

# CLLA 130# NATIONAL CONVENTION



•







SWISSÔTEL, CHICAGO

MAY 15-17, 2024

Convention ~

**CONVENTION PROGRAM SPONSOR:** 

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GARY A. BEMIS



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# Welcome One and All to the 130th National Convention of the Commercial Law League of America!

The next 3 days are going to be amazing! There is sure to be something for everyone! There is a full slate of world class education, covering a wide array of topics from legislative updates to bankruptcy, to ethics, to cybersecurity and more. There are also fun and interesting opportunities to network. Test your trivia knowledge in our gameshow or show off your pipes at karaoke. Soak in the national pastime at Wrigley Field for a Cubs

game. Or play in the ever-popular Goosechase. And please do not forget about the Women's Empowerment and Networking Event on Thursday, to benefit Dress for Success Worldwide.

If you are a new member or first-time attendee, welcome! We are so glad you are here with us. If this is not your first time with us, then reach out to a new member or first timer and show them why our League is the premier place in the world for fellowship, networking, and business development in the commercial law industry!

Also, if you see any of the many volunteers who help keep our wonderful League moving forward, give them a word of thanks. And if you are not one of those volunteers, I would encourage you to become one. There are a great many opportunities to get involved with the League and now is the perfect time to dip your toe in. It is the best way to

### Are You New to the League?

Is this your first CLLA event? Have a question or two, but not sure who to ask?



### Look for the Ask Me Button.

This button identifies CLLA leaders of the League who are willing to help out with questions you may have.

meet people and get the most value from your membership. If you are interested just reach out to me, any of the members of the Board of Governors, any committee member, or anyone from the League's management team.

If there is anything I can do to help you make your Chicago 2024 experience the best it can be, please do not hesitate to ask. I hope everyone has a great time. As the Blues Brothers said on their way to Chicago, "... we've got a full tank of gas, half a pack of cigarettes; it's dark and we're wearing sunglasses. Hit it!"

William H. Thrush, Jr. 2023-2024 CLLA President

# CLLA Board of Governors 2023 – 2024



William H. Thrush President



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Jim Kozelek Immediate Past-President



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Deborah Rubin Bankruptcy Section Representative



Victor R. Garcia Young Members' Section Representative



# WELCOME TO CHICAGO



### Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure, as Chair of the Midwest Region, to welcome you to the 130th National Convention of the Commercial Law League of America. We are thrilled to have you join us for this exciting event in the great city of Chicago. This year, we celebrate not only the rich history of the League, but also the bright future ahead.

This convention stands as a testament to the enduring dedication of our professional community and industry. Over the years, we have grown together, overcome challenges, and achieved great things. This year, we aim to build on that legacy, offering educational programming filled with distinguished speakers and insightful discussions. Of course, there will be ample opportunities for networking, friendship, and collaboration.

This meeting is also a time to celebrate our achievements and to recognize those who have made significant contributions to the league and our industry. We look forward to honoring these individuals during our awards ceremony. The League's new slate of leaders will also be installed and will lead us into our 131<sup>st</sup> year.

Your presence and engagement are important to the continued success of these meetings and to the League. We encourage you to participate, share your expertise, and take advantage of the chance to connect with fellow attendees from around the country. For those of you new to the league or attending your first meeting, we are glad to have you here with us. I know you will find this group of professionals warm and welcoming.

Once again, welcome to the 130th annual meeting and welcome to Chicago!

Amylone

Amy Pona Midwest Chair

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# 1多〇ゆ Annual Commercial Law League of America National Convention

It is with immense pleasure and excitement that I extend a warm welcome to you to join us at the 130th Annual Convention of the Commercial Law League of America. We are delighted to have you back in Chicago at the Swissotel, where you will have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the city's rich architecture, diverse culinary scene, vibrant shopping districts, world-class museums, and stunning lakefront views.

We are thrilled to announce that, in response to popular demand and advancements in technology, this year's National Convention will be once again presented on a hybrid platform. This innovative approach allows us to welcome participants who may have faced logistical challenges in attending the convention otherwise, and we are pleased to be able to accommodate a wider audience. The Education Committee has curated an exceptional lineup of educational sessions spanning three days, complemented by new and exciting networking events organized by our Meetings Committee. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the dedicated volunteers who have devoted their time and energy to ensuring that this event is truly unmissable. We also extend our gratitude to all the members who have supported the League throughout the year by actively participating in committees, sections, and regions.

I would strongly encourage you to network while at the convention especially if you are new to the League or a first-time attendee. Networking among peers is crucial for personal and professional growth. By connecting with others, you can exchange ideas, gain valuable insights, and build a support system. Networking allows you to learn from others' experiences, collaborate, and even discover new opportunities. Additionally, building strong relationships with peers can lead to mentorship opportunities, increased visibility in your field, and a sense of community. Overall, networking among peers is essential for staying informed, motivated, and connected in today's fast-paced world.

The Commercial Law League of America is experiencing steady growth in membership and remains financially stable under the guidance of the Board of Governors. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and the active engagement of Champion Program participants, we are able to offer top-tier programs and events at affordable rates.

As you embark on the upcoming days filled with valuable educational opportunities and networking possibilities, we encourage you to also take some time to enjoy yourself. Make the most of all the offerings available to you during this convention. Remember to strike a balance between hard work and relaxation, as we are confident that you are in for an exceptional experience. We are truly delighted to have you join us!

