

20 Summer Bar Conference

25 June 25-27 | Bar Harbor



Welcome: President's Message

On behalf of the Maine State Bar Association, I am excited to welcome you to our annual Summer Bar Conference in beautiful Bar Harbor! This year, we continue to embrace a wellness theme to help refresh and inspire us as we continue our important work in the legal profession. As you peruse through the course offerings, you will find several programs with a wellness focus in addition to a presentation on national bar trends and sessions on litigation strategies, ethics, family law, and real estate.

We've designed this conference with you and your family in mind, offering a family-friendly atmosphere for Thursday afternoon and evening with activities for all ages. We're thrilled to offer a photo booth for attendees to capture memories with your loved ones and colleagues, ensuring that our time together is both productive and fun.

We hope that this conference will provide you with not only valuable legal insights but also the opportunity to recharge and reconnect with one another. Thank you for your continued commitment to our profession and to the MSBA. I look forward to seeing you in Bar Harbor for another memorable conference!



Susan A. Faunce

Susan A. Faunce, Esq.
2025 MSBA President
Berman & Simmons, PA



Haborside Hotel, Spa & Marina, Bar Harbor

MEETING INFORMATION

How to Register:

Register online at www.mainebar.org/event/SBC2025, or submit your registration form via email or mail. Online registration is available through **Sunday, June 22**. No registrations will be accepted without payment.

Walk-In Registrations:

All walk-in registrants will be required to pay the applicable registration fee **at the non-member rate**.

Cancellations:

You may cancel your registration for a full refund until 4 p.m. on **June 6**. Cancellations made from **June 7–June 17** will be assessed a **\$75 administrative fee**. NO REFUNDS will be made after **June 17**. The date of cancellation is the date received at Bar Headquarters in Augusta.

Dress Code:

Dress for the Summer Bar Conference is business casual.

Photography:

Registrants, instructors, exhibitors, and guests attending the MSBA Summer Bar Conference agree they may be photographed during the event. Photographic materials are the sole property of the MSBA, and the MSBA reserves the right to use attendees' names and likenesses in promotional materials without providing monetary compensation.

Materials:

A link to program materials will be provided by email to all registrants prior to the program.

CLE Credits:*

Thursday, June 26: Up to 5.0 live CLE credits, with the opportunity to earn ethics.

Friday, June 27: Up to 3.0 live CLE credits, with the opportunity to earn ethics and H&D.

PRACPRO: All sessions have been approved for practice and procedure credit under Maine's reciprocal admission rule.

*CLE credits will not be reported to the Board of Overseers if you have a balance due. Once we receive full payment, credits will be forwarded to the Board of Overseers.

The Harborside Hotel, Spa & Marina in Bar Harbor is Now Fully Booked!

The Maine State Bar Association's discounted room block for the Summer Bar Conference (June 25–27) is **now fully booked**.

Room Cancellation Reminder: Full-refund room cancellations must be made **at least seven days prior to the arrival date**. If you no longer need your room, please have the hotel release it to the MSBA, and we will take care of the cancellation if we no longer need the room. 1-866-258-7253.

Additional Lodging Options

Atlantic Oceanside Hotel

119 Eden Street
1-800-336-2463
www.barharbormainehotel.com

Bar Harbor Grand Hotel

269 Main Street
1-888-766-2529
www.barharborgrand.com

Bar Harbor KOA Campground

136 County Road
Rates based on type of lodging
207-288-3520
koa.com/campgrounds/bar-harbor-oceanside

Bar Harbor Regency

123 Eden Street
1-207-288-9723
www.barharborregency.com

Best Western Acadia Park Inn

452 State Highway 3
1-800-937-8376
www.acadiaparkinn.com

Edenbrook Motel

96 Eden Street
1-800-323-7819
www.edenbrookmotelbh.com

Hadley's Point Campground

33 Hadley Point Road
207-288-4808
www.hadleypoint.com

Seacroft Inn

18 Albert Meadow
1-800-824-9695
www.seacroftinn.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

- 1:00-5:00** Registration Open
- 2:00-4:30** Board of Governors Meeting
- 2:00-4:30** Section Business Meetings
- 5:00-6:30** Welcome Reception
Life Member Recognition & In Memoriam

