, tailored for attorneys new to the criminal landscape, offers a guided exploration of our state's criminal courtrooms, beginning in the district courts and progressing to specific courtrooms in the superior courts. The discussion covers crucial aspects such as pre-arraignment preparations, arraignment expectations, and strategies for pretrial conferences. Participants gain insights into the nuances of different counties, key courtroom figures, scheduling considerations, and essential resources for effective navigation. The tour concludes with an overview of the Traffic Tribunal, exploring its connections and shared practices with criminal courts.

4

Piercing the Corporate Veil in Rhode Island

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Moderator: Richard J. Land, Esq., *Chace Ruttenberg & Freedman, LLP*

Speakers: Andre S. Digou, Esq., *Chace Ruttenberg & Freedman, LLP*

Jeffrey B. Cianciolo, Esq., *McLaughlin Quinn, LLC*

William M. Dolan, Esq., *Adler Pollock & Sheehan, P.C.*

This workshop focuses on the doctrine of piercing the corporate veil in Rhode Island. Presenters address various aspects of entity governance and measures to protect separateness, including documentation, governance, and operational practices. The panel also discusses litigation practices and tactics for prosecuting and defending theories and claims related to piercing the corporate veil.

5

Comparative Civil Litigation: Navigating the Differences Between RI & MA

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner

Moderator: Mark B. Morse, Esq., *Law Office of Mark B. Morse, LLC*

Speakers: Hannah Vitello Colone, Esq., *Keches Law Group, PC*
Kelsey D. Peck, Esq., *Adler, Cohen, Harvey, Wakeman, Guekguzian, LLP*

Enhance your knowledge and comfort with the differences between civil practice in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. This program dissects the distinctions in superior court civil litigation practice in RI and MA, covering key differences in legal theories, procedural nuances, pre-litigation requirements, motion practice, and other topics. After completing this seminar, participants will feel more proficient in navigating both jurisdictions.

6

A Progress Report on Lawyer Well-Being

1.5 ethics | Level: All

Moderator: Nicholas Trott Long, Esq., *Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee Chairperson*

Speakers: Stacie Collier, Esq., *Nixon Peabody, LLP*
Cassandra L. Feeney, Esq., *Hamel, Waxler, Allen & Collins*
Charlene Elva Pratt, Esq., *Chisholm, Chisholm & Kilpatrick*

Following the publication of the National Task Force Report on Lawyer Well-Being in 2017, Attorney Collier's firm was among the first to undertake the challenge of developing a meaningful program for lawyer well-being. She explains why her firm decided to take action, what problems they've experienced, and what successes they've achieved. Attorneys Feeney and Pratt discuss how lawyer well-being can be implemented in small firms, individual practices, and government offices. The panel also discusses the Institute for Well-Being in Law.

7

Navigating Protected Employment Leave

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Beginner

Moderator: Richard A. Sinapi, Esq., *Sinapi Law Associates, Ltd.*

Speakers: Danilo A. Borgas, Esq., *Sinapi Law Associates, Ltd.*
Chloe A. Davis, Esq., *Sinapi Law Associates, Ltd.*
Joshua D. Xavier, Esq., *Sinapi Law Associates, Ltd.*

Regardless of your area of practice, clients frequently inquire about their entitlement to medical or family leave and whether their right to reinstatement is protected. After all, a job is typically a client's most important asset across all vocational and socioeconomic groups. Fortunately, workers have numerous and overlapping rights and remedies for protected leave under state and federal law, including the ADA, CRPD, FEPA, FMLA/RIPFMLA, TCI, Sick Pay Act, and Workers' Compensation Act, with the recent legislative addition of a remedy under TCI. This workshop will discuss all these important rights and remedies available to your clients, and to you if you are an employee.



Representing Special Immigrant Juveniles

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Beginner

Speakers: Zachary K. Lyons, Esq., *Barton Gilman, LLP*
Stephanie Gonzalez, Esq., *Barton Gilman, LLP*
Hon. Cristine L. McBurney, *Pawtucket Probate Judge*
Hon. Alberto Aponte Cardona, *RI Family Court Magistrate*
Denise Acevedo Perez, Esq., *RI Immigration and Family Law Group*

Amid ongoing discussions about the situation at the U.S.-Mexico border, there exists a legal avenue called Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) that many immigrant youth can pursue for legal status in the U.S. This process involves Rhode Island probate and family court, as well as U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. The workshop introduces the legal framework for obtaining SIJS and offers practical insights into representing immigrant youth in probate and family court. Led by practicing immigration attorneys, a probate judge, and a family court magistrate, this session is perfect for those interested in exploring immigration options for immigrant youth or looking to enhance their skills in handling SIJS cases.

Rhode Island Bar Association Members' Luncheon

12:00 - 1:30 pm | *Convention Center, Rotunda, 5th Floor*

THIS IS A TICKETED EVENT

Enjoy a relaxed lunch with your colleagues, followed by a leisurely stroll through the exhibits. Explore the diverse offerings from our exhibitors, gaining insights into the latest industry trends and innovations. Take this opportunity to recharge, network, and catch up with fellow attendees.

Don't forget, our Awards Reception immediately follows the last seminar at 4:30 pm. Join us to celebrate the achievements of this year's winners. The event is free and open to all Bar members. Enjoy refreshments and camaraderie as we honor excellence within our legal community.

Rhode Island Bar Foundation Fellows Annual Meeting

12:00 - 1:30 pm | Convention Center, West Lobby, 1st Floor

Fellows and invited guests receive a separate invitation for this luncheon.