Phil Lattanzio, Executive Vice President Commercial Law League of America

### PAST PRESIDENTS

#### YEAR PRESIDENT 2024 William H. Thrush 2023 Jim Kozelek 2022 **Christopher Young** 2021 **Timothy Wan** 2020 Timothy Wan 2019 Lorna Walker 2018 Marc Bressler 2017 Peter Califano 2016 Robert S. Bernstein 2015 Barry Gammons 2014 Jeffrey N. Schatzman 2013 Ivan Jac Reich 2012 James "Beau" Hays 2011 Gary M. Weiner 2010 Ernest V. Thomas, III 2009 David R. Gamache 2008 Wanda Borges 2007 Sidney S. Friedman 2006 Jerry T. Myers 2005 Mary K. Whitmer Paul I. Mendelson 2004 2003 John P. Wanderer William C. Sturm 2002 2001 Mark J. Sheriff 2000 Daniel J. Goldberg 1999 Louis A. LeLaurin, III 1998 Charles R. Johanson, III 1997 Murray S. Lubitz 1996 **Robert S. Bernstein** 1995 Elliott D. Levin 1994 Frederick M. Luper 1993 Robert I. Morris 1992 Charles S. Bernstein 1991 Richard G. Baumann 1990 Fred J. Smith, Jr. 1989 John J. McLaughlin Norman K. Gurstel 1988 Gary A. Plotkin 1987 1986 Benson Zion 1985 James A. Chatz 1984 Frank W. Koger 1983 Joseph E. Friend Arthur I. Ungerman 1982 Eugene B. Berman 1981 1980 James E. Carmel 1979 Joseph Braunstein 1978 Robert B. Chatz 1977 Murray B. DeGroot Wilbur G. Silberman 1976 Gerald W. Brownstein 1975 1974 Stuart E. Hertzberg 1973 Arthur M. Lewis 1972 Sanford A. Harris 1971 Leonard M. Salter 1970 Paul E. Berman 1969 Bernard A. Riemer 1968 Francis H. Fairley 1967 Morris W. Macey 1966 Bernard D. Craig 1965 Lawrence B. Raff 1964 Edwin L. Brown, Jr. 1963 Arthur T. Wasserman 1962 William R. Eddleman 1961 W. Alex Kennedy Benjamin H. Wicksel 1960

1959

Leonard J. Brizdle

LOCATION Chicago, IL Chicago, IL Chicago, IL Virtual Virtual Orlando, FL Chicago, IL San Francisco, CA Chicago, IL Las Vegas, NV Chicago, IL Chicago, IL Chicago, IL Chicago, IL Chicago, IL Chicado, IL Chicago, IL Chicago, IL Asheville, NC Toronto, Canada Newport, RI Isl. of Hawaii, HI Park City, UT Hilton Head Island, SC Monterey, CA Mont Tremblant, Canada Amelia Island, FL Bolton Landing, NY Whistler, Canada Dana Point, CA White Sulphur Springs, WV Southampton, Bermuda Sun Valley, ID Grand Traverse, MI Hilton Head, SC Maui, HI Palm Beach, FL Asheville, NC La Costa, Carlsbad, CA Hilton Head, SC Montreal, Canada Colorado Springs, CO Palm Beach, FL Dorado Beach, PR Kauai, HI Sun Valley, ID Hot Springs, VA Colorado Springs, CO Miami, FL Coronado, CA Southampton, Bermuda Sun Valley, ID Miami, FL White Sulphur Springs, WV Kiamesha Lake, NY Lake Tahoe, NV Grand Bahama Island White Sulphur Springs, WV Mackinac Island, MI Miami Beach, FL Kiamesha Lake, NY Coronado, CA White Sulphur Springs, WV Saranac, NY French Lick, IN

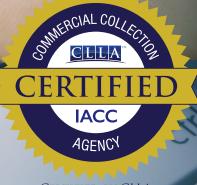
White Sulphur Springs, WV

#### YEAR PRESIDENT

1958 George J. Balbach 1957 Max Winograd 1956 William M. Silverman 1955 David W. Strauss 1954 Max B. Reid 1953 C.J. Wagner 1952 Morris Weisman 1951 Louis J. Sagner 1950 John E. Baker, Jr. 1949 C. Glenn Garten 1948 George Burns 1947 Grover C. Thompson 1946 Fred G. Stanley 1945 Charles L. Cunningham No Convention 1944 Tvree G. Newbill 1943 Henry L. Fist 1942 Abraham Lieberman 1941 Harold B. Doyle 1940 Carroll A. Teller 1939 John M. Niehaus, Jr. 1938 Col. Frederick A. Lind 1937 W. Leslie Miller 1936 G. Dexter Blount 1935 Frank M. Ely 1934 William B. Henderson 1933 Sol Weiss 1932 Frank W. Stonecipher 1931 Robert H. Sykes 1930 Col. Frederick A. Lind 1929 Raymond G. Young 1928 J. Purdon Wright 1927 Maurice P. Davidson 1926 Livingston E. Osborne 1925 Fred Blair Townsend 1924 Claude D. Ritter 1923 Thad M. Talcott, Jr. 1922 John B. Edwards 1921 Edward F. Flynn 1920 George A. Bacon 1919 William H.H. Piatt 1918 E.E. Donnelly 1917 E.G. McGilton 1916 Earle W. Evans 1915 Edwin H. Brink 1914 Edwin A. Krauthoff 1913 Frederic P. Vose 1912 J. Howard Reber A. V. Cannon 1911 1910 Henry Deutsch 1909 George M. Napier 1908 Albert N. Eastman 1907 H.G. W. Dinkelspiel 1906 George W. Carr 1905 S.T. Bledsoe Frederick L. Siddons 1904 1903 Albert H. Weed 1902 E.F. Ferguson 1901 W.W. Watts 1900 Charles R. Miller 1899 **Ernest T. Florance** 1898 John D. Green 1897 Edmund M. Bartlett 1896 William C. Sprague 1895 William C. Sprague

### LOCATION

Atlantic City, NJ Houston, TX Bretton Woods, NH Coronado, CA Miami Beach, FL Mackinac Island, MI French Lick, IN Saranac, NY Mackinac Island, MI Roanoke, VA Cleveland, OH Atlantic City, NJ Mackinac Island, MI No Convention No Convention French Lick, IN New York, NY Chicago, IL Washington, DC Mackinac Island, MI Cleveland, OH Boston, MA Washington, DC White Sulphur Springs, WV Mackinac Island, MI Washington, DC Toronto, Canada Mackinac Island, MI Montreal, Canada Mackinac Island, MI Atlantic City, NJ San Francisco, CA Mackinac Island, MI Montreal, Canada West Baden, IN Atlantic City, NJ Minneapolis, MN Asbury Park, NJ Cincinnati, OH Chicago, IL Saratoga Springs, NY Atlantic City, NJ Pasadena, CA Chicago, IL Cape May, NJ Colorado Springs, CO Atlantic City, NJ Narragansett Pier Narragansett Pier Mackinac Island, MI Detroit, MI Asheville, NC Niagara Falls, NY West Baden, IN Mackinac Island, MI Niagara Falls, NY Put-in-Bay, OH Milwaukee, WI Asbury Park, NJ Put-in-Bay, OH Put-in-Bay, OH Omaha, NE Detroit, MI



