THE COMMERCIAL LAW SECTION
Connecting People, Ideas and Opportunities

36TH ANNUAL CORPORATE COUNSEL CONFERENCE

Black LAWYER Magic

FEBRUARY 23 - 25, 2023

WALDORF ASTORIA | ORLANDO
ORLANDO, FL
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LETTER FROM THE NBA-CLS CHAIR



Torrence R. Phillips
CHAIR

Dear Conference Attendees,

This is the **36th Annual National Bar Association Commercial Law Section (NBA-CLS) Corporate Counsel Conference**, and it is my honor to welcome each of you to a three-day experience focused on our Section's mission of providing networking and educational forums to address our members' interests.

Our Conference theme, **Black Lawyer Magic** celebrates the exceptional and trailblazing achievements of Black attorneys in the fields of corporate and commercial law. Despite facing systemic barriers, we have proven ourselves to be among the most talented and skilled in our field. Our expertise, strategic thinking, and unwavering commitment to our clients make us indispensable assets to any business looking to succeed in today's competitive marketplace. By leveraging our unique perspectives, cultural experiences, and exceptional legal acumen, we are not only changing the face of the legal profession but we are also shaping the future of business and commerce through the power of **Black Lawyer Magic**.

In 1987, a small group from the NBA-CLS, led by the first Section Chair Cora T. Walker, met to consider ways for NBA members in business practice to connect with corporate clients. The goal was to develop professional relationships and create opportunities for institutional entities to seek out, meet, and refer outside legal matters to Black attorneys. This core group organized the first Corporate Counsel Conference in 1988 in Chicago, Illinois. This year we return to Orlando, Florida to celebrate those bridgebuilders. The opening panel facilitated by past NBA-CLS Chair **Vickie Turner**, will feature pioneers **Harold Pope**, **Kenneth Roberts**, and **Thomasina Williams**, who were members of that core group. These trailblazers are the embodiment of **Black Lawyer Magic** and understanding their vision from the past will help order our future steps.

The NBA-CLS is a family. Over the next three days, we will come together, network, and support each other as we establish new connections and reinforce existing ones. Let's empower and inspire each other through lively debates, energetic sessions, and informal conversations, and nourish our spirits in unity while enjoying our meals and beverages. Let's make this a remarkable celebration of **Black Lawyer Magic**.

I am thankful to have the outstanding support of our Honorary Conference Co-Chairs: **Damon Hart**, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, Liberty Mutual Insurance, **Duane Holloway**, Senior VP, General Counsel, and Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer, United States Steel Corporation, and **Zabrina Jenkins**, Acting Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Starbucks Coffee Company.

We cannot express enough our gratitude to our esteemed sponsors who have shown unwavering dedication and support to the NBA-CLS. Your commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in our industry has been instrumental in our collective impact, and we simply could not have achieved our successes without you. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to the members of the NBA-CLS Executive Committee and its subcommittee members for their invaluable contributions to the Conference's success. Their tireless efforts, time, talent, and experience have been crucial in furthering the mission of the NBA-CLS and bringing this event to fruition. Finally, we would like to express our sincerest appreciation to the current NBA President, **Lonita Baker**, for her steadfast support of the Commercial Law Section.

We look forward to creating a space where we collectively celebrate our **Black Lawyer Magic**.

Torrence

Torrence R. Phillips
Chair, NBA Commercial Law Section

36TH ANNUAL CORPORATE COUNSEL CONFERENCE

Black LAWYER Magic

CONFERENCE AGENDA

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Black LAWYER Magic

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023

7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Grand Ballroom Foyer

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Grand Ballroom

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

WELCOME SESSION & FOUNDERS SIGNATURE PANEL

Grand Ballroom

DESCRIPTION:

Join us as four of the founders of the National Bar Association Commercial Law Section enlighten us on the history of the organization and the impact it has made on Black lawyers and in Corporate America.