The Rhode Island Bar Foundation Annual Meeting is held in conjunction with the Rhode Island Bar Association Annual Meeting. Foundation Officers and Directors will be elected and new Foundation Fellows will be introduced. President Michael R. McElroy and the Board of Directors are pleased to welcome and thank the Foundation Fellows who, through their professional, public, and private careers, have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of the community and to the objectives of the Foundation. During the luncheon, we recognize the recipient organizations of Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) grants. This calendar year, we granted \$1 million to non-profit organizations for the provision of legal services and the administration of justice in Rhode Island.

Recipients of the Thomas F. Black, Jr., Memorial Law School Scholarships are introduced. Again this year, we were able to grant two \$25,000 Thomas F. Black Jr. Memorial Scholarships to two promising first-year law students who have

demonstrated financial need, superior academic performance, community and public service, and demonstrated contacts with and commitment to the State of Rhode Island. Since 1989, this fund has awarded 72 scholarships, totaling many thousands of dollars to promising law students.

This year, the Foundation will introduce the recipients of two new \$25,000 scholarships, the Patrice A. Tarantino Memorial Scholarship and the Nicole J. Benjamin Scholarship. The Patrice A. Tarantino Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2022 by former Bar Foundation President John A. Tarantino, Esq. in memory of his late wife, Pat. The Scholarship is a lasting tribute to Pat's memory. The Nicole J. Benjamin Scholarship was founded in 2023, also by former Bar Foundation President John A. Tarantino, Esq., and recognizes attorney Benjamin's exemplary contributions to the legal community. It aims to support aspiring legal professionals who exhibit leadership potential and a commitment to service to the community.

Recipients of the Papitto Opportunity Connection Foundation Scholarships are also introduced. Two additional law school scholarships in the amount of \$25,000 each will be awarded to candidates who are committed to actively promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in society, as well as who have provide specific examples of strategies that have been undertaken, or will be undertaken, within both the legal profession and the broader community to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. Since 2020, this fund has awarded five scholarships.

The recipients of the Honorable Thomas J. Caldarone, Jr. Fellowship Award and the James A. Jackson Fellowship Award are also introduced. Roger Williams University law students are selected for these awards based on their outstanding records and interest in pursuing a career in public service. The Caldarone and Jackson Fellows receive valuable experience in assisting with providing crucial legal services to the public and persons of limited means in the State of Rhode Island.



Michael R. McElroy, Esq.
Foundation President

1:30 - 2:45 pm

Concurrent Workshops

(Choose one from #9-15)

9

Commercial Law Update 2024 - Part 1

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Moderator: Patrick A. Guida, Esq., *Duffy & Sweeney, Ltd.*

Speakers: Lisa M. Kresge, Esq., *Brennan, Recupero, Cascione, Scungio & McAllister, LLP*
 Amanda M. Perry, Esq., *Law Office of Joseph M. DiOrio Inc.*
 Edwin E. Smith, Esq., *Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP*
 Steven O. Weise, Esq., *Prosauker Rose, LLP, Los Angeles, CA*

A review of various state and Federal court decisions related to commercial law from around the United States, with some emphasis on Rhode Island decisions, for which written decisions were issued during the last 12 months.

10

RI Traffic Tribunal 101

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Moderator: Leah J. Boisclair, Esq., *The Law Office of John L. Calcagni, III*

Speakers: Hon. Mark P. Welch, *RI Traffic Tribunal Magistrate*
 Hon. Allison C. Abilheira, *RI Traffic Tribunal Magistrate*
 Craig Hein, Esq., *Craig Hein Law*
 S. Joshua Macktaz, Esq., *Law Office of S. Joshua Macktaz, Inc.*
 Darren Stewart, *RI Department of Motor Vehicles*

The distinguished panelists provide an informative and insightful overview of the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal. The discussion covers every step, from beginning to end, of matters brought before the Traffic Tribunal. Topics include courtroom etiquette, updates on laws, policies, and procedures, handling different types of cases, collateral consequences for in and out-of-state motorists, appeals, and the role of the DMV. The panelists delve into the nitty-gritty of the Traffic Tribunal and provide more than just the basics for both new and seasoned practitioners.

11

The Highs & Lows of Rule 30(b)(6) Deposition: Effective Preparation, Defense, and Examination

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Speakers: Mark B. Morse, Esq., *Law Office of Mark B. Morse, LLC*
 Howard A. Merten, Jr. Esq., *Partridge, Snow & Hahn, LLP*

This seminar focuses on the particulars of a Rule 30(b)(6) Deposition. It covers specifying the correct person to be deposed, the obligations of each party prior to and during the deposition, and effective techniques for conducting and ethically defending the deposition.

12

Top 10 Cybersecurity Mistakes That Law Firms Make

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Speakers: Eric M. Shorr, *Secure Future Tech Solutions President*
 Andre S. Digou, Esq., *Chace Rutenberg & Freedman, LLP*

In this session, presenters address the "Top 10 Cybersecurity Mistakes That Law Firms Make," offering specific action steps and real-world stories on how to rectify them. Participants will gain insight into why hackers target law firms, learn about the top cybersecurity mistakes, and receive 10 actionable steps to address these issues. Additionally, ethical considerations regarding cyber compliance are discussed, empowering attendees to proactively safeguard their firms against cyber threats.

