THE COMMERCIAL LAW SECTION
Connecting People, Ideas and Opportunities

37TH ANNUAL CORPORATE COUNSEL CONFERENCE

RISING TO THE OCCASION

Protecting Our Legacy

FEBRUARY 15 - 17, 2024

JW MARRIOTT SAN ANTONIO HILL COUNTRY
SAN ANTONIO, TX
www.nbacls.com

WELCOME FROM THE NBA-CLS CHAIR

THE COMMERCIAL LAW SECTION
Connecting People, Ideas and Opportunities



Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah
CHAIR

Dear Conference Attendees,

Welcome to the **37th Annual National Bar Association Commercial Law Section ("NBA-CLS") Corporate Counsel Conference** here in San Antonio Hill Country, and I am delighted and honored that you are joining us for a world-class three-day experience focused on our mission of providing inspirational programing, thought leadership, and strategic networking to promote our members' priorities and interests.

This year's conference theme, **Rising to the Occasion: Protecting Our Legacy**, was intentionally selected to address the sentiment of the past year. In today's competitive marketplace, diversity of thought and lived experiences remain our superpowers. Nonetheless, we have seen increasing criticism of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the legal profession, law firms and corporations facing lawsuits attacking their DEI programming and multiple states banning books or enacting legislation eliminating DEI roles and programs in higher education. This concerted effort to chill speech and undermine the efforts to increase diverse representation in commercial and corporate law will potentially have long-term detrimental effects unless we stay the course. As such, we remain steadfast in our commitment to promote and elevate the breadth and diversity of legal expertise in our Section. We know representation matters and so despite these public attacks, we gather in San Antonio to reaffirm our commitment to promote a legal profession that reflects the rich diversity of our communities.

The NBA-CLS is a family. Over the next three days, we gather to strengthen existing relationships, build new ones, and identify opportunities to support each other. Let us continue to empower and inspire each other through lively discussions, energetic CLE sessions, and engaged networking. As we pause to observe Black History this month, we continue to pursue our calling of **Rising to the Occasion: Protecting Our Legacy** and celebrating the pioneers and trailblazing Black attorneys that have opened doors for all of us.

I am grateful to have the enthusiastic support of our four amazing Honorary Co-Chairs: **Carlos Brown**, President of Dominion Energy Services and Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel for Dominion Energy, **Chonda Nwamu**, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary for Ameren Corporation, **Rodney Pratt**, Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer for North America at LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, Inc., and **Juliette Pryor**, Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary, Lowe's Companies, Inc.

THANK YOU to our esteemed sponsors for continuing to show unwavering dedication to the NBA-CLS. Your commitment to promoting DEI in the legal profession and your respective industries have been the catalyst in our ability to make an impact that matters. It is only through your support that we are able our to host our 37th Annual Conference connecting people, ideas, and opportunities to further our collective success.

I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to the members of the NBA-CLS Executive Committee and its subcommittee members for dedicating their time, talent, and resources for the success of this Conference. Their contributions are priceless and essential to bring this event to fruition. Finally, we extend our deepest appreciation to the current NBA President, **Dominique Calhoun**, for his support of the NBA-CLS.

We are excited for this special time to gather together to celebrate our efforts: **Rising To The Occasion, Protecting our Legacy.**

Rashida

Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah
Chair, NBA Commercial Law Section

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37TH ANNUAL CORPORATE COUNSEL CONFERENCE

RISING
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CONFERENCE AGENDA

COMMERCIAL LAW SECTION

Texas Voting Rights Panel

This signature session features legal strategists, advocates, and policymakers challenging Texas Senate Bill 1 (2021) related to election integrity, and security.