MODERATOR:

Vickie Turner
Partner Emeritus, Wilson Turner Kosmo

PANELISTS:

Harold Pope
Senior Counsel, Dykema Gossett

Kenneth Roberts
Retired Partner, Roberts Litigation Group

Thomasina Williams
Founder and Principal Consultant, Sankofa Legacy Advisors

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM

CLE #1 –THE IMPACT OF ADOPTING NEW TECHNOLOGIES ON THE NEGOTIATION OF CLOUD-BASED CONTRACTS

Vesey

DESCRIPTION:

This IP session will outline the areas of tension that arise when negotiating Software as a Service (SaaS) contracts that involve cloud-based and other innovative technologies, including Software License Agreement considerations, and recommended best practices for both technology SaaS and SLA transactions.

MODERATOR:

Natasha Allen
Partner, Foley & Lardner LLP

PANELISTS:

Farah F. Cook
Partner, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP

DeAndrei Drummond
Vice President & General Counsel, TEKsystems

Trenika Fields-Smith
Commercial Counsel, Splunk Inc.

Amanda Matchett
Senior Counsel Technology and Transactions, Workday, Inc.

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9:45 AM - 10:45 AM

CLE #2 – CURRENT TRENDS IN HEALTHCARE AND LIFE SCIENCES

Madison

DESCRIPTION:
This panel will discuss the landmark disputes and recent trends in Healthcare and Life Sciences, including how practitioners and the companies they support can navigate the evolving legal and regulatory landscape.

MODERATOR:
Raqiyyah Pippins
Partner, Arnold & Porter

PANELISTS:
Asina Gant
Division Counsel, Annexon Biosciences

John Gibson
Vice Chair, US Litigation

Christiana Jacxsens
Deputy General Counsel, B. Braun Medical

Simone Jones
Partner, Sidley Austin LLP

Leslie Overton
Partner & Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM

CLE #3 - TRIAL STRATEGY IN A DIGITAL AGE

Jade-Lexington

DESCRIPTION:
This panel will discuss nascent issues regarding use of technology to enhance trial preparation and what pitfalls to avoid. Litigators will learn valuable information that can help them differentiate themselves and aptly prevail at trial.

MODERATOR:
Joseph Drayton
Partner, Cooley, LLP

SPEAKERS:
Candace Ali Blydenburgh
Partner, McGuireWoods

J. Douglas Minor, Jr.
Partner, Holland & Knight LLP

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CLE #4 - THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION AND THE CONTINUED EVOLUTION OF THE METAVERSE & CRYPTOCURRENCY

Jade-Lexington

DESCRIPTION:
The Fourth Industrial Revolution ("4IR") is here to stay. The emergence of 4IR technologies, including AI, genome editing, robotics, 3-D printing, and more recently, cryptocurrency and the Metaverse, are blurring the virtual versus real-world reality and creating havoc for attorneys. This panel will explore the unique challenges practitioners face in this evolving 4IR digital age, opportunities in this space, and how 4IR will impact future litigation.

MODERATOR:
Cindy Campbell
Associate, Seyfarth Shaw, LLP

PANELISTS:
Conway Ekpo
Director, Associate General Counsel, Brex

William F. "Bill" Farley
Partner, Holland & Knight LLP

Shayne O'Reilly
Director & Associate General Counsel, Head of Licensing & Open Source, Meta Platforms, Inc.

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CLE #5 - ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS: CREATING GENERATIONAL WEALTH IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

Madison

DESCRIPTION:
This deep dive session will provide thoughtful, advanced strategies from attorneys and proven Black investors in different disciplines (estate planning, real estate, insurance, art) who will share trends, opportunities, and legalities of building generational wealth in the Black community.

MODERATOR:
Rob Simpson
Managing Partner, Shook, Hardy & Bacon

PANELISTS:
Traci Bransford
Partner, Stinson, LLP

Edwina Divins
President and Founder, Vallarta Joy Luxury Vacation Rentals

George C. Fatheree III
Partner, Sidley Austin LLP

Pia Flanagan
Head of Mass Markets, MassMutual

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11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CLE #6 - M&A HOT TOPICS IN THE POST-2020 WORLD

Vesey

DESCRIPTION:
This informative session will discuss legal risks and opportunities relating to mergers and acquisitions in an unprecedented time of uncertainty, inflation, and political upheaval. The panel will focus specifically on ESG in M&A transactions, IP issues, privacy, and national security issues.