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

- 7:00-3:00** Registration Open
- 7:00-8:00** General Breakfast
- 8:00-9:15** Plenary Session (1.0 credit)
 1. A View From the Pines: Legal Trends in Maine and Beyond
- 9:15-9:45** Break
- 9:45-10:45** Concurrent Sessions (1.0 credit)
 2. Fraud in Real Estate Transactions: 2025 Developments
 3. Our Duty to the Rule of Law (ethics)
 4. Peak Performance: The Extended Mind (ethics)
 5. Stand Up and Say Something: Objections Practice
- 10:45-11:15** Break
- 11:15-12:15** Concurrent Sessions (1.0 credit)
 6. Anxiety, Stress, and Burnout: Wellness Challenges (Young) Lawyers Face and How We Can Better Support Them (ethics)
 7. The Business and Ethics of Law Firm Withdrawal (ethics)
 8. Avoiding the Oops: A Look at Malpractice Trends in Maine and the U.S.
 9. Persuasion is the Point: Effective Written Advocacy for the Modern Practitioner
- 12:15-1:45** Awards Luncheon
PTLA Award for Pro Bono Service & John W. Ballou Award
- 1:45-2:00** Break
- 2:00-3:00** Plenary (1.0 ethics credit)
 10. Normalizing Attorney Well-Being by Eliminating Stigma (ethics)
- 3:00-4:00** Section Business Meetings
Veterans' Law, Women's Law
- 3:00-6:00** Free Time / Lawn Games
- 3:15-4:15** Restorative Yoga (1.0 credit) (does not qualify for PRACPRO)
- 4:30-5:15** Section Business Meeting
New Lawyers
- 5:30-6:00** Reception
- 6:00-8:00** Dinner Buffet & Trivia Entertainment

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, June 26

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

After a full day of learning and professional growth, it's time to relax and celebrate. Join us for a well-earned evening of great food, good company, and top-tier entertainment from Caribbean Chris—a dynamic performer with over 30 years of experience engaging audiences of all kinds.

During dinner and a few rounds of trivia, Caribbean Chris will set the tone with smooth, light background music—creating an elegant and relaxed atmosphere. Once the formalities conclude, he'll turn up the energy and get the party going with a lively, crowd-pleasing performance designed to bring everyone together.

Known for his versatility, charisma, and genuine connection with the crowd, Caribbean Chris offers more than just music—he delivers an experience that perfectly balances sophistication with fun. Get ready to unwind, celebrate, and enjoy a memorable evening.

Sponsored by Okun Law.



PHOTO BOOTH: CAPTURE THE MOMENT

Thursday, June 26

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Stop by our photo booth to snap a fun, professional, or themed picture with fellow members. Whether you're commemorating new connections or just enjoying the event, it's the perfect way to take home a memory from the conference.

Sponsored by Berman & Simmons.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

- 7:00-11:15 Registration Open**
- 7:00-8:30 General Breakfast**
- 7:00-8:30 Section Business Meetings**
Solo & Small Firm (8:00-8:30)
- 7:30-8:30 Past Presidents' Breakfast**
- 8:30-9:30 Concurrent Sessions (1.0 credit)**
11. Catastrophic Workplace Injury Claims: The Intersection of Personal Injury and Workers' Compensation
12. Data Privacy Essentials: Practical Strategies for Attorneys and Clients
13. Lawyer Tools for Better Physical, Emotional, and Mental Wellness (ethics)
14. Top Ten Tips for Taking Depositions
- 9:30-10:00 Break**
- 10:00-11:00 Concurrent Sessions (1.0 credit)**
15. Avoiding Disputes Through Contract Drafting
16. It's Me, Not You...Breaking Up Is Hard To Do (ethics)
17. Mastering the Opening Statement: Capturing the Jury from the Start
18. A View from the Bench: If Only We'd Known...
- 11:00-11:15 Break**
- 11:15-12:15 Plenary Session (1.0 H&D credit)**
19. Universal Trauma Informed Law Practice Is Best Practice—Practical Tools That Boost Results, Increase Job Satisfaction, and Reduce Liability in a Swiftly Tilting World (H&D)
- 12:15 Program Adjourns**

Thank You to our Exhibitors



Conference Sponsors



Annual Partners



Congratulations to Our 2025 Life Members

Join us at the Wednesday reception to celebrate and thank these individuals for their 50 years of service to the legal community.