CERTIFIED BY CLLA Endorsed by IACC

# WHEN YOU NEED A COLLECTION AGENCY

# MAKE SURE IT IS A CLLA CERTIFIED AGENCY

Certified

### **Commercial Law League of America Certified Commercial Collection Agencies**

The CLLA Commercial Collection Agency Certification program, endorsed by International Association of Commercial Collectors, demonstrates that certified agencies adhere to relevant regulations in the collection of commercial debt, use generally accepted accounting practices, and adhere to standards to protect and safeguard their clients' funds.

ABC-Amega, Inc. / American Bureau of Collections Buffalo, NY

Alternative Collections, LLC dba: Asset Compliant Solutions (ACS) Williamsville, NY

Altus Receivables Management Metairie, LA

**BARR Credit Services, Inc.** Tucson, AZ

Brown & Joseph, LLC Itasca, IL

C2C Resources, LLC Atlanta, GA

Caine & Weiner Sherman Oaks, CA

**Commercial Collection Corporation of New York, Inc.** Tonawanda, NY Continental Recovery and Filing Solutions (CRF) Simi Valley, CA

Enterprise Recovery, LLC West Chester, PA

Goldman Walker, LLC Tucson, AZ

**Greenberg, Grant & Richards, Inc.** Houston, TX

Joseph, Mann & Creed Twinsburg, OH

**Kearns Brinen & Monaghan, Inc.** Greenville, SC

Lamont, Hanley & Associates, Inc. Manchester, NH

McCarthy, Burgess & Wolff Cleveland, OH

Millennium Collections Corporation Vero Beach, FL MNS Credit Management Group (P) Ltd. New Delhi, India

NACM Southwest Coppell, TX

Northern California Collection Service, Inc. Sacramento, CA

**Radius Global Solutions, AMS Commercial Business Division** Fair Lawn, NJ

**RHK Recovery Group** Plainview, NY

Ross, Stuart & Dawson Clawson, MI

**STA International** Melville, NY

**The LaSource Group** Erie, PA

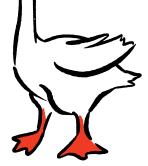
**Tucker, Albin and Associates, Inc.** Richardson, TX



#### COMMERCIAL LAW LEAGUE OF AMERICA

3005 TOLLVIEW DRIVE • ROLLING MEADOWS • ILLINOIS 60008 • 312-240-1400 • INFO@CLLA.ORG WWW.CLLA.ORG

# CLLA is sending you on a GOOSECHASE!



This "scavenger hunt" is a great opportunity to network with other league members! We hope you will join in the fun and make new connections!

## **NEW TO GOOSECHASE?**

Every in-person attendee has been randomly assigned to a team by color which is indicated on your name badge. When you scan the QR Code with your smartphone, the Goosechase App will open. You will follow these steps once you open the Goosechase App:

- 1. Click on "search for experience."
- 2. Enter the 'Join Code' as follows P8D1BD.
- 3. Click your assigned team color.
- 4. Enter the team passcode (found on the back of your name badge).

# ALREADY HAVE THE GOOSECHASE APP DOWNLOADED?

If you already have the Goosechase App downloaded follow the instructions below:

- 1. Click on "search for experience."
- 2. Enter the 'Join Code' as follows P8D1BD.
- 3. Click your assigned team color.
- 4. Enter the team passcode (found on the back of your name badge).



Scan for the Goosechase App

### SPONSORED BY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW Smith Carroad Wan & Parikh, P.C. Representing Businesses Since 1930

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

6:30 - 7:30 PM

### **Welcome Reception**

### ROOM: Élevé Ballroom, 42nd Floor

Reconnect with colleagues and celebrate the first night of National!

### 9:00 - 11:00 PM Nightcap: You Have a Seat At The Table

LOCATION:

AceBounce, 230 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL

Come and let loose at AceBounce. Built for play and coming together with colleagues and friends. It's the perfect spot for a night of laughter and fun around the table. They offer ping pong, shuffleboard and, beer pong.

### THURSDAY, MAY 16 4:30 - 5:30 PM Pop Culture Game Show

### **ROOM: Geneva, Concourse Level**

Bring your best brain-teasing solving mind, and join our Master of Ceremonies, Timothy Wan, for a lively interactive hour of team building and competition! And of course, cocktails and networking!

## 5:30 - 6:30 PM Thursday Evening Social

### **ROOM: Lucerne Foyer**

Mingle with your colleagues and enjoy a cocktail or two. This is a great time to fulfill a few missions in Goosechase!

### 9:00 - 11:00 PM Karaoke Nightcap and Desserts at the Swissôtel

## ROOM: Geneva, Concourse Level

HOSTED BY CLLA Young Members Section (YMS)

Let your singing talent shine at the Karaoke nightcap with desserts at the Swissotel. Grab a member or two, choose a song, let's celebrate 130 years of CLLA!