MODERATOR:
Lisa Love
Arbitrator, JAMS

PANELISTS:
Robert E. Benson, Jr.
Partner, King & Spalding LLP

Derick Holt
Partner, Wiley Rein LLP

Alonzo Llorens
Partner, Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP

Guillaume Saliah
Partner, Fasken

12:15 PM - 2:00 PM

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION SIGNATURE FIRESIDE CHAT, PANEL AND LUNCHEON - ADVOCACY, ACTIVISM, ALLYSHIP: HOW CORPORATE LEADERS USE THEIR PLATFORM TO ADVANCE DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Grand Ballroom

DESCRIPTION:
Diversity in the legal profession has been a concern for law firms for decades. Since the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 making discrimination in employment unlawful, organizations – including law firms – have struggled to ensure equity within their leadership ranks as well as meaningful representation through the Associate population. The legal profession, as a whole, receives very low marks for both racial and gender diversity. In NALP's 2022 Diversity Report, the percentage Black law associates increased to the highest percentage it has ever been at 5.77%. While that is progress, the celebration is muted as the percentage of Black partners has only increased .1% from 2.22% to 2.32%. Demands for in-house legal departments to drive diversity, equity, and inclusion in the legal profession are becoming more commonplace. We will begin with a fireside chat with Bruce Jackson discussing his recently released memoir, "*Never Far from Home: My Journey from Brooklyn to Hip Hop, Microsoft and the Law.*" This panel of esteemed leaders will share their insight and perspectives leveraging their platforms to increase diverse representation of their outside counsel and vendors. This dialogue goes beyond vanity metrics to success strategies that are making an impact that matters.

MODERATOR:
Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah
Chief Diversity Officer, Wiley Rein LLP

FIRESIDE CHAT GUEST SPEAKER:
Bruce Jackson
Associate General Counsel and Managing Director for Strategic Partnerships out of the Office of the President, Microsoft

PANELISTS:
Kamla Alexander
General Counsel, dentsu International

David Hubbard
Vice-President & Deputy General Counsel, Verizon Communications, Inc.

Esu Ma'at
Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Orlando Magic

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

MEN'S WELLNESS SESSION - LEARNING TO OPEN UP, LEAN ON EACH OTHER, AND SUPPORT OUR WELLNESS

Madison

DESCRIPTION:

Black men face numerous stressors and challenges that can negatively impact their mental wellness, including systemic racism and discrimination, poverty, unemployment, and the impact of historical trauma. Research has shown that Black men have higher rates of depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder compared to other groups. It is important for Black men to prioritize their mental health and seek support from family, friends, or mental health professionals when needed. This can include therapy, counseling, or support groups. Breaking down stigma surrounding mental health and seeking help are important steps towards promoting mental wellness. This interactive session, featuring for Black board-certified psychiatrists will offer private discussions, therapeutic interventions and mindfulness exercises.

MODERATOR:

Rob Simpson
Managing Partner, Shook, Hardy & Bacon

PANELISTS:

Dr. Otis Anderson, III
Chairman of the Board(s), Day Academy Network

Michael Pratts, MD
Global Health Psychiatry, LLC

Karriem L. Salaam, MD, FAPA
Global Health Psychiatry, LLC

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

WOMEN'S WELLNESS SESSION - "BLACK WOMEN'S RENAISSANCE: REBIRTHING WITH CONFIDENCE AND AUTHENTICITY!"

Grand Ballroom

DESCRIPTION:

For the third year in a row, we are excited to host our gender-focused Black Women's health and wellness program! While we are emerging from the pandemic into a new hybrid work model, we continue to endure the emotional toll of current events. Targeted mass shootings, the continued tragedies of police brutality, a deepening sociopolitical divide—the stress of navigating these cultural moments and our everyday lives in this "new normal" can be exhausting. Our Black Women's health and wellness program is an opportunity to celebrate ourselves and provide a forum where we can be vulnerable as Black Women attorneys. We are excited to have Dr. Sherri Simpson Broadwater join us for a moderated fireside chat on the topic of the "*Black Women's Renaissance: Rebirthing with Confidence and Authenticity*" and lead us through her activity book, *Like and Love All of You Today!*, designed to encourage us to not wait any longer to be our best selves. The program will begin promptly with a celebratory activity followed by an introspective conversation informed by Dr. Broadwater's extensive experience in self-guided discovery and a series of breakout group discussions. Attendees are encouraged to bring their authentic selves without apology to this dynamic and curated program. The first 100 women to arrive will receive a copy of Dr. Broadwater's activity book.