Paul W. Chaiken, Esq.
Bangor

Thomas Danylik, Esq.
Biddeford

Leo J. Delicata, Esq.
Portland

John P. Doyle, Esq.
Portland

Arthur H. Dumas, Esq.
Sanford

Mark E. Dunlap, Esq.
Falmouth

Donald R. Furman, Esq.
Biddeford

David R. Hastings III, Esq.
Fryeburg

Richard A. Hull, Esq.
Biddeford

Phillip E. Johnson, Esq.
North Augusta, SC

Philip J. Moss, Esq.
Cape Elizabeth

Swift Tarbell III, Esq.
Brookfield, CT

Danny W. Thornhill, Esq.
York

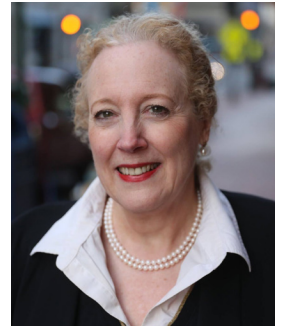
James E. Tierney, Esq.
Lisbon Falls

Lucinda E. White, Esq.
Freeport

Pine Tree Legal Assistance 2025 Award for Pro Bono Service

Jennifer F. Kreckel, Esq.

Pine Tree Legal Assistance (PTLA) is pleased to honor volunteer attorney Jennifer Kreckel with the Pine Tree Legal Assistance Award for Pro Bono Service for her exceptional service to PTLA clients in 2024. Attorney Kreckel has been an enthusiastic volunteer in PTLA's Wills for Heroes project and expanded access to justice for survivors of domestic violence in rural Maine. Aiming to help clients navigate the often overwhelming world of law, Attorney Kreckel has succeeded in making the legal system more accessible to the individuals she represents, with one client reporting that his experience working with her has been "just wonderful." PTLA is delighted to celebrate Attorney Kreckel for her dedicated service with the Pine Tree Legal Assistance Award for Pro Bono Service.



2025 John W. Ballou Award

Diane C. Cavanaugh

A Maine native, Diane Cavanaugh began her journey in the Clerk's Office on Nov. 4, 1985, at the age of 19, when she was hired as an Assistant Clerk for the Androscoggin Superior Court. Although exposed to family and criminal matters, it was learning about and working with civil cases that truly became her passion and remains so to this day. While in Androscoggin, she learned about the filings and became familiar with members of the Bar as her tasks expanded to scheduling cases and working in the courtroom as a trial clerk. It was in this setting that Diane began to interact with attorneys more closely and forge relationships which have continued through the years. She had the privilege of working with former Justice Thomas E. Delahanty II and Justice Robert Clifford as the first members of the Bench she came in contact with. Her years in Androscoggin allowed her to establish a solid foundation of working with civil cases and take advantage of leadership training opportunities.

In 1999, Diane was promoted to an Associate Clerk for the Civil Division of the Cumberland Superior Court and in 2009, she became the Civil Division Manager for the Cumberland Superior and Portland District Courts, which is the position she holds today. As team leader, Diane oversees all aspects of the daily operations within the civil department. She is responsible for supervising her team of six to ensure that the dockets are running smoothly and works very closely with the members of the Bench for the both courts. Due to the volume of cases in Cumberland County, Diane is also a Single Justice Clerk responsible for managing the civil caseload for a member of the Superior Court Bench. Being a "working clerk," allows her to stay current with the civil processes and interact with attorneys and members of the public daily, an aspect of her job that she thrives on and fully enjoys.

