



25TH
ANNIVERSARY

LMRM

CONFERENCE

March 3-5, 2026

**Explore Key Legal
Malpractice, Ethics,
and Risk Topics We Will
Address at this Year's
LMRM Conference!**



Welcome and Opening Remarks



Moderator:

Marissa I. Delinks

Partner and Leader, Professionals
Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

Conference Emcees



Conference Emcee:

Camille Evans

Associate
Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Conference Emcee:

Ian King

Associate
Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Year in Review: Significant Developments in Legal Malpractice Cases of 2025

Wednesday, March 4 | 9:15 am – 10:05 am



Moderator:

Peter D. Sullivan

Chairman

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Panelist:

Matthew W. Breetz

Attorney

Stites & Harbison PLLC



Panelist:

Nancy Hart

Partner

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

A perennial favorite, the year in review returns. This panel of legal malpractice and large law firm defense veterans, led by Hinshaw Chairman Peter Sullivan, will break down significant attorney malpractice and ethics decisions from 2025. In analyzing the year that was, the panel will explore legal malpractice trends and make predictions about what law firms and their insurers can expect in 2026.

The Implications of AI on Legal Fees, Billing and Law Firm Economics

Wednesday, March 4 | 10:10 am – 11:00 am



Moderator:

Anthony E. Davis

Partner

FisherBroyles



Panelist:

Sandy Gill

Assistant General Counsel

Gowling



Panelist:

Keith Maziarek

Director of Pricing and
Legal Project Management

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Under the heading “Firms in an Unstable Environment,” the third “key finding” of the recently issued Thomson Reuters 2026 Report on the State of the US Legal Market has this caption: “Structural Business Model Conflict.” The finding is summarized this way: “The industry remains trapped between transformative technology and outdated billing structures. Despite heavy AI investments that fundamentally will alter how work is performed, firms and clients remain locked in hourly billing arrangements that may no longer reflect value delivered.”

Disclosing Material Errors in the Tripartite Relationship: It's Not as Easy as It Sounds

Wednesday, March 4 | 11:20 am – 12:10 pm



Moderator:

Robert M. Buchholz

Partner

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Panelist:

Edward Kozel

Claims Practice Lead -

Head of Litigation

Munich Reinsurance

America, Inc.



Panelist:

Shannon M. Sprinkle

Member

Stites & Harbison

Defending an attorney who has erred—and then making a misstep yourself—raises difficult ethical and practical questions for lawyers. This panel will address how to assess whether the error is material, what must be disclosed to the client and insurer, when to disclose it, and whether continued representation is appropriate, with insights from both a senior insurance professional and defense counsel.

The Domino Effect: Malpractice Risks Tied to Outcomes in Related Litigation

Wednesday, March 4 | 1:30 pm – 2:20 pm



Moderator:

Matthew R. Henderson

Partner

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Panelist:

Bates McIntyre Larson

General Counsel

Perkins Coie



Panelist:

John K. Villa

Partner

Williams & Connolly LLP

Litigation rarely occurs in isolation – and neither do legal malpractice claims. This program brings together two seasoned malpractice defense counsel and a large firm general counsel to examine situations in which an attorney’s potential liability is shaped by the outcome of separate, related proceedings. The panel will discuss what it means to effectively memorialize risk, including the level of detail that should be documented and how courts assess claims that sophisticated clients “should have known” the relevant dangers even absent explicit warnings. The program will also address how factual disputes in the underlying matter can complicate or defeat dispositive motions in the malpractice action. In addition, the panel will explore best practices for drafting statute tolling agreements, analyze the role of collateral estoppel and when an attorney may be bound by findings or judgments in the related case, and outline the essential components of effective conflict waivers – including why those waivers must be revisited as the underlying litigation evolves.

Go Let It Out–Nonlawyer Ownership in Law Firms

Wednesday, March 4 | 2:25 pm – 3:15 pm



Moderator:

Barry F. MacEntee

Partner

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Panelist:

Andy Kvesic

CEO

Aprio Legal



Panelist:

Laura Walker

Chief Risk Officer

Aprio

The debate over nonlawyer ownership in law firms reached a fever pitch in 2025, with Arizona granting Alternate Business Structure (ABS) licenses to more than 100 firms. Our panelists include Andy Kvesic and Laura Walker, both of whom were instrumental in standing up Aprio Legal, Arizona's first nonlawyer owned law firm. The panel will discuss issues relating to the founding and running of nonlawyer owned law firms, contrast Arizona's approach with Florida and California's rejection of proposals to liberalize nonlawyer ownership models and make predictions about the ABS revolution in 2026.

What's Keeping Law Firm General Counsel Awake at Night?