# **PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE**

#### TIME

TIME	
9:00 AM — 6:00 PM	REGISTRATION ROOM: St. Moritz (Lucerne Level)
10:30 AM — NOON	Board of Governors Meeting ROOM: Élevé Riverview, 42nd Floor
NOON — 1:00 PM	<b>Leadership Lunch</b> For Region Councils, Section Councils and National Committee Members. ROOM: <b>Élevé Lakeview,</b> 42nd Floor
1:00 — 1:45 PM Committee Meetings	EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM: Bianco (Rm 318, 3rd Floor) MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM: Neuchatel (Rm 315, 3rd Floor) BOARD OF ASSOCIATE EDITORS MEETING ROOM: Rhone (Rm 311, 3rd Floor) GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MEETING ROOM: Arosa (2nd Floor)
1:45 — 2:00 PM	BREAK
2:00 — 2:45 PM Section Executive Council Meetings	AGENCY SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING ROOM: Lugano (2nd Floor) CREDITORS' RIGHTS SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING ROOM: Bianco (Rm 318, 3rd Floor) BANKRUPTCY SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING Neuchatel (Rm 315, 3rd Floor) YOUNG MEMBERS' SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING ROOM: Rhone (Rm 311, 3rd Floor)
2:45 — 3:00 PM	BREAK
3:00 — 3:45 PM Regional Executive Council Meetings	EASTERN REGION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING ROOM: Lugano (2nd Floor) WESTERN REGION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING ROOM: Bianco (Rm 318, 3rd Floor) MIDWEST REGION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING Neuchatel (Rm 315, 3rd Floor) SOUTHERN EXEC COUNCIL MEETING ROOM: Rhone (Rm 311, 3rd Floor)
3:45 — 4:00 PM	BREAK
4:00 — 5:00 PM	Legislative Forum ROOM: Alpine (Lucerne Level) PANELISTS: Peter Califano, Niesar & Vestal LLP, San Francisco, CA; Conor Kelly, Webster, Chamberlain & Bean, Washington, DC; Dan Kerrick, Hogan McDaniel, Wilmington, DE; Gilbert M. Singer, Marcadis Singer P.A., Tampa, FL
5:15 — 6:15 PM	First Time Attendee's Orientation (BY INVITE ONLY)           ROOM: Currents (Concourse Level)         Ticketed Event



### Back by Popular Demand... It's GOOSE Time Part 2!

Honk Honk...Grab your teammates for another round of endless opportunities to compete in a fun and memorable convention scavenger-type hunt.

Competitor Teams will be given a series of "Missions", all of which will be tracked on an app, "Goosechase". At the end of the convention, winning teams will receive prizes!

### We hope you will join in the fun and make new connections!

SPONSORED BY:

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### 6:30 - 7:30 PM

**Welcome Reception** ROOM: **Élevé Ballroom**, 42nd Floor Reconnect with colleagues and celebrate the first night of National at the Welcome Reception.



#### 9:00 — 11:00 PM **Nightcap: You Have a Seat At The Table** LOCATION:

AceBounce, 230 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60601

Come and let loose at **AceBounce**. Built for play and coming together with colleagues and friends. It's the perfect spot for a night of laughter and fun around the table. They offer ping pong, shuffleboard and, beer pong.

# **PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE**

TIME		
7:00 AM — 6:00 PM	REGISTRATION ROOM: St. Moritz (Lucerne Level)	
7:00 — 7:45 AM	Past Presidents' Breakfast ROOM: Élevé Riverview, 42nd Floor	1:30 — 2
7:30 — 8:00 AM	Breakfast and Networking ROOM: Lucerne 1 & 2 (Lucerne Level)	1.30 — /
8:00 — 8:30 AM	Welcome/Annual Business Meeting ROOM: Alpine (Lucerne Level)	
8:30 — 8:45 AM	BREAK (Lucerne Foyer)	ВКУ
8:45 — 9:45 AM	Good Forwarders Go Bad ROOM: Alpine (Lucerne Level) PANELISTS: Robert Ash, Radius Global Solutions, Fair Lawn, NJ; Matias Eduardo Garcia, Barnett & Garcia, PLLC, Austin, TX; Bryan Press, Metro Group Maritime, Livingston, NJ	
BKY CLE	Hot Topic in Bankruptcy Case Law	2:30 — 1
	ROOM: Lucerne 3 (Lucerne Level) SPEAKER: Ronald Peterson, Of Counsel at Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago, IL	2:45 —
9:45 — 10:00 AM	BREAK (Lucerne Foyer)	
10:00 — 11:00 AM CRS CLE CEU	Packers & Stockyards Act— Hidden Statutory Liens That Will Bite You in the PACA! ROOM: Alpine (Lucerne Level)	
	SPEAKER: George F. Braun, Law Offices of George Braun, Washington, DC	4:15 — 4
	The New Day of Real Estate: How the Market Reset is Impacting Bankruptcy Law ROOM: Lucerne 3 (Lucerne Level) SPEAKERS: Hon. Thomas Lynch, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL, Rockford, IL; Jack Rose, Law Offices of Jack Rose, PLLC, LLC, Bronxville, NY; Matthew Tabloff, Hilco Real Estate, LLC, Northbrook, IL	
11:00 — 11:15 AM	BREAK (Lucerne Foyer)	
11:15 — NOON General Membership Meetings	BANKRUPTCY SECTION ROOM: Lucerne 3 (Lucerne Level) CREDITORS' RIGHTS SECTION ROOM: Alpine (Lucerne Level) YOUNG MEMBERS' SECTION Lucerne 1 (Lucerne Level) AGENCY SECTION ROOM: Lucerne 2 (Lucerne Level)	
12:15 — 1:30 PM	<b>General Membership Lunch</b> ROOM: <b>Geneva</b> (Concourse Level)	
WORLDWIDE CENTRAL	Women's Empowerment & Networking Luncheon ROOM: Currents (Concourse Level)	



PANELISTS: Matthew Brash, Newpoint Advisors Corporation, Schaumburg, IL; Zach B. Shelomith, LSS Law, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Beverly Weiss Manne, Tucker Arensberg, PC, Pittsburgh, PA; Hon. Mary Ann Whipple, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of OH, Toledo, OH

2.50 2.45114	
2:45 — 4:15 PM	Caution, Beware of Potholes in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy ROOM: Lucerne 3 (Lucerne Level)
	PANELISTS: Hon. Janet Baer, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL, Chicago, IL; Candice Kline, Saul Ewing, LLP, Chicago, IL; Hon. Judith Fitzgerald (Ret.), Tucker Arensberg, PC, Pittsburgh, PA; Thomas R. Fawkes, Tucker Ellis LLP, Chicago, IL

2.45 PM

4:15 — 4:30 PM	BREAK (Lucerne Foyer)	

#### 4:30 - 5:30 PM **Pop Culture Game Show** ROOM: Geneva (Concourse Level)

BREAK (Lucerne Fover)

Bring your best brain-teasing solving mind, and join our Master of Ceremonies, Timothy Wan, for a lively interactive hour of team building and competition! And of course, cocktails and networking!