13

Recent Amendments to Land Use Laws: How it Started, How it's Going

1.5 credits | Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Speakers: Amy H. Goins, Esq., *Ursillo, Teitz & Ritch, Ltd.*
Joelle C. Rocha, Esq., *Duffy & Sweeney, Ltd.*
Kelley Morris Salvatore, Esq., *DarrowEverett LLP*

The panelists review the 2023 amendments to Rhode Island's enabling statutes for land use and discuss how the new laws affect your clients' development applications. The speakers include a focus on how municipalities have incorporated the recent statutory changes into new ordinances and regulations. Additionally, they address pending legislation affecting land use matters and the Rhode Island Superior Court's new Land Use Calendar.

14

Succession Planning for the Rhode Island Family Business

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Moderator: Vivian M. Karian, Esq., *Pierce Atwood LLP*
Speakers: Cory J. Bilodeau, Esq., *McLaughlinQuinn LLC*
Kate N. Kishfy, Esq., *Kishfy Law, LLC*
Lawrence D. Hunt, Esq., *Pierce Atwood LLP*

Using a case study and "war stories" model (including one or more Saylor Twift cameos), this workshop reviews the more nuanced aspects of succession and legacy planning for closely-held family businesses in Rhode Island. The panelists discuss how business owners can protect their evolving business interests during their lifetime and what steps they should take to protect their interests (and their families) after death. The workshop covers the various considerations that factor into business succession planning including value (actual and perceived), unanticipated loss or growth, family dynamics, creditor protection, taxes, and proactively combating ethical dilemmas.

15

Managing Complex Construction Claims

1.5 credits | Level: Intermediate

Speakers: Brian J. Clifford, Esq., *Saxe Doernberger & Vita, P.C.*
Jackson C. Parmenter, Esq., *Kelly, Souza & Parmenter, P.C.*
Aaron Haimowitz, Esq., *NFP Property & Casualty Services, Inc*

When property damage occurs during construction, prudent stakeholders rely on multiple insurance policies and contract indemnity provisions to manage repairs and get the project back on track. Attorneys for these stakeholders must understand how various coverages may dovetail; how to anticipate potential coverage gaps; and how to properly transfer risk according to contract indemnification provisions. By the end of the session, attendees will be equipped to advise their clients concerning the risk-management tools that should be in place before breaking ground and how to maximize recovery in the event of a loss during construction.

Afternoon Break | 2:45 - 3:15 pm

Meeting exhibitors offer a wide range of helpful, practice-related products and services including professional liability insurance, title insurance, law practice software, computer support, forensic expert witnesses, and more. Stop by their booths and learn more about the latest products and services, investigate resources, build relationships, and learn about developments in the profession.

3:15 - 4:30 pm

Concurrent Workshops

(Choose one from #16-21)

16

Commercial Law Update 2024 - Part 2

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Moderator: Patrick A. Guida, Esq., *Duffy & Sweeney, Ltd.*

Speakers: Lisa M. Kresge, Esq., *Brennan, Recupero, Cascione, Scungio & McAllister, LLP*
Amanda M. Perry, Esq., *Law Office of Joseph M. DiOrio Inc.*
Edwin E. Smith, Esq., *Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP*
Steven O. Weise, Esq., *Prosauker Rose, LLP, Los Angeles, CA*

This program offers a review of various state and Federal commercial law-related court decisions from around the United States, with some emphasis on Rhode Island decisions, and for which written decisions were issued during the last 12 months.

17

Record Preservation and Other Hot Topics with the RI Supreme Court

1.5 credits | Level: All

Speakers: Hon. Maureen McKenna Goldberg, *RI Supreme Court*
Hon. William P. Robinson III, *RI Supreme Court*
Hon. Erin Lynch Prata, *RI Supreme Court*
Hon. Melissa A. Long, *RI Supreme Court*
Meredith A. Benoit, Esq., *RI Supreme Court*
Erin Paquette, Esq., *RI Supreme Court*
Derek M. Gillis, Esq., *Barton Gilman LLP*
Camille A. McKenna, Esq., *RI Office of the Public Defender*

This program features a discussion with distinguished members of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, the clerk of the court, and the administrative assistant to the Chief Justice about best practices for appellate litigators. Attorneys Gillis and McKenna will share insights on record presentation and provide pointers for civil and criminal practitioners.

18

Depositions of Medical Expert Witnesses

1.5 credits | Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Speakers: Zachary M. Mandell, Esq., *Mandell, Boisclair & Mandell*
Dana M. Horton, Esq., *Robinson & Cole, LLP*

Drawing from vast experience in litigation, presenters delve into the intricacies of deposing medical experts. They share practical insights on cross-examining medical experts, preparing your own expert for deposition, and employing strategies for successful depositions.

19

LGBTQ+ Family Law Best Practices

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Moderators: Christopher Gerlica, Esq., *RIBA LGBTQ+ Legal Issues Committee Co-Chair*
Kayla O'Connor, Esq., *Saxe Doernberger & Vita, P.C.*

Speakers: Jane Howlett, Esq., *RIBA Family Court Bench/Bar Committee Co-Chair*
Carol Ricker, Esq., *Pelletier Marshall & Clark, LLC*
Alexander Terry, Esq., *RIBA Family Court Bench/Bar Committee Co-Chair*

Using hypothetical fact patterns, panelists discuss best practices for representing members of the LGBTQ+ community in family law matters. Issues being discussed include the Uniform Parentage Act, de facto parentage, donor/gestational agreements, DCYF implications, and more.