MODERATOR

Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah
Chief Diversity Officer
Wiley





FIRESIDE CHAT GUEST SPEAKER

Elsie Cooke-Holmes
International President and Chair of the National Board of Directors
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



PANELIST

The Honorable Josey Garcia
State Representative
Texas House of Representatives, District 124



PANELIST

Meka Simmons
General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



PANELIST

Amir Badat
Manager
Voting Rights Defender and Prepared to Vote Projects



PANELIST

Jennifer Holmes
Deputy Director of Litigation
NAACP Legal Defense Fund

RISING TO THE OCCASION

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Ballroom Level, Registration Desks

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
NETWORKING BREAKFAST
Grand Ballroom G-J

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
WELCOME & SIGNATURE PANEL
NAVIGATING THE TEXAS VOTING RIGHTS BATTLE: INSIGHTS AND STRATEGIES
FROM *LUPE ET AL. V. ABBOTT*
Grand Ballroom G-J

DESCRIPTION:
This signature session features legal strategists, advocates, and policymakers challenging Texas Senate Bill 1 (2021) related to election integrity, and security. With the trial concluding in mid-February just steps from our conference site in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, this discussion is both proximate and timely. By way of background, *Lupe et al. v. Abbott* is a consolidation of cases interpreting Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act. Private plaintiffs alleged that SB 1 violates Section 208's federal voting assistance and disproportionately impacts voting rights of Black and Latino voters as well as individuals with disabilities. Our all-star panel includes representatives from NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a co-plaintiff represented by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, and local Texas legislators. Our panel will discuss the procedural history and their critical role in demonstrating the threat of the Bill and its measurable impact.

MODERATOR:
Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah
Chief Diversity Officer, Wiley

FIRESIDE CHAT GUEST SPEAKER:
Elsie Cooke-Holmes
International President and Chair of the National Board of Directors, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

PANELISTS:
Amir Badat
Manager, Voting Rights Defender and Prepared to Vote Projects

The Honorable Josey Garcia
State Representative, Texas House of Representatives, District 124

Jennifer Holmes
Deputy Director of Litigation, NAACP Legal Defense Fund

Meka Simmons
General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer,
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

CLE #1 –NAVIGATING THE LEGAL LANDSCAPE: HOT TOPICS IN LITIGATION FOR 2024

Grand Ballroom A-B

DESCRIPTION:
This panel offers an in-depth exploration of the most critical and emerging topics in litigation for 2024. We will delve into the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on legal processes, scrutinize current issues in data privacy and cybersecurity, and examine the evolving landscape of employment law. The panel will also address the pivotal role of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the legal realm, along with an analysis of the trends and implications of nuclear verdicts. Our expert speakers will provide insights into the latest litigation strategies and practices in both state and federal courts. Participants will gain valuable knowledge and best practices essential for navigating and excelling in today's rapidly changing legal environment.

MODERATOR:
Lauren Jones
Associate General Counsel, Consolidated Edison

PANELISTS:
Tracie Bryant
Partner, Kirkland & Ellis

Derin Dickerson
Partner, Alston & Bird

Tarsha Phillibert
Partner, Duane Morris

Angela Reddock-Wright
Mediator, Signature Resolution

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

CLE #2 – GLOBAL BUSINESS CONSIDERATIONS: NAVIGATING SUPPLY CHAIN, TRADE ENFORCEMENT, AND ECONOMIC SANCTIONS

Grand Ballroom E-F

DESCRIPTION:
Join us as we explore the strategies necessary for success in the global business environment. Panel experts will tackle the complexities of global trade, focusing on navigating through the maze of economic sanctions, trade regulations, and the critical issue of supply chain resiliency. They'll also address the challenge of maintaining robust supply networks in the face of global uncertainties and the legal implications of international trade laws and sanctions. This panel will provide invaluable insights for businesses aiming to thrive in the volatile arena of global commerce.

MODERATOR:
Olivia Singlemann
Partner, Foley & Lardner

PANELISTS:
Donise Edwards Brown
Managing Director, Innovation, Global Supply Chain, Commercial Law & Corporate Affairs, Starbucks Coffee Company

Kenneth Kirkwood
Senior Counsel, Global Supply Chain Due Diligence, Abbott

Ashleigh Wilson
Manager and Counsel, Federal Government Affairs, Nucor Corporation

Simeon Yerokun
Counsel, Crowell & Moring

12:15 PM - 1:45 PM

SIGNATURE PANEL AND LUNCHEON - GENERAL COUNSEL ROUNDTABLE

Grand Ballroom G-J

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

MODERATOR:
Jonathan D. Goins
Partner, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP

PANELISTS:
Carlos M. Brown
President of Dominion Energy Services, EVP, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary, Dominion Energy

Chonda Jordan Nwamu
Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, Ameren Corporation

Rodney C. Pratt
Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton Inc.