#### 5:30 - 6:30 PM **Thursday Evening Social** ROOM: Lucerne Foyer

Mingle with your colleagues and enjoy a cocktail or two. This is a great time to fulfill a few missions in Goose Chase!



### 9:00 - 11:00 PM Karaoke Nightcap and Desserts at the Swissôtel

ROOM: Geneva (Concourse Level)

HOSTED BY CLLA Young Members' Section (YMS)

Let your singing talent shine at the Karaoke nightcap with desserts at the Swissôtel. Grab a member or two, choose a song, let's celebrate 130 years of CLLA!

# **PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE**

#### TIME

7:30 AM — NOON	REGISTRATION ROOM: St. Moritz (Lucerne Level)
8:00 — 8:30 AM	<b>Continental Breakfast and Networking</b> ROOM: Lucerne 1 (Lucerne Level)
8:30 — 9:30 AM Yms Cle	<b>Cybersecurity for Law Firm</b> ROOM: <b>Alpine</b> <b>SPEAKER: Marco Alcala</b> , Alcala Consulting, Inc., Pasadena, CA
9:30 — 9:45 AM	BREAK (Foyer)
9:45 — 11:00 AM	Litigating on Dual Fronts: Examining War Stories and Real-World Cases Involving Litigation Inside and Outside Bankruptcy ROOM: Alpine PANELISTS: Joseph A. Marino, Marino, Mayers & Jarrach, LLC, Clifton, NJ; Randall Woolley, Darcy & Devassy PC, Chicago, IL; Kirk B. Burkley, Bernstein-Burkley, PC, Pittsburgh, PA
11:00 AM — 12:30 PM	<b>Brunch Buffet, Annual Awards, and Farewell</b> ROOM: Lucerne 2 & 3 (Lucerne Level) The conference wraps up with this annual lunch and awards presentation recognizing service to the CLLA. Join us as we honor Hon. Judith K. Fitzgerald (Ret.) of Tucker Arensberg, PC, Pittsburgh, PA and present her with the distinguished CLLA President's Cup.





#### 1:20 PM

#### **Baseball in the Bleachers**

#### Chicago Cubs vs Pittsburgh Pirates at 1:20 p.m.

One of the more popular seating areas at Wrigley Field, the Bleachers, are home to the most loyal and die-hard Cubs fans. Located behind the ivy-covered outfield wall, bleacher seats offer the best chance at catching a home run ball. This is an experience every baseball fan should have at least once.

Food, beverage, transportation, and parking are on your own.

#### LOCATION:

Wrigley Field, 1060 W. Addison Street, Chicago, IL 60613 Enter the Budweiser Bleacher Gate located at the intersection of Sheffield and Waveland Avenues.

Questions? Contact Mary McCann at 312-859-1596.





www.clla.org



# Save On An Organizational Membership Investment.





## UNLOCK EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS WITH CLLA ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP RATES

## **ORGANIZATION MEMBER RATES**

NUMBER OF MEMBERS	CURRENT RATE	ORGANIZATION RATE	ANNUAL SAVINGS	DISCOUNT SAVINGS
1	\$540	-	-	-
2	\$1,080	\$972	\$108	10%
3	\$1,620	\$1,377	\$243	15%
4	\$2,160	\$1,728	\$432	20%
5	\$2,700	\$2,025	\$675	25%
6	\$3,240	\$2,268	\$972	30%
7	\$3,780	\$2,457	\$1,323	35%
8	\$4,320	\$2,592	\$1,728	40%
9	\$4,860	\$2,673	\$2,187	45%
10	\$5,400	\$2,700	\$2,700	50%
10+	Call for prici	ng.		



# Why Become a CLLA Organization Member

CLLA's Organizational Membership program is available to firms as a cost-effective way to provide additional colleagues with the best available resources.

### Full CLLA Membership Benefits for All Colleagues Who Join

- Member rates on exclusive event registration and sponsorship opportunities
- Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits
- Zoom Discussions on trending industry hot topics
- Networking...Networking...Networking!

## **Discounted Rates for Your Organization**

If your business has two or more employees you qualify for a discount. The more employees you have, the more you save!



## Already a Member?

If your organization already has multiple CLLA memberships, your discount will automatically be reflected on your annual renewal invoices.

TO UNLOCK YOUR DISCOUNT VISIT HTTPS://CLLA.ORG/ORGANIZATION-MEMBERSHIP-UNLOCK/

# WEDNESDAY, MAY 15



### **Legislative Forum**

CLLA panelists will provide a review of CLLA legislative and government affairs efforts during the past year, inform members about the political make-up of the current Congress and possibilities for legislation impacting the commercial law, and educate attendees about the legislative process; including drafting legislation and policy positions for consideration by members of Congress and aligned interested parties and organizations.

**PANELISTS**: Peter Califano, *Niesar & Vestal LLP*, San Francisco, CA; Conor Kelly, *Webster, Chamberlain & Bean*, Washington, DC; Dan Kerrick, *Hogan McDaniel*, Wilmington, DE; Gilbert M. Singer, *Marcadis Singer P.A.*, Tampa, FL





DRESSFOR SUCCESS® Worldwide central







## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & NETWORKING EVENT You Can Still Make a Donation!

For a second year, CLLA has invited Dress for Success Worldwide (DFS) Central to our special luncheon. Johnnie Mister, Lydia Basanes and Sabrina Hart, a few women who have been supported by the DFS organization, will share their inspiring stories. The Executive Director, Dawn Matune, will also share how the CLLA donation last year (over \$10,000!) has aided their mission.

The purpose of this event is to encourage networking for the women members and spouses of the CLLA, as well as educate and inspire with new philanthropic opportunities.

We have raised over \$3,400 so far for this worthy cause and, with your help, we hope to raise even more.

Nancy Thrush, Event Chairwoman

# THURSDAY, MAY 16

# 8:45 - 9:45 AM

### **Good Forwarders Go Bad**

Join us for a practical discussion between a panel of agencies and attorneys as we talk about how to handle cases that we'd rather walk away from, but it's what you do for a good client! We'll be discussing some do's and don'ts on handling those situations and best practices for the relationship. This session will also touch on hot topics and relationship management tips.