20

The Aging Profession: Why, When, and How to Cope

1.5 ethics | Level: All

Moderator: Nicholas Trott Long, Esq., *RIBA Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee Chairperson*

Speakers: Stephen Herman, Esq., *Watson Goepel LLP*
Carolyn Barone, Esq., *RIBA Past President (2018-19)*
Philip Weinstein, Esq., *RIBA Past President (2005-06)*

The program starts with the screening of the remarkable film *Retirement on Trial* by distinguished British Columbia trial lawyer and filmmaker Stephen Herman. The film explores the myriad considerations, challenges, and reflections faced by legal professionals as they navigate the significant transition into retirement or semi-retirement. Following the screening, former Bar Association presidents Carolyn Barone and Philip Weinstein share their insights and experiences regarding retirement from full-time legal practice.

21

Rise of the Machines: Artificial Intelligence in Business and the Courts

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Moderator: Hon. Brian P. Stern, *RI Superior Court*

Speakers: Brian J. Lamoureux, Esq., *Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O'Gara, LLC*
Gregory Tumolo, Esq., *Lewis Brisbois Brisgaard & Smith, LLP*

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is taking the world by storm. Businesses, governments, and individual users are struggling to make sense of and keep up with the rapid pace of development and evolving capabilities of AI tools like ChatGPT. Lawyers, judges, and courts are no exception. This panel discusses: (a) the rise and use of AI in business, by lawyers, and in the courts; (b) recent cases where AI was used and misused; and (c) the many technical, legal, and ethical issues that AI poses.

It's been a busy first day; let's finish it right! Head straight to the Rotunda, immediately adjacent to the exhibitor and snack stations, after the last Thursday session and join us for complimentary refreshments as we recognize our annual awards recipients.

This event is FREE and open to ALL Bar members—don't miss out!

Annual Awards Reception (Sponsored by Our Exhibitors)

4:30 pm | Convention Center, Rotunda, 5th Floor

OPEN AND FREE TO ALL BAR MEMBERS

All Annual Meeting attendees are welcome to join us for our festive Annual Awards Reception, an opportunity to recognize and honor the outstanding work of members of the legal community who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the profession, while enjoying complimentary libations and hors d'oeuvres. Additionally, we will acknowledge the achievements of the inaugural Leadership Academy class, celebrating their dedication to excellence and commitment to advancing leadership within our legal community.

RHODE ISLAND BAR JOURNAL LAUREN E. JONES, ESQ. WRITING AWARD

The Rhode Island Bar Journal Lauren E. Jones, Esq. Writing Award recognizes authors of published Rhode Island Bar Journal articles on the basis of effectiveness of presentation, legal significance, accuracy, and depth of research and information provided.

WINNER TBD

2024 PRO BONO AWARDS

Since 1987, the Pro Bono Awards have recognized the outstanding efforts of those who provide equal access to justice to the poor through a Rhode Island Bar Association pro bono program. Recipients demonstrate dedication to the administration of justice, professionalism, compassion, and commitment to public service.

PRO BONO PUBLICO AWARD

Samantha McCarthy, Esq.
Eileen O'Shaughnessy, Esq.

CONTINUING SERVICE AWARD

Michael Castner, Esq.

RALPH P. SEMONOFF AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM

Presented to an attorney who has, by their ethical and personal conduct, commitment, and activities exemplified, for fellow Rhode Island attorneys, the epitome of professionalism in the law, advancing the calling of professional practice through leadership, high standards of integrity, commitment, and dedication.

John S. Foley, Esq.

VICTORIA M. ALMEIDA SERVANT LEADER AWARD

Presented to an individual who demonstrates the principles and values of servant leadership and who is a beacon of light and hope to others by illuminating the path to greater justice for all. A servant leader is one who puts the needs of an organization or others before oneself. A servant leader has the innate quality of wanting to serve others and, for that reason, takes the care to ensure the needs of others are met.

Armando E. Batastini, Esq.

DEI TRAILBLAZER AWARD

This award recognizes a member who encourages and cultivates social discourse related to DEI among all members of the Rhode Island Bar, supports the advancement of attorneys from diverse backgrounds to positions of leadership, and promotes interest in the practice of law among diverse populations.

Etie-Lee Z. Schaub, Esq.

8:00 am

Registration Begins and Exhibits Open

Convention Center, Ballroom Foyer, 5th Floor

8:45 - 9:00 am | President's Welcome

Convention Center, Ballroom A, 5th Floor

Welcome: Nicole J. Benjamin, Esq., *President*

9:00 - 10:15 am

Concurrent Workshops

(Choose one from #22-28)

22

Civil Case Law Update

1.5 credits | Level: All

Moderators: Hon. Erin Lynch Prata, *RI Supreme Court*

Hon. Francis X. Flaherty, *RI Supreme Court (ret.)*

Speakers: Hon. Sarah Taft-Carter, *RI Superior Court*

Hon. Sandra A. Lanni, *RI Family Court*

Lauren E. Jones, Esq., *Attorney at Law*

Carly Beauvais Iafrate, Esq., *Law Office of Carly Iafrate*

Shannon Griffin, Esq., *RI Supreme Court Law Clerk*

Kirsten Roy, Esq., *RI Supreme Court Law Clerk*

The distinguished panelists provide an informative and insightful overview of recent noteworthy civil case-related decisions issued by the United States Supreme Court and the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

23

Effective Sentencing Advocacy: Telling the Client's Story

1.5 credits | Level: Intermediate

Moderator: Michael A. DiLauro, Esq., *The Just Criminal Justice Group*

Speakers: Moneca Kennedy, *RI Office of the Public Defender*

Kerin Hagan, *RI Office of the Public Defender*

As the percentage of criminal cases going to trial continues to shrink, effective sentencing advocacy has become perhaps the most critical role of defense counsel in a criminal case. This advocacy, required by the 6th Amendment and integral to the constitutional right to effective assistance of counsel, can significantly influence case outcomes. This workshop provides practical strategies for crafting compelling narratives. These include engaging social workers or mitigation specialists, employing effective interviewing techniques, constructing persuasive defense theories, utilizing factual evidence, exploring sentencing alternatives, and writing impactful sentencing reports.