In her near 40 years of service, Diane has mentored colleagues and trained many employees throughout the Judicial Branch across the state. Her collaborations with Court Operations helped to refine and simplify internal procedures. She has served on various committees with members of the Bench, State Court Administrator and Clerks of Court. Her goal is to continue to share the institutional knowledge that she has acquired throughout the years and provide training to those who have a desire to learn, grow and succeed within the Judicial Branch. Diane is honored and humbled to be the 2025 recipient of the John W. Ballou Award.



THURSDAY, JUNE 26

8:00-9:15 | PLENARY SESSION (1.0 CREDIT)

#01 A View From the Pines: Legal Trends in Maine and Beyond

The legal landscape is shifting—nationally and here in Maine. From rising claims risks and changes in how lawyers work, to evolving client expectations and tech adoption, attorneys face a complex (and exciting) future. In this session, we'll explore key trends shaping legal practice across the U.S. and dive into what's uniquely impacting Maine lawyers, including rural practice challenges, demographic shifts, and regulatory updates. You'll leave with insights that can help you adapt, stay competitive, and safeguard your practice in a fast-changing world.

Speaker: *Rio Laine, ALPS*

9:45-10:45 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS (1.0 CREDIT)

#02 Fraud in Real Estate Transactions: 2025 Developments

Learn about the latest developments related to fraud in real estate transactions including seller deed fraud, buyer fraud, and wire/mortgage fraud. Hear examples of recent transactions gone wrong, an update on legislative efforts with various groups to address the issue, as well as solutions. A discussion on the development of remote online notarization and the new Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts will be included, as well as a discussion of red flags for elder abuse in real estate transactions. This presentation is appropriate for attorneys with a business, real estate, estate planning, family, or general practice.

Speaker: *Shannon M. Esty, Esq., Fidelity National Title Insurance Company*

#03 Our Duty to the Rule of Law (ethics)

As officers of the court, lawyers have both unique professional capabilities and unique responsibilities to uphold the rule of law. Since Jan. 20, 2025, the Executive Branch of the federal government has taken actions which are unprecedented in their assertion of power. This session will explore overreach within the Executive Branch and judicial responses to it. Presenters will remind lawyers of their ethical obligations under the Rules of Professional Conduct and suggest strategies for representing those who are targeted by the Executive Branch. Panel members will make brief presentations, with ample time reserved for audience participation.

Speakers: *Peter B. Bickerman, Esq.*
Denis Culley, Esq.
Zachary L. Heiden, Esq., ACLU of Maine
Elizabeth F. Stout, Esq.

#04 Peak Performance: The Extended Mind (ethics)

Well-being is not about the endless task of fixing ourselves and doing better. It's about flourishing across all dimensions of our lives by leveraging our untapped cognitive power. This presentation explores some of the most exciting research in the fields of neuroscience, cognitive science, and psychology about how to reap the benefits of thinking outside our brains. We will explore the "magic" of leveraging our senses, physical movement and gestures, the spaces within which we work (including nature), and our interactions with other humans to maximize our performance. If you are interested in how to achieve peak performance, this presentation is for you!

Speaker: *Robin M. Wolpert, Esq., Sapientia Law Group*

#05 Stand Up and Say Something: Objections Practice

Learn about the importance of objections, both for trial and for preservation of issues for appeal. Presenters will use instruction and materials, as well as an interactive portion with samples of trial transcripts where attendees will have the opportunity to object "in real time." Materials will include quick tips and a cheat sheet for some of the most common and most overlooked objections.

Speakers: *Allison M. Kuhns, Esq., Law Office of Allison Muir Kuhns, LLC*
Bronson C. Stephens, Esq., Fort Knox Law, LLC

11:15-12:15 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS (1.0 CREDIT)

#06 Anxiety, Stress, and Burnout: Wellness Challenges (Young) Lawyers Face and How We Can Better Support Them (ethics)

Rates of stress, anxiety, burnout, depression, and substance abuse among lawyers are double or even triple the incidence in the general public. Studies indicate that these issues may be even worse for young attorneys. This panel of mid-career attorneys looks back at their early years practicing and discusses the wellness and mental health problems young attorneys face and related issues (such as imposter syndrome and perfectionism), before pivoting to identifying stressors and how to manage them. Learn stress management techniques, including productivity hacks, mindfulness techniques, exercise, rest, and self-care. The session will also include suggestions for how to better support the next generation of attorneys with compassionate mentorship and growth-oriented work cultures before throwing it to the larger room for ideas.