**PANELISTS: Robert Ash**, *Radius Global Solutions*, Fair Lawn, NJ; **Matias Eduardo Garcia**, *Barnett & Garcia, PLLC*, Austin, TX; **Bryan Press**, *Metro Group Maritime*, Livingston, NJ



### Hot Topics in Bankruptcy Case Law

This session will be a summary of important bankruptcy cases decided through March 29, 2024, including recently decided U.S. Supreme Court cases.

SPEAKER: Ronald Peterson, Of Counsel at Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago, IL



# Packers & Stockyards Act-Hidden Statutory Liens That Will Bite you in the PACA!

Our speaker will outline and discuss the use of the Packer & Shippers Act and Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act as it applies to collections in the agricultural industry. Both transactional and litigation with questions and answers from the audience.

SPEAKER: George F. Braun, Law Offices of George Braun, Washington, DC



### The New Day of Real Estate: How the Market Reset is Impacting Bankruptcy Law

Our speakers will examine the ongoing volatility of the real estate market and trends to watch for by bankruptcy practitioners. The discussion will examine how to do workouts in an evolving lending environment and evaluate whether filing bankruptcy is the best course of action. The speakers will also discuss takeaways from the WeWork cases and other recent bankruptcy filings. They also will consider such topics as the enforceability of arbitration clauses and handling pre-negotiation letters. Our speakers will also address such issues as dealing with landlord liens and waivers, and why residential property conversions may not be the answer in this environment.

**SPEAKERS: Hon. Thomas Lynch**, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL, Rockford, IL; **Jack Rose**, Law Offices of Jack Rose, PLLC, LLC, Bronxville, NY; **Matthew Tabloff**, Hilco Real Estate, LLC, Northbrook, IL

Agency

YMS Young Members' Section

CEU

**Continuing Education Unit** 

Suggested Audience Key:

CRS Creditor's Rights (BKY) Bankruptcy CLE Continuing Legal Education

# **THURSDAY, MAY 16**

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BKY CLE CEU

#### **Ethical Tips from Movies & TV Lawyers**

Ethical legal actions are at the core of any and every successful lawrelated business endeavor, so attorneys, agencies and forwarders will find tremendous value, insight, and education in an entertaining and informative way, which will benefit your business, improve your caseload, and illustrate the value of using a CLLA vetted and approved attorney. Our speaker will use 5-6 television and movie clips to demonstrate some typical ethical issues and apply the model rules to provide guidance.

**SPEAKERS: Ben H. Farrow**, Anderson, Williams & Farrow, LLC, Montgomery, AL; **William H. Thrush**, Friedman, Framme & Thrush, P.A., Owings Mills, MD.

### Four Years of the SBRA: How is it Working?

The Small Business Reorganization Act is four years old. What lessons have we learned? In the post-COVID world, does Subchapter V work better for small businesses? How do creditors view the Subchapter V experience? What have Subchapter V trustees learned about their role in a case? Join our experienced panel as they discuss practical issues addressing the ways in which Subchapter V is working and perhaps not working so far.

**PANELISTS: Matthew Brash**, *Newpoint Advisors Corporation*, Schaumburg, IL; **Zach B. Shelomith**, *LSS Law*, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; **Beverly Weiss Manne**, *Tucker Arensberg*, *PC*, Pittsburgh, PA; **Hon. Mary Ann Whipple**, *US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of OH*, Toledo, OH



### **Caution, Beware of Potholes in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy**

The program will provide an opportunity for attendees to ask the experts about Chapter 11 cases and obtain guidance on identifying and avoiding the potholes along the way – starting with first day motions and continuing through plan confirmation.

Discussion topics to include:

- What to look for in the first day motions.
- Avoiding stay violations.
- How to reserve your rights if there is a DIP lender.
- Understanding cash collateral order(s) and monthly operating reports.
- Determining if you have reclamation rights.
- What sale motions mean for creditors.
- Cure amounts and what to do if your agreement is assumed and assigned (or not assumed).
- Identifying critical vendors.

**PANELISTS: Hon. Janet Baer**, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL, Chicago, IL; **Candice Kline**, Saul Ewing, LLP, Chicago, IL; **Hon. Judith Fitzgerald (Ret.)**, Tucker Arensberg, PC, Pittsburgh, PA; **Thomas R. Fawkes**, Tucker Ellis LLP, Chicago, IL

Suggested Audience Key:



# FRIDAY, MAY 17

8:30 – 9:30 AM

### **Cybersecurity for Law Firms**

In the upcoming cybersecurity session tailored for legal professionals, attendees will gain invaluable insights into fortifying their digital practices against today's most pervasive cyber threats. The program will kick off with an in-depth exploration of business email compromise (BEC), a type of cyber fraud that could devastate a firm's financial integrity. We will unravel the deceptive tactics used by cybercriminals and provide practical defense strategies. The session will then pivot to the menacing landscape of ransomware attacks, discussing how these malicious software breaches can lock down critical data and disrupt legal operations. Participants will learn how to not only prevent such attacks but also how to respond effectively if they occur. Lastly, we will delve into the robust cybersecurity controls necessary for the protection of confidential client information. From encryption to two-factor authentication, lawyers will leave equipped with a toolkit of measures designed to uphold their ethical obligations in maintaining client confidentiality in the digital age.

SPEAKER: Marco Alcala, Alcala Consulting, Inc., Pasadena, CA

# 9:45 – 11:00 AM

### Litigating on Dual Fronts - Examining War Stories and Real-World Cases Involving Litigation Inside and Outside Bankruptcy

The panelists will address "cross-over" issues in the gray areas of the law that affect both bankruptcy and creditors' rights attorneys. The program will be centered on real-world cases handled both inside and outside of bankruptcy. Discussions topics will include: fraudulent transfer cases (where a judgment against the principles is non-dischargeable), Ponzi scheme cases, (when there is a presumption of insolvency), RICO cases (when there is NO presumption of insolvency), director and officer litigation arising out of bankruptcy cases and judgment collection, dealing with bad faith filings and vexatious litigants, application of the Colorado River Doctrine and first to file rule, and debtor's standing to prosecute claims outside of bankruptcy court.