24

Tax Considerations in Divorce and Custody

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Moderator: Benjamin E. Reiss, Esq., *RI Legal Services Low Income Taxpayer Clinic*

Speakers: Elizabeth W. Segovis, Esq., *Harvard Law School Tax Litigation Clinic*

William J. Balkun, Esq., *Attorney at Law*

Gregory A. Porcaro, CPA, *Porcaro & Associates*

The presentation addresses tax credits available to parents. It explores tax issues in property settlement agreements, the recent changes in alimony rules, and consequences of the division of a retirement account. Ethical issues that may emerge in the settlement process and after a divorce is final are also addressed.

25

Coastal Law Update

1.5 credits | Level: Intermediate

Speaker: Anthony DeSisto, Esq., *RI Coastal Resources Management Council*

In this workshop, we cover three key topics: rights-of-way to the shore and lateral shoreline access, the procedure for contested cases, and off-shore wind issues.

26

Golden Nuggets: Life Beyond the Bench

1.5 ethics | Level: Beginner

Moderators: Peter L. Lewiss, Esq., *Lewiss Law Associates, LLP*William J. Delaney, Esq., *Lonardo Forte & Trudeau, LLP***Speakers:** Hon. Edward C. Clifton, *RI Superior Court (ret.)*Hon. Stephen J. Fortunato Jr., *RI Superior Court (ret.)*Hon. Michael A. Silverstein, *RI Superior Court (ret.)*Hon. Netti B. Vogel, *RI Superior Court (ret.)*

Curious about what happens when a Rhode Island Judge or Justice retires? Join us for a candid discussion with retired judges as they share their post-judgeship experiences. Explore the unique contributions these judges have made to the legal community and the people of Rhode Island. Relax and enjoy this enlightening conversation, no need to RISE – the choice is yours!

27

Probate Litigation

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Speakers: Bernard A. Jackvony, Esq., *Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O'Gara, LLC*Rebecca M. Murphy, Esq., *Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O'Gara, LLC*David P. Craven, Esq., *Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O'Gara, LLC*

Divorce, remarriage, second families, and other societal influences, including longer life expectancy, have caused an increase in the likelihood of litigation of decedents' estates in Rhode Island. The panelists discuss the practical and procedural aspects of litigating contested matters, including tortious interference, in Rhode Island courts. They will lead attendees through the process, starting from the initial interview with clients, assessing the client and the viability of the case, and discussing the factual and evidentiary realities of a contest. This workshop covers the rules of evidence, presumptions, and other unique aspects of probate litigation to guide Rhode Island practitioners through these challenging and interesting cases.

28

Improving Trial Advocacy: Openings/Closings

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Moderator: Patrick C. Barry, Esq., *Decof, Barry, Mega & Quinn, PC***Speakers:** Members of the American Board of Trial Advocates and
The National Institute for Trial Advocacy

In this workshop, seasoned litigators guide participants through the essential elements of crafting impactful opening and closing statements. Learn practical strategies for engaging jurors, shaping case narratives, and delivering compelling conclusions that leave a lasting impression in the courtroom.

Morning Break | 10:15 - 10:45 am

Check your email, network with your fellow Bar members, and visit many of our local affinity groups, located across from the registration area. Don't forget to also check out the Annual Meeting app. You'll find seminar materials, speaker bios, and virtual booths for our sponsors.

29

Criminal Case Law Update

1.5 credits | Level: All

Moderators: Hon. Erin Lynch Prata, *RI Supreme Court*

Hon. Francis X. Flaherty, *RI Supreme Court (ret.)*

Speakers: Thomas M. Dickinson, Esq., *Law Offices of Thomas Dickinson*

Angela Yingling, Esq., *RI Office of the Public Defender*

Christopher R. Bush, Esq., *RI Office of the Attorney General*

Shannon R. Griffin, Esq., *RI Supreme Court Law Clerk*

Kirsten Roy, Esq., *RI Supreme Court Law Clerk*

The distinguished panelists provide an informative and insightful overview of recent noteworthy criminal case-related decisions issued by the United States Supreme Court and the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

30

Rhode Island Mass Toxic Tort Litigation Update - The Plaintiff and Defendant Perspective

1.0 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Intermediate

Speakers: David A. Goldman, Esq., *CMBG3 Law*

Kendra A. Bergeron, Esq., *CMBG3 Law*

Vincent L. Greene, Esq., *Motley Rice, LLC*

John E. Deaton, Esq., *The Deaton Law Firm, LLC*

This presentation provides the background and current status of the opioid, PFAS, asbestos, lead, and talc litigation in Rhode Island. The presenters each have decades of experience in the Rhode Island mass toxic torts litigation and provide their analysis of what they expect the litigation to look like in the upcoming years.

31

Insolvency of a Charitable Corporation

1.5 credits | Level: Intermediate

Speakers: Elizabeth O. Manchester, Esq., *Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP*

Daniel E. Burgoyne, Esq., *Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP*

Richard J. Land, Esq., *Chace Ruttenberg & Freedman, LLP*

The insolvency of a charitable corporation, dedicated to charitable, educational, religious, or related purposes, presents unique challenges compared to for-profit business entities. These include the extent to which claims can be satisfied using gifted assets, restrictions on asset sales, and various bankruptcy rules applicable only to charities. After covering the fundamentals of charities, such as restrictions on assets, cy pres, and prudent investment issues, this seminar will explore charitable insolvency issues within the frameworks of liquidation and reorganization occurring out-of-court, or in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, addressing practical considerations for each approach.