Juliette W. Pryor
EVP, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary, Lowe's Companies, Inc.

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

CLE #3 - 2024 EMPLOYMENT LAW HOT TOPICS: RESPONDING TO ANTI-DEI CHALLENGES, CONDUCTING EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS, AND LEVERAGING MEDIATION

Grand Ballroom A-B

DESCRIPTION:
This panel will discuss the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard College* to corporate DEI programs, present an overview of the current legal challenges to DEI programs, and offer a summary on how companies are responding to these challenges and mitigating risks. The panel will also discuss how to conduct effective workplace investigations and successful strategies to leverage mediation as a primary method to resolve disputes.

MODERATOR:
Joan Clarke-Narcisse
Head of Employment & Immigrations Legal Team, Aflac

SPEAKERS:
Christian Elloie
Vice President and Associate General Counsel, Global Head of Employment, HP

Damali Peterman
Mediator, Special Master, Neutral Evaluator and Hearing Officer, JAMS

Christopher Reilly
Associate, Ogletree Deakins

Nicole Singh
Partner, Fasken

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

CLE #4 - BUSINESS ACUMEN: THE KEY TO TRANSCEND BEING A 'GOOD LAWYER' TO BECOMING AN EXCEPTIONAL ADVISOR AND TRUSTED PARTNER

Grand Ballroom E-F

DESCRIPTION:
This session is tailored for in-house counsel (and those who advise them) aiming to deepen their business acumen and enhance their strategic advisory role. This panel will concentrate on the essential business domains: finance, operations, planning, and strategy, and will offer insights on how to best integrate these areas seamlessly with legal advice and counsel. This approach is designed to equip legal professionals with the skills needed to converse fluently in the language of business and elevate their role as trusted corporate advisors.

MODERATOR:
Cindy Campbell
Senior Associate, Seyfarth Shaw LLP

PANELISTS:
Lauren Boone
Corporate Counsel, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company

Christopher Cottrell
Senior Counsel, Real Estate Legal New Restaurants, Chick-fil-A, Inc.

Patricia Donkor
Corporate Counsel, Steampunk Inc.

Courtney Thomas
Partner, K&L Gates

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

CLE #5 - THE CURRENT U.S. SUPREME COURT AGENDA

Grand Ballroom A-B

DESCRIPTION:
Our panel will navigate through the Supreme Court's latest decisions and their ramifications, setting the stage for an exploration of notable cases expected to come before the Court. This session is designed to dissect the Court's evolving stance on crucial issues and forecast how its future agenda might continue to impact the legal and social fabric of the nation. Attendees will leave with a comprehensive understanding of the Supreme Court's role in contemporary legal challenges.

MODERATOR:
Sara P. Madavo
Partner, Foley & Lardner

PANELISTS:
Lukman Azeez
Partner, Wiley

Adam Banks
Partner, Weil

Abdul Kallon
Partner, Perkins Coie LLP

Doreen Rachal
Partner, Sidley Austin

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

CLE #6 - WHAT'S HOT IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DATA PRIVACY: KEY DEVELOPMENTS FROM 2023

Grand Ballroom E-F

DESCRIPTION:

No matter how innovation evolves, two areas of law that attorneys will always need to prioritize are intellectual property and data privacy. Staying informed about the latest developments in IP and privacy are important for practitioners and generalists. This CLE aims to explore the most impactful developments in IP and privacy that have unfolded in the past year and how to ensure you are best positioned for 2024.

MODERATOR:

Tennell Lockett
Managing Partner, Townsend & Lockett

PANELISTS:

Farah Cook
Partner, Kilpatrick Townsend

Tanya Greene
Partner, McGuire Woods

Elimu Kajunji
General Counsel, Honeywell Forge

Casiya Thaniel
Director, Workday

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

PRIVATE RECEPTION - PLATINUM AND GOLD LAW FIRM SPONSORS AND CORPORATE (IN-HOUSE) COUNSEL ATTORNEYS ONLY

Greenhouse Garden Lawn

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

HEADSHOT LOUNGE

Pre-Registration Required

Bluebonnet/Dogwood

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

WELCOME RECEPTION

Event Lawn 2

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 RECEPTION

Hosted by MassMutual

San Antonio Terrace

CONFERENCE AGENDA

RISING TO THE OCCASION

Protecting Our Legacy

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

7:00 AM - 2:00 PM
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Ballroom Level, Registration Desks