MODERATOR:

Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah
Chief Diversity Officer, Wiley Rein LLP

SPEAKER:

Dr. Sherri Simpson Broadwater
CEO, Healing for All, LLC

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Black LAWYER Magic

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
PRIVATE RECEPTION: PLATINUM & GOLD SPONSORS AND IN-HOUSE COUNSEL
Madison

5:45 PM - 7:45 PM
WELCOME RECEPTION sponsored by Apple
Promenade

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
CORPORATE DINE-AROUNDS
Buses start departing at 7:00 PM

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM
DESSERT & DRINKS NETWORKING EVENT hosted by MassMutual
Sir Harry's

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023

7:00 AM - 2:00 PM
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Grand Ballroom Foyer

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
NETWORKING BREAKFAST
Grand Ballroom

9:15 AM - 12:15 PM
LAW FIRM EXPO
Floridian G-L

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
SIGNATURE PANEL AND LUNCHEON - GENERAL COUNSEL ROUNDTABLE
Grand Ballroom

DESCRIPTION:
A lively discussion featuring our Honorary Co-Chairs discussing a plethora of topics related to their career paths, retaining outside counsel, diversity, and other issues defining the role of General Counsel.

MODERATOR:
Andrew Nunes
Partner, Fasken

PANELISTS:
Damon Hart
Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, Liberty Mutual Insurance

Duane D. Holloway
Senior VP, General Counsel, and Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer, United States Steel Corporation

Zabrina Jenkins
Acting Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Starbucks Coffee Company

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM

CLE #7 – STAY ABOVE BOARD: WHAT SHOULD CORPORATE BOARDS (AND THOSE WHO ADVISE THEM) BE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT IN THE COMING YEAR?

Madison

DESCRIPTION:
This timely panel will discuss various areas of crisis management and prepare practitioners for legislative changes that have impacted corporate transparency, healthcare, tax law, ESG, environmental policy, and the uptick in greenwashing litigation.

MODERATOR:
Joseph K. West
Partner and Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, Duane Morris LLP

PANELISTS:
Cecil J. Autry, Sr.
Senior Public Affairs Officer & Sr. Counsel, Liberty Mutual

Twanda Turner-Hawkins
Director of Global Litigation, Dematic Corp. and KION Americas

Marcus A.R. Childress
Special Counsel, Jenner & Block

Roy Prather III,
Principal, Beveridge & Diamond PC

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM

CLE #8 – THE GREAT RESIGNATION OR THE GREAT TRANSITION: SUCCESSFUL BLACK ATTORNEYS UNDERTAKING BOLD NEW CAREER STRATEGIES

Vesey

DESCRIPTION:
This session focuses on the emergence of successful Black attorneys' bold career transitions in the wake of social unrest, political shifts, and an unprecedented global pandemic in the post-2020 world to pursue their passions and advantageous working environments. Panelists will share the drivers for transition, obstacles, and the confidence of betting on oneself.

MODERATOR:
Jeanine Conley Daves
Office Managing Shareholder, Littler Mendelson, P.C.

PANELISTS:
Esé Ighedosa
Counsel for Original Content, Apple

Holly E. Loiseau
General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Chief Privacy Officer, KServicing

Kathryn Holt Richardson
Founder and Principal, HR Legal Search, LLC

Aldos L. Vance
Founder and Managing Partner, Vance Dispute Resolution, PC

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

CLE #9 – THE CHANGING WORLD OF PRIVACY AND DATA PROTECTION: ARE YOU UP TO SPEED?

Madison

DESCRIPTION:
This session will discuss privacy and data protection best practices in our rapidly changing digital society and how to ensure businesses can thrive while operating in a global marketplace.