32

Affordable Housing Development in Rhode Island

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner

Speakers: Kenneth F. McGunagle, Jr., Esq., *McGunagle Hentz, PC*
Milton D. Baxter, Esq., *Attorney at Law*

The widely acknowledged housing crisis has drawn attention to the need for increasing the development of affordable housing in Rhode Island. In this two part program Attorney McGunagle will review the Comprehensive Permit process and highlight recent changes to the Rhode Island Low and Moderate Income Housing Act that were intended to make the entitlement process for development of housing with an affordable component more efficient and less burdensome. Attorney Baxter follows with an overview of the various sources of funding available from RIHousing and the newly created Department of Housing that are used to subsidize affordable housing development in Rhode Island.

33

The DOs and DON'Ts of Medical Expert Testimony at the Workers' Compensation Court

1.5 credits | Level: Intermediate

Moderator: Hon. Moira E. Reynolds, *RI Workers' Compensation Court*

Speakers: Joyce A. Faraone, Esq., *The Law Offices of Joyce A. Faraone*
Jonathan R. Myhre, Esq., *Morrison Mahoney*

This workshop focuses on navigating depositions of physicians at live trial. It also offers strategies for effectively preparing for direct and cross-examinations of physicians. The panel dives into prepping the witness, as well as preparing to challenge the expert's opinion.

34

Improving Trial Advocacy: Direct & Cross-Examination Techniques

1.5 credits | Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Moderator: Patrick C. Barry, Esq., *Decof, Barry, Mega & Quinn, PC*

Speakers: Members of the American Board of Trial Advocates and
The National Institute for Trial Advocacy

In this workshop, seasoned trial attorneys dissect the intricacies of direct and cross-examination techniques. Gain valuable insights into structuring questions, extracting key testimony, and effectively challenging opposing witnesses. Whether you're a novice or a seasoned practitioner, this workshop offers valuable tools to enhance your courtroom effectiveness.

Annual Meeting Luncheon

12:00 - 2:00 pm | *Convention Center, Ballroom B/C, 5th Floor*

THIS IS A TICKETED EVENT

ADDRESS BY CHIEF JUSTICE PAUL A. SUTTELL

Rhode Island Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell gives an address on the State of the Rhode Island Judiciary.

CHRISTOPHER S. GONTARZ, ESQ. ACCEPTS THE PRESIDENT'S GAVEL

Join us as we highlight some of the year's accomplishments of outgoing President Nicole J. Benjamin, followed by the passing of the President's Gavel to Christopher S. Gontarz, Esq. Sworn in by Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell, Attorney Gontarz's one-year term officially begins on July 1, 2024.

FLORENCE K. MURRAY AWARD

Presented to a person who by example or otherwise has influenced women to pursue legal careers, opened doors for women attorneys, or advanced opportunities for women within the legal profession.

Hon. Richard A. Licht

HONORARY MEMBERS

Honoring our colleagues in grateful recognition of 50 years of outstanding service to the legal profession and the Rhode Island Bar Association.

Charles J. Ajootian, Esq.
Deborah D. Benik, Esq.
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Paul F. Singer, Esq.
John L. Stevenson, Esq.
Alfred A. Veltri, Esq.
Spencer W. Viner, Esq.
Arlene M. Violet, Esq.
Alexander G. Walsh, Esq.
Charles D. Wick, Esq.
Richard B. Woolley, Esq.

2:00 - 3:00 pm

Concurrent Workshops

(Choose one from #35-40)

35

AI Ethics in Law: Navigating the Legal Implications of Artificial Intelligence

1.0 ethics | Level: Beginner

Speaker: Monsurat Ottun, Esq., *Attorney at Law*

This workshop is designed to enlighten legal professionals on the ethical considerations and legal implications of artificial intelligence. It delves into key issues such as the identification and management of biases in AI systems, the protection of privacy and data in an AI-driven context, and the importance of transparency and accountability in AI applications. The focus is on equipping lawyers with a comprehensive understanding of how AI's ethical complexities intersect with legal principles, preparing them to address these challenges in their practice.

36

Rhode Island Estate Taxation: Practical Considerations & Tips

1.0 credit | Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Speakers: Meaghan E. Kelly, Esq., LL.M., *Burns & Levinson, LLP*

Kathryn S. Windsor, Esq., LL.M., *Adler Pollock & Sheehan P.C.*

This program includes an overview of Rhode Island estate tax laws, with some discussion of Federal and Massachusetts estate tax where appropriate. The panelists discuss the current Rhode Island estate tax forms, along with filing requirements for different types of estates. Additionally, the panelists lead a discussion on common scenarios that arise when filing estate tax returns with the Division of Taxation and provide practical tips.

37

Attorneys' Fees in Civil Rights Litigation

1.0 credit | Level: Beginner

Speaker: Hon. Kevin F. McHugh, *RI Superior Court*

This workshop deals with the standard for awarding attorneys' fees in civil rights litigation including employment discrimination litigation.

38

Getting the VA to Pay: An Introduction to VA Disability Claims

0.5 credit + 0.5 ethics | Level: Beginner

Speakers: Dana N. Paulhus, Esq., *Cameron Firm, PC*
Michael P. Jolin, Esq., *RI National Guard Executive Military Staff*

Join us for an interactive presentation discussing an introduction to VA disability law from military and civilian perspectives. Panelists will touch on organizational history, the claims process, basic substantive law, and areas for improvement.