**PANELISTS: Joseph A. Marino**, *Marino*, *Mayers & Jarrach*, *LLC*, Clifton, NJ; **Randall Woolley**, *Darcy & Devassy PC*, Chicago, IL; **Kirk B. Burkley**, *Bernstein-Burkley*, *PC*, Pittsburgh, PA





COMMERCIAL LAW LEAGUE OF AMERICA EXPERTISE • INSIGHT • RESULTS

# The Nominating Council Report for the 2024 – 2025 Board of Governors Slate of Candidates

The Nominating Council has completed its review of the candidates' qualifications for the following elective positions on the Commercial Law League of America's ("CLLA") Board of Governors in accordance with the CLLA Constitution and the Nominating Council's Rules and Procedures. Accordingly, the Nominating Council certifies the following candidates to be included on the May 2024 ballot for election to the Board of Governors.

### **CANDIDATES**

POSITION

THEODORE HAMILTON	President
RICHARD PAYNE	President-Elect
DAVID GAMACHE	Recording Secretary
JACK ROSE	Attorney Member

In the event a there is an additional candidate who wishes to be Nominated by Petition, pursuant to the CLLA's Constitution, Article X, Section 4, Item E, any candidate for whom a nominating petition has been signed by at least fifteen (15) members of the League in good standing and delivered to Phil Lattanzio, the Executive Vice President of the League no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the first business day shall be included on the ballot for election.

Such additional nominations and supporting petitions for open positions must be received no later than April 1, 2024, at 5 p.m. (CST) at the CLLA headquarters. In the event additional nominations are received by petition, the election of candidates for office shall be by written ballot and a written ballot will be sent to all eligible voting members. If no petitions are received, and it remains that there is only one candidate nominated for each of the offices, then the slate presented by the Nominating Council will be confirmed by a voice vote at the business meeting on Thursday, May 16, 2024 and shall take office on June 1, 2024.

### **ELECTION INFORMATION**

The 2024-2025 Board of Governors will be installed at the National Convention on Friday, May 17, 2024.

### 2024-2025 NOMINATING REPORT – CREDITORS' RIGHTS SECTION

Robert Ash, Immediate Past Chair of the Creditors' Rights Section, as Chair of the Nominating Committee reports as follows:

The following individuals were elected in 2023 to serve as Officers of the Executive Council for a twoyear term. There will be no election for Officers in 2024.

CHAIR:

Lori Frank, Markoff Law PLLC, Southfield, MI

CHAIR-ELECT:

Jeffrey Nicolet, Wagner, Falconer & Judd, Ltd., Minneapolis, MN

SECRETARY:

Jeff Ramsey, Lloyd & McDaniel, PLLC, Indianapolis, IN

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR and SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS: **Robert Ash,** AMS Commercial Division of Radius Global Solutions, LLC

# THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES ARE SUBMITTED TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS EXPIRING IN MAY 2027

Ian McCarthy, Barnett & Garcia, PLLC, Austin, TX

John S. Pucin, Caine & Weiner, Schaumburg, IL

David W. Roth, Blenden Roth Law Firm PLLC, Bedford, TX

Raymond P. Wendolowski, Bernstein Buckley, P.C., Pittsburgh, PA

# THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATE IS SUBMITTED TO CONTINUE TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING IN MAY 2025 TO FILL A VACANT SEAT.

Gil Singer, Marcadis Singer P.A., Tampa, FL

### THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW ARE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE BEYOND MAY 2024, AND ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES: COUNCIL MEMBERS WITH TERMS EXPIRING IN MAY 2025:

Justin DeNiro, The LaSource Group, Pittsburgh, PA

Don Mausar, Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A., Cleveland, OH

Joseph Molinaro, The Law Offices of Joseph A. Molinaro, L.L.C., Wyckoff, NJ

### COUNCIL MEMBERS WITH TERMS EXPIRING IN MAY 2026:

Elliott Portman, Portman Law Group, PC

Brad Council, Slovin & Associates

Victor Garcia, Garcia Legal, P.A.

Robert Sonnhalter, The General Bar, Cleveland, OH

THE ELECTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CLLA 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION, DURING THE CREDITORS' RIGHTS SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024, AT 11:15 A.M.

# 2024-2025 BANKRUPTCY SECTION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee submits the following individuals for Officers and Executive Council positions. The Election will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, during the CLLA 2024 National Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

CHAIR: **Candice Kline,** Saul Ewing LLP CHAIR-ELECT: **Kirk Burkley,** Bernstein-Burkley, PC SECRETARY: **Joan Feeney,** JAMS IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR AND SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO BOARD: **Zach Shelomith**, Leiderman Shelomith + Somodevilla, PLLC

# MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOMINATED FOR THREE-YEAR TERM BEGINNING IN 2024 EXPIRING IN 2027:

David Leigh, Ray Quinney & Nebeker PC

Peter Gannott, Gannott Law Group, PLLC

Jack Rose, Law Offices of Jack J. Rose PLLC

Beverly Weiss Manne, Tucker Arensberg, PC

### FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOMINATED FOR THREE YEAR TERM BEGINNING IN 2022 AND EXPIRING IN 2025:

Jonathan Kramer, Whitfield & Eddy, PC

Catherine McEwen, US Bankruptcy Court

Joseph Peiffer, Ag & Business Legal Strategies

Randall Woolley, Darcy & Devassy, PC

# MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOMINATED FOR THREE YEAR TERM BEGINNING IN 2023 AND EXPIRING IN 2026:

Jack Williams, Georgia State University, College of Law Marc Miceli, S. Mitnick Law PC Eric Van Horn, Spencer Fane Owen Hare, Friedman, Framme & Thrush PA

### CURRENT ADVISORS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Judith Fitzgerald, Tucker Arensberg, PC Jeffrey Schatzman, Schatzman & Schatzman, PA Jay Welford, Taft Stettinius & Hollister Peter Califano, Neisar & Vestal LLP Gary Weiner, Weiner Law Firm, PC Deborah Rubin, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, LLP