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM
NETWORKING BREAKFAST
Grand Ballroom G-J

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
LAW FIRM EXPO
Cibolo Ballroom 6-11

12:00 PM - 1:45 PM
LUNCH & SESSION FOR WOMEN
G.L.O.W. From Within "Greater Life, Overall Wellness"
Grand Ballroom G-J

DESCRIPTION:
This year marks the fourth annual Black Women's Health and Wellness Program, a dedicated space for us to come together in solidarity and support. This program is a heartfelt celebration and a sincere acknowledgment of the unique experiences we face as Black Women attorneys. It provides an environment where we can reflect on our well-being, share our stories, and embrace our vulnerabilities.

FIRESIDE CHAT
MODERATOR:
Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah
Chief Diversity Officer, Wiley
NBA-CLS Chair

SPECIAL GUEST:
The Honorable Judge Glenda A. Hatchett
Founder, Hatchett Consulting Group

WOMEN'S WELLNESS PANEL
MODERATOR:
Dr. Edidiong Ikpe-Ekpo, MD, MPH, FACEP
Founder and CEO, When Docs Talk, LLC
Emergency Physician, The Southeast Permanente Medical Group

PANELISTS:
AmiCietta Duche Clarke
Certified Holistic Health Coach and Speaker

Michelle D. Johnson, MD
Obstetrician/Gynecologist, Calvert Health Medical Center

Akua Woolbright, PhD
Sr. Program Director Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, Whole Foods Market

12:00 PM - 1:45 PM

LUNCH & SESSION FOR MEN

Learning to Support Our Wellness

Grand Ballroom K-L

DESCRIPTION:

Research has shown the importance for Black men to begin prioritizing their mental health and seeking support from family, friends, or mental health professionals, especially in light of systemic racism and historical trauma. Breaking down stigma surrounding mental health is key to effectively managing wellness. This interactive session, featuring Black board-certified psychiatrists will offer private discussions, therapeutic interventions, and mindfulness exercises.

MODERATOR:

Dr. Michael J. Pratts
Global Health Psychiatry

PANELISTS:

Dr. Otis Anderson, III
Global Health Psychiatry

Dr. Delane Casiano
Global Health Psychiatry

Dr. Napoleon B. Higgins, Jr.
Global Health Psychiatry

Dr. Karriem L. Salaam
Global Health Psychiatry

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

CLE #7 – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE GOING

Grand Ballroom A-B

DESCRIPTION:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has already had a profound impact on the business and legal landscape, presenting unique and interesting challenges in a variety of contexts. Our esteemed panel will provide an overview of AI, including what it is and its existing and potential use cases, and then delve into its quickly evolving legal landscape, and new and forthcoming legislation/regulation here and abroad (e.g., ethical considerations and legislation related to bias.) We will also explore legal issues for businesses to consider in their use of AI, including considerations regarding data protection and privacy, commercial and technology contracts, intellectual property, class action and products liability litigation.

MODERATOR & PANELIST:

Jamie Jackson
Partner, K&L Gates

PANELISTS:

Andrew Alleyne
Partner, Fasken

Dara Mann
Partner, Squire Patton Boggs

Njeri Mutura
Assistant General Counsel, Microsoft

Uzma Saghir
Senior Corporate Counsel, Liberty Mutual Insurance

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

CLE #8 – ESG IN THE LEGAL SPOTLIGHT: CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES FOR MODERN BUSINESSES

Grand Ballroom E-F

DESCRIPTION:

Join us for a comprehensive analysis of the current state of ESG litigation. This session will cover the spectrum of ESG-related legal challenges, from the rise in greenwashing litigation to the implementation and legal implications of DEI initiatives. The discussion will extend to the best practices in corporate governance concerning ESG issues. Our panelists will also offer insights into proactive risk management and avoidance techniques, guiding businesses on how to credibly and legally promote their ESG commitments.