39

Combating Modern Lending Discrimination

1.0 credit | Level: Intermediate

Speakers: Zachary A. Cunha, Esq., *U.S. Attorney for the District of Rhode Island*
Amy R. Romero, Esq., *Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of RI*
Kevin Love Hubbard, Esq., *Civil Division Chief, U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of RI*

The panel discusses the Department of Justice's efforts to combat lending and housing discrimination in the modern context, covering the requirements of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act. Topics include the objectives of fair housing law enforcement, emerging fair housing issues, investigation procedures, agency management, and the use of data and statistical analysis to ensure compliance.

40

303 Creative and the First Amendment: What Happens Next?

1.0 credit | Level: Beginner

Moderator: Christopher J. Gerlica, Esq., *Roger Williams University School of Law*
Speakers: Cynthia M. Hiatt, Esq., *RI Human Rights Commission*
Lynette J. Labinger, Esq., *Attorney at Law*

In this workshop, the panelists explore the implications for First Amendment freedoms both nationally and in Rhode Island following the U.S. Supreme Court's public accommodations decision in *303 Creative LLC v. Elenis* in June 2023. Upcoming cases that the U.S. Supreme Court is currently or will soon hear concerning these issues are also examined, offering valuable insights into the evolving landscape of First Amendment jurisprudence.

Afternoon Break | 3:00 - 3:15 pm

Put your networking skills to work! Chat with your colleagues as you enjoy a range of delicious refreshments.

41

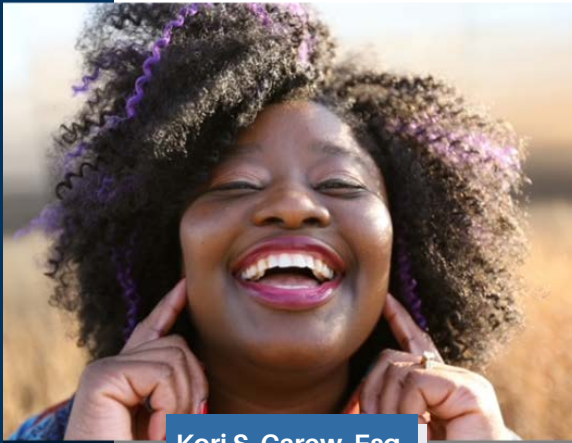
Closing Plenary

Embracing Inclusive Leadership: Cultivating a Courageous Legal Community

3:15 - 4:30 pm | 1.0 ethics | Level: All

Speaker: Kori S. Carew, Esq.

This session is designed to enhance your understanding of the importance of inclusivity while fostering a sense of belonging within our legal community. Discover the keys to inclusive leadership and explore essential skills such as navigating implicit bias and embracing cultural fluency. Kori Carew, attorney, TEDx speaker, and community builder, will share five actionable habits that empower every leader to contribute to a more collaborative and welcoming environment. Join us as we come together to strengthen our legal community and embrace our differences.



Kori S. Carew, Esq.

Kori S. Carew, Esq. is an attorney, TedX speaker, and community builder who generates awareness and understanding of critical human issues by creating the space and climate for open dialogue that is meaningful and enables people to expand their perspective and drive positive change. She brings an incisive voice, unapologetic questioning of the status quo, and a lifelong fascination of human potential to empowering women and historically marginalized and excluded people. Her multi-national, multi-religious, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual family background gives her a keen sensitivity to belonging and inclusion across differences. Beyond her work within organizations, she actively serves her community as a civic leader. Kori is the Chief Catalyst Officer and Founder of the consulting firm, Bridge 68 LLC,

focused on empowering individuals and organizations to be their best through people and leadership development and cultivating belonging, inclusion, diversity and equity. She brings 22 years of experience leading, advocating and counseling in law firms including leading Inclusion and Diversity strategies and programs in AmLaw 100 law firms. Kori was most recently the Chief Inclusion and Diversity Officer at an international AmLaw 100 law firm Seyfarth Shaw where she rolled out several talent and inclusion initiatives including The Belonging Project. Kori is a Certified Dare to Lead™ Facilitator, a certified Gallup CliftonStrengths® Coach and an IDI Qualified Administrator. She also is an Enneagram 1 (improver) and Conscious Reformer on the Insight Profiles Discovery wheel (blue). Her CliftonStrengths® Top 5 are: connectedness, achiever, learner, responsibility, and context.

2024 FEATURED PRODUCT & SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Rhode Island Bar Association appreciates the support and patronage of the following featured product and service providers and encourages attendees to stop by their exhibit spaces to learn more.

MAIN EVENT SPONSOR

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The Aon Attorneys Advantage program is committed to providing solutions for your professional liability insurance needs and delivering risk management resources to protect your firm.
attorneys-advantage.com

ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS

Anchor Forensic Pathology

Board certified expert forensic services; private autopsy, second autopsy, legal case review and guidance
anchorforensicpathology.com

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A marketing and advertising agency providing multichannel solutions
coxmedia.com

First American Title Insurance Co.

National title insurance company focused on providing its agents with simple and effective solutions
firstam.com

InReach Continuing Education Solutions

Leading provider of bringing continuing professional education & training online
inreachce.com

Jennifer Cosgrove O'Leary, Certified Divorce Real Estate Expert

Experienced expert witness and trained neutral in family law cases involving real estate matters
jenniferoleary.greenwichbaybrokers.com

JPG Designs

Elevate your brand with a powerful website design
jpgdesigns.com

NetCenergy

Strategic, cost-effective IT solutions
netcenergy.com

Planned Lifetime Assistance of MA and RI, Inc.