### **2024 – 2025 YOUNG MEMBERS' SECTION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

### **OFFICERS**

CHAIR: Amy Pona, Gurstel Law Firm PC, Golden Valley, MN (2023-2025)

VICE-CHAIR: Brad Council, Slovin & Associates LPA, Cincinnati, OH (2023-2025)

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR: Victor Garcia, Garcia Legal, PA, Miami Lakes, FL (2023-2025)

SECRETARY: Patrick Kilburn, Lloyd & McDaniel, PLC, Louisville, KY (2023-2025)

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Jonathan Herron, Sklar Law, LLC, Cherry Hill, NJ (2024-2026) Owen Hare, Friedman, Framme & Thrush, PA, Owing Mills, MD (2024-2026) Ian McCarthy, Barnett & Garcia, PLLC, Austin, TX (2024-2026)

**OPEN** (2024-2026)

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Justin DeNiro, The LaSource Group, Erie, PA (2023-2025)
Julie Gelderblom, Julie G., Consultant, New Orleans, LA (2023-2025)
Christopher Nixon, American Lawyers Quarterly, Cleveland, OH (2023-2025)
Brandon James, Tucker, Albin & Associates, Inc., Richardson, TX (2023-2025)

THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD DURING THE CLLA 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION AND DURING THE YOUNG MEMBERS SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024, AT 11:15 A.M. AT SAID CONVENTION.

# **REGIONAL NOMINATING REPORTS**

### MIDWESTERN DISTRICT REGIONAL MEMBERS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Amy Pona, Chair of the CLLA Midwest Region, reports that the following individuals have been nominated for officer and executive council positions. The Election will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, during the CLLA 2024 National Convention and Annual Midwest Region Executive Council Meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

#### CHAIR:

Neil C. Sander, Sander Law LLC, Columbus, OH

CHAIR ELECT:

**Robert Lurie**, Reisenfeld & Associates LPA LLC, Cleveland, OH

VICE CHAIR: Candice Kline, Saul Ewing LLP, Chicago, IL

TREASURER: **Kevin E. Posen,** Teller, Levit & Silvertrust, P.C., Chicago, IL

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Nancy B. Hamilton, American Lawyers Quarterly, Cleveland, OH

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR: **Amy Pona,** Gurstel Law Firm, Golden Valley, MN

#### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS EXPIRING IN 2025:

**Michael Sonnhalter,** General Bar Law Directory, Cleveland, OH

**John Pucin,** Caine & Weiner Company, Inc., Schaumburg, IL

# MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS EXPIRING IN 2026:

Bill Mann, Joseph, Mann, & Creed, Twinsburg, OH
William A. Rinehart, Jr., Law Offices of Rinehart, Scaffidi & Rinehart, LLC, Milwaukee, WI
Jennifer Dlugolecki, Firefly Legal, Mokena, IL

# MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS EXPIRING IN 2027:

Michael Baim, The CKB Firm, Chicago, IL Jonathan Hindes, American Collection Systems, Inc., Gahanna, OH

**Jeffrey Nicolet**, Wagner, Falconer & Judd, Ltd., Minneapolis, MN

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT REGIONAL MEMBERS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Gil Singer, Chair of the CLLA Southern Region, reports that the following individuals have been nominated for officer and executive council positions. The Election will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, during the CLLA 2024 National Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

CHAIR:

Chad Hammons, Jones Walker, LLP, Jackson, MS

CHAIR ELECT: Neeraj Mendiratta, KnovaOne, Wellington, FL

SECRETARY: **Crystal Cole**, Crystal R. Cole, Attorney at Law, Nashville, TN

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR: **Gil Singer,** Marcadis Singer P.A., Tampa, FL

### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS EXPIRING IN 2026 (2024):

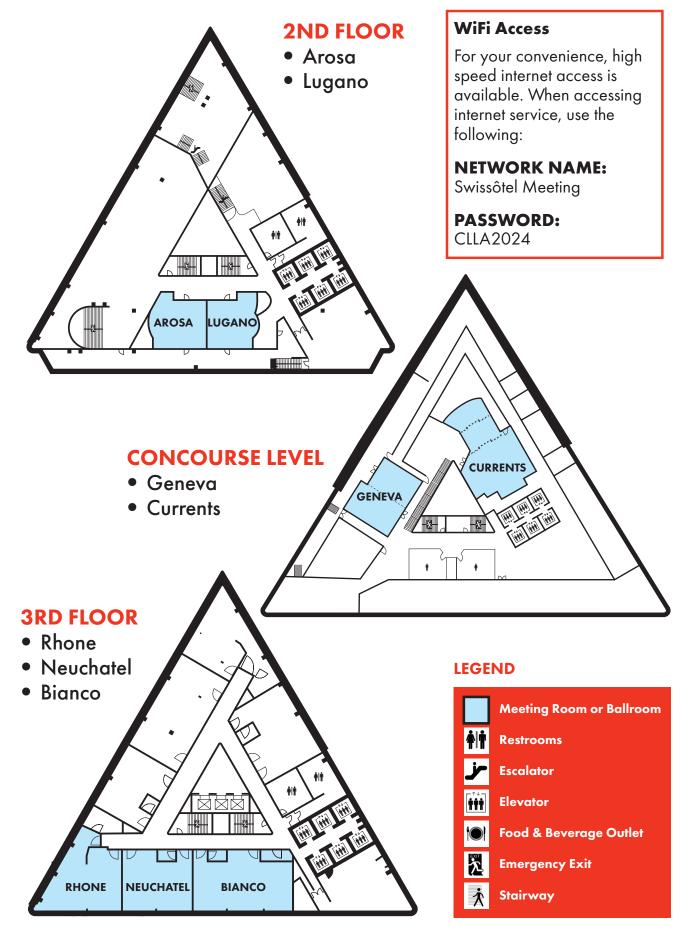
Ian McCarthy, Barnett & Garcia PLLC, Austin, TX

Harrison Willis, Cloud & Willis, LLC

### FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL CONTINUING TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING IN 2025 (2023):

Eric Van Horn, Spencer Fane, Dallas, TX

# SWISSÔTEL MEETING ROOM LOCATIONS



# SWISSÔTEL MEETING ROOM LOCATIONS