MODERATOR:
Raymond Williams
Senior Counsel, DLA Piper

PANELISTS:
Nicholas Austin
Principal Corporate Legal Counsel, Microsoft Corporation

Steffany Cunningham
General Counsel – North America, National Express

Marina Warner
Legal Counsel, Haven Technologies

Brice R. White
Associate General Counsel, Meta Platforms, Inc.

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

CLE #10 – THE SUPREME COURT CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES AGENDA

Vesey

DESCRIPTION:
This panel will explore recent Supreme Court decisions, including hot topics in civil rights: affirmative action; the Dobbs decision; gun rights; the Major Questions Doctrine; and other impactful decisions on the highest Court's horizon.

PANELISTS:
Tona Boyd
Associate Director - Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense Fund

Tillman Breckenridge
Partner, Stris & Maher LLP

Danielle Conley
Partner, Latham & Watkins

Paul Sweeney, Jr.
Partner, K&L Gates LLP

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

BLACK LAWYER MAGIC COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Grand Ballroom Foyer

THE COMMERCIAL LAW SECTION
Connecting People, Ideas and Opportunities

36TH ANNUAL CORPORATE COUNSEL CONFERENCE

Black LAWYER Magic

Black & White Tie Awards Gala & Dinner

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Grand Ballroom

We cordially invite you to a celebration of the achievements of our NBA-CLS members and guests. Join us for an evening of revelry as we honor the exceptional contributions of our legal community.

The highlight of the night will be the presentation of the Cora T. Walker Award to Dr. Walter L. Sutton, Jr. for his outstanding service to the legal field. Additionally, Bank of America will receive the John Lewis, Jr. Corporation of the Year Award in recognition of their steadfast commitment to diversity.

We will also pay tribute to the memory of Jean-Marie Sylla, Jr., our cherished former Executive Committee Member, and celebrate his enduring legacy.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
HEADSHOT LOUNGE
Central Park Ballroom A-C

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
BREAKFAST
Grand Ballroom

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SPA
Waldorf Astoria Spa

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
CLE #11 – STEP UP TO YOUR PEACEFUL PLACE: ETHICAL COPING STRATEGIES
Jade-Lexington

DESCRIPTION:
This ethics-approved program will examine how stressors, implicit bias, and stigma related to health and wellness affect Black lawyers at all levels of the profession, and will explore practical, science-based coping strategies and mindfulness exercises that attendees can use to reset in real time and foster peace amidst chaos.

MODERATOR:
Spiwe Jefferson
Deputy General Counsel, Amplify Education

PANELISTS:
Clarence Davis
Partner, Griffin & Davis, LLC

Michael D. Thomas
Principal, Jackson Lewis PC

Morenike Williams
Founder & Director of Coaching, Content, and Consulting, Revision Coaching LLP

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
CLE #12 – BEYOND WORK FROM HOME...TO WORK FROM ANYWHERE: TOP CONSIDERATIONS FOR COMPANIES WITH UNPLANNED REMOTE U.S. WORKERS ABROAD
Vesey

DESCRIPTION:
This session will go beyond the now expected Work from Home model to explore considerations when companies must evaluate requests to Work from Anywhere or unexpectedly learn a U.S. employee is working in a foreign land, which involve discussions of international employment and labor laws, immigration, benefits, taxes, and the effect on the bottom line.

MODERATOR:
Jazmyn J. Barrow
Shareholder, Ogletree Deakins

PANELISTS:
Alan H. Bowie, Jr.
Senior Legal Counsel, BIC Corporation

Kerri-Ann Griggs
Senior Associate, Alston & Bird LLP

Kenya Pierre
Deputy General Counsel, Strava

Nycole D. West,
Director of Human Resource Operations, The MetroHealth System

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Black LAWYER Magic

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023

12:00 PM - 12:30 PM
GOLFERS LUNCH (GRAB AND GO)
Clubhouse

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
LUNCH
Grand Ballroom

12:30 PM - 5:30 PM
GOLF TOURAMENT
(12:30pm Shotgun Start)
Waldorf Astoria Golf Course

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
FAREWELL RECEPTION
Oscar's

Enjoy Orlando!