Wednesday, March 4 | 3:35 pm – 4:50 pm



Moderator:

Janis M. Meyer

Of Counsel
Clyde & Co. LLP



Panelist:

**Christopher M.
Farella**

General Counsel
*Epstein Becker &
Green, P.C.*



Panelist:

**Jonathan H.
Margolies**

General Counsel
*Michael Best &
Friedrich LLP*



Panelist:

Edward J. Reich

General Counsel
Dentons

Another boring year for law firm general counsel – but we have a few things to discuss. There are of course the continuing questions surrounding the appropriate use of AI (and whether the GC will have any control over it); how to develop and nurture a culture of ethical conduct and attention to risk management when events are moving at lightning speed; the threshold question of how the general counsel's office should be organized to maximize its ability to serve its clients, as well as who those clients are; and much more. As always, questions from the audience are welcome.

Beyond the Status Update: Crafting Case Analysis Reports That Drive Decisions

Thursday, March 5 | 9:15 am – 10:05 am



Moderator:

Katherine G. Schnake

Partner

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Panelist:

Zandra E. Foley

Partner

Thompson Coe



Panelist:

Ryan Kelly

Claims Consultant

Attorney Protective

Effective case analysis reports are not about recounting facts—they are about enabling informed decisions. This panel explores how insurers and defense counsel can elevate case analysis reporting from routine communication to a strategic tool that drives reserving, resolution, and risk management, while accounting for who may receive the report, and how it may be used. Our panelists will also address best practices for reporting when coverage is disputed, including how to balance candid evaluation with privilege concerns and parallel coverage positions.

Sanctions: From Safe Harbor to Shipwreck — What Every Lawyer Must Know

Thursday, March 5 | 10:10 am – 11:00 am

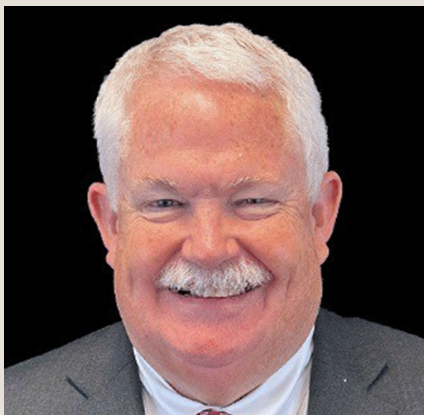


Moderator:

April K. Toy

Partner

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

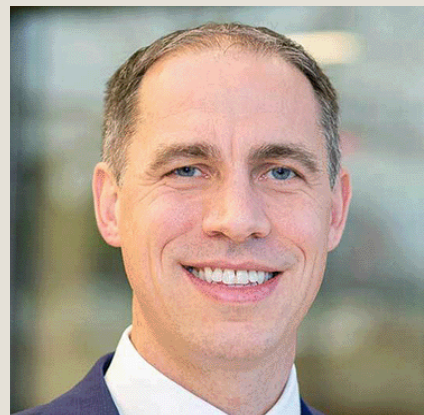


Panelist:

Douglas Richmond

Senior Vice President

Lockton



Panelist:

Jeffrey Hengeveld

Partner

Plunkett Cooney PC

Join a fast-paced, practical discussion that demystifies the modern sanctions landscape—across pleadings, discovery, depositions, trials, and appeals—with a practical focus on concrete strategies to prevent, defend, and mitigate lawyers’ and law firms’ exposure to sanctions. We will unpack core fairness requirements, substantive and procedural considerations and traps, and how missteps in advocacy, supervision, or candor can ensnare lawyers. The panel will highlight recurring and emerging risks, including personal exposure for counsel and team level accountability, as well as common pitfalls and potential disciplinary consequences.

More Panel Information Coming Soon!

Thursday, March 5 | 11:15 am – 12:05 pm



Moderator:

Steven M. Puiszis

General Counsel – Privacy,
Security and Compliance
Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP



Conference Social Activities

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm **Welcome Reception at
the Ritz-Carlton Chicago**
Grand Foyer

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm **Women’s Networking
Reception**
The Café

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm **Conference Dinner**
*Francesca’s on Chestnut -
200 E Chestnut St.*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

8:00 am – 5:00 pm **Conference Check-In |
Badge Pick-Up | Exhibits**
Grand Foyer

8:00 am – 9:00 am **Breakfast Buffet +
First-Time Attendee
Breakfast**
*Ritz-Carlton Ballroom &
Grand Foyer*

11:00 am – 11:20 am **Networking Break**
Grand Foyer

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm **Lunch & Networking**
St. Clair Ballroom

3:15 pm – 3:35 pm **Networking Break**
Grand Foyer

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

8:00 am – 12:00 pm **Conference Registration
Desk & Exhibits Open**
Grand Foyer

8:15 am – 9:15 am **Breakfast Buffet + Young
Professionals Breakfast**
*Ritz-Carlton Ballroom &
Grand Foyer*

11:00 am – 11:15 am **Networking Break**
Grand Foyer

12:05 pm **Conference Adjourns**

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Interested in Joining Us?

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