Professional trustee organization proudly serving people with all disabilities
planofma-ri.org

RI Foundation

The largest and most comprehensive funder of nonprofit organizations in RI
rifoundation.org

Secure Future Tech Solutions

Network security and cyber security solutions for law firms
securefuturetech.com

Signal Solutions

Full service IT & telecommunications consulting firm
signalri.com

USI Insurance Services LLC

Assists RI Bar members to obtain healthcare benefits for themselves and their employees
usi.com

ANNUAL MEETING EXHIBITORS

Brophy Professional Genealogy & Heir Searching

Nationally known heir searcher/genealogist providing general research services and lectures
brophygen.com

CATIC

Title insurance underwriting & title services for the real estate community
catic.com

Delta Dental of Rhode Island

Dental benefits
deltadentalri.com

Fisher Appraisal Services

Full service real estate appraisal company for divorce, estate, & bankruptcy
fisherappraisalservices.com

FNF Family of Companies

The nation's largest group of title companies & title insurance underwriters
nationalagency.fnf.com/ri

Norcom Mortgage

Nationally recognized reverse mortgage expert
garrettduffy.com/reverse-mortgages

OurFamilyWizard

Co-parenting with confidence
ourfamilywizard.com

RI Association for Justice

Association for trial lawyers
rijustice.org

RI Judiciary

Updates on attorney portal access and electronic filing procedures
courts.ri.gov

RI Lawyers Weekly

News and marketing services for Rhode Island lawyers and law firms
rilawyersweekly.com

RI Legal Services, Inc.

Pro Bono Legal Services
rils.org

Robson Forensic

Specialist firm providing scientific investigations, reports, and testimony to resolve litigation & insurance claims
robsonforensic.com

Roger Williams University School of Law

Table to greet alumni and interact with employers
law.rwu.edu

SJ Corio Company

Auction & appraisal services
sjcorio.com

Tabs3 Software

Billing, accounting, and practice management software for law firms
tabs3.com

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The RI Convention Center has enhanced sanitation procedures, and their trained staff follow CDC and local guidelines on the cleaning and disinfecting of all areas of the event space, including touch points. Attendees are welcome to wear a mask if desired. By voluntarily attending this event, you acknowledge that you understand and assume the risks relating to COVID-19 exposure and any resulting injury, including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, death, illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense of any kind that you may experience or incur in connection with your attendance.

TO REGISTER

This year, we are accepting **ONLINE ONLY** registrations for the Meeting. Please visit ribar.com and click on the 2024 Annual Meeting registration link on the homepage. If you have any questions, please call the main line at 401-421-5740. Your registration includes access to the course materials through the Meeting app. **The Annual Meeting registration deadline is Friday, June 7th at 5:00 pm. If you have not registered by June 7th, you must go to the walk-in registration desk. Early registration is strongly encouraged. We cannot guarantee seats or meals to anyone who registers after the deadline.**

The daily registration fee includes admission to all CLE sessions, conference materials, continental breakfast, and coffee breaks. Registration is available for a full day only. Tickets are not available for individual seminars. The one-day fee is **\$275** (\$235 for members admitted after 2019 and Associate Members). The two-day rate is **\$375** (\$320 for members admitted after 2019 and Associate Members). \$25 will be added to the registration fee after June 7th. Please note: There are no refunds for those who do not attend or cancel their registration after June 7th. Exceptions will be made for unexpected illness, i.e., COVID-19 related issues.

CHECK IN

As we embrace technology and move towards a more efficient check-in process, this year, attendees have two options for check-in. If you would like to skip the line during the early morning rush, download the

RIBA Annual Meeting app, **login prior to the meeting**, and use a QR code to check in at the event. To use the app, download the Engagefully app from your device's app store and search for RIBar. More information about the app will be sent via email after registration. If you prefer not to use E-check-in, the second option is to stop at the Bar Association registration desk on the 5th floor pre-function area of the Convention Center as you always have. Please note, the Bar has gone paperless. You can find the schedule, event floorplan, and all available workshop materials in the RIBA Annual Meeting app. The registration desk opens at 8:00 am each day. Reminder, all registrants only need to check in once. To avoid standing in long lines, we suggest you arrive early, or give E-check-in a try!

MCLE

Annual Meeting seminars are approved for CLE credit as noted.

PARKING

Parking is available, for a fee, in the Convention Center garages. The entrances are on West Exchange Street. Parking is not included in the registration fee.

MEALS

Tickets for the Thursday Luncheon and Friday Annual Meeting Luncheon are available at a separate cost of **\$30** each. You can order meal tickets when you register for the Meeting online. If you are not registering for the Meeting and would like to order meal tickets **ONLY**, please contact RIBA at 401-421-5740. Meal tickets may not be available at the door. The Thursday Annual Awards Reception, including hors d'oeuvres, is offered to attendees and guests at no charge.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Please contact the CLE office at 401-421-5740 by May 30, 2024 if you require special accommodations.

By registering for the Rhode Island Bar Association Annual Meeting, all attendees, instructors, and exhibitors acknowledge they may be photographed during the meeting. They agree that such photographs are the sole property of the Rhode Island Bar Association, and they consent to the Bar Association's unrestricted use of their name, portrait, photograph, and other likeness in any and all commercial, promotional and advertising material without any monetary compensation.