MODERATOR:

Julius Redd
Principal, Beveridge & Diamond

PANELISTS:

Lillian Hardy
Partner, Hogan Lovells

Ade Heylinger
Partner, Weil

Byron McLain
Partner, Foley & Lardner

Raqiyyah Pippins
Partner, Arnold & Porter

Joseph West
Partner, Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, Duane Morris

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

CLE #9 – PART II: FOSTERING GENERATIONAL WEALTH AND CLOSING THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP

Grand Ballroom A-B

DESCRIPTION:

For this panel, we will expand upon our 2023 invitation to NBA CLS members to consider intentional methods to seize opportunities to convert income from their law practice into generational wealth. We will discuss how to build ancillary wealth without compromising your primary legal practice. You don't want to miss this panel to grow your wealth and narrow the gap!

MODERATOR:

Traci V. Bransford
Partner, Parker Poe

PANELISTS:

Christopher Gilmore
Partner, Townsend & Lockett

Kenneth Jefferson
Associate, Holland & Knight

Medina Jett
President & CEO, TDS Builders

Jayme Smoot
Vice President, Corporate Sustainability and External Affairs Operations, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

RISING TO THE OCCASION

Protecting Our Legacy

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

CAREER DEVELOPMENT PANEL - RED FLAGS AND GREEN LIGHTS:
UNVEILING WHAT FACTORS MAKE YOU STAND OUT TO LEGAL RECRUITERS

Grand Ballroom E-F

DESCRIPTION:
Elevate your career strategy in this panel designed for Black in-house counsel. Panelists will review crucial do's and don'ts, and game-changing factors that can propel your career forward or hold you back in your connections with legal recruiters. Don't miss this opportunity to gain insider knowledge and practical tips from the experts.

MODERATOR:
Paula T. Edgar
CEO, PGE Consulting Group LLC

PANELISTS:
Kathy Richardson
Principal, HR Legal Search

Andrew "Drew" Titus
Principal, COGO Partners

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
BOURBON TASTING I

5:15 PM - 6:45 PM
BOURBON TASTING II

Sponsored by Davis Wright Tremaine
(Pre-registration required)
Grand Ballroom C-D

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

RISING TO THE OCCASION
Protecting Our Legacy

Cocktail Reception

Grand Ballroom G Foyer

THE COMMERCIAL LAW SECTION
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RISING TO THE OCCASION
Protecting Our Legacy

Awards Gala

Attire: Black tie (optional) with an accent of red, gold, or orange

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Grand Ballroom G - J

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 Cari K. Dawson for her outstanding service to the legal field. Additionally, Meta 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.

SWBLSA
Striving to balance since 1968.

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PIPELINE PROGRAM

February 17th | 10 AM - 7 PM
JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country
23808 Resort Parkway
San Antonio, 78261



ON THE PROGRAM:

- Business Compliance and Corporate Ethics Panel
- Networking Lunch with NBA-CLS Members
- Roundtable & Community Service Event with NBA-CLS Leadership
- Closing Reception with NBA-CLS Members

RISING TO THE OCCASION

Protecting Our Legacy

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024

8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
GOLF TOURNAMENT
The Oaks Course - TPC San Antonio

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SPA
Lantana Spa

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
BREAKFAST
Grand Ballroom C-D

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
ENGAGING WITH THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS:
PIPELINE PROJECT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT WITH SOUTHWEST BLSA CHAPTER
Grand Ballroom E-F

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM
CLE #10 – DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE DARK: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY ACT AND CCO LIABILITY
Grand Ballroom A-B

DESCRIPTION:
Newly enacted corporate transparency rules in the US and Canada impose fresh obligations on public and private businesses. This panel will take a deep dive into the new rules, examine Chief Compliance Officer liability scenarios, and offer best practices, practical tips and ethical considerations that should be top of mind for compliance officers and legal advisors to mitigate risk under the new laws.

MODERATOR:
Sherry Williams
Chief Legal Officer, Chief Compliance Officer, Senior Vice President of Human Resources, Corporate Secretary, Strategic Materials, Inc.

PANELISTS:
Monique Boyce
Corporate Counsel, Google

Taisha Lewis
Partner, Fasken

Courtney Reid
Chief Compliance Officer, MML Investors Services, LLC

Vanessa S. Tabler
Partner, Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

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

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
FAREWELL RECEPTION
Event Lawn 1