Speakers: *Sharon Barney, Esq., Pine Tree Legal Assistance*
Edward S. Bertrand, Esq., Pierce Davis & Perritano LLP
Jillian M. Bertrand, Esq., Pyle Rome Ehrenberg PC

#07 The Business and Ethics of Law Firm Withdrawal (ethics)

Every law firm is different, and every departure event has its own challenges, ethically, operationally, and legally, for both the departing lawyers and the law firm. Learn what the bar rules require of both parties in a law firm withdrawal, as well as the common business and commercial law issues that arise in these transactions.

Speaker: *Kevin R. Haley, Esq., Brann & Isaacson*

#08 **Avoiding the Oops: A Look at Malpractice Trends in Maine and the U.S.**

Legal malpractice claims are more than just cautionary tales—they're powerful indicators of where the profession is most vulnerable. In this session, we'll examine national and Maine-specific malpractice data to uncover emerging risk patterns, high-claim practice areas, and the evolving nature of professional liability. You'll gain practical insights on how to reduce your exposure, strengthen client relationships, and adapt your practice to avoid common (and costly) missteps. Whether you're in a solo practice or a larger firm, this session offers real-world strategies to help protect your livelihood.

Speaker: *Rio Laine, ALPS*

#09 **Persuasion is the Point: Effective Written Advocacy for the Modern Practitioner**

The judges and law clerks who read your writing are busier than ever before, and their attention is at a premium. The most effective attorneys get to the point simply, quickly, and clearly. This CLE will cover modern trends in legal writing, which emphasize simplicity of language and precision of argument. The session is designed to make everyone—from recent law school graduates to experienced practitioners—a more effective written advocate. Topics will include common missteps, tips for simpler writing, technical practices, as well as formatting and common keyboard shortcuts.

Speaker: *Charles M. King, Esq., Berman & Simmons PA*

2:00-3:00 | PLENARY SESSION (1.0 ETHICS CREDIT)

#10 **Normalizing Attorney Well-Being by Eliminating Stigma**

One of the major barriers to attorney well-being is the stigma associated with mental health, substance misuse, and any number of other conditions that impact our health. Until we stop stigmatizing mental health, substance misuse and other conditions, the statistics for attorney wellness will continue to be staggering. With the number of attorneys in Maine shrinking, we all need to be at the top of our game for ourselves, our families, our clients, our colleagues, and our firms. This panel will address the stigmas associated with illness, provide ways to start tearing down the walls that prevent so many of us from taking care of ourselves and our colleagues, and will demonstrate that getting the help you need is a best practice for a successful life in the law.

Speakers: *Jonathan M. Dunitz, Esq., Verrill*
Caitlin L. LoCascio-King, Esq., LoCascio-King Law, LLC
Hon. John H. O'Neil, Jr., Maine Superior Court
Elyssa Smith, Trauma-Informed Life Strategist
Krystal Williams, Esq., Providentia Group PLLC

3:15-4:15 | YOGA (1.0 CREDIT)

Restorative Yoga (does not qualify for PRACPRO)

According to a study by the American lawyer and Law.com Compass, 70% of attorneys report being exhausted, and 66% report experiencing physical and mental overwhelm and fatigue. Long term activation of the stress response can lead to many health problems, including anxiety, depression, digestive problems, headaches, muscle tension and pain, heart disease, high blood pressure, sleep problems, weight gain, and problems with memory and focus. When stress is long term rather than short term as in an emergency, the sympathetic nervous system remains active, and the body is unable to manage the constant stress. Meditation and Restorative yoga is a practice of deep relaxation that soothes and restores the nervous system and can help the body's responses to long term stress. Yoga is a step that can make a huge difference in your life and your law practice. No experience is necessary. Bring an open mind and a willingness to be present with yourself. Bring a mat if you have one.

Instructor: *Marcia E. DeGeer, Esq., Gallagher Villeneuve & DeGeer PLLC, Damariscotta*

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

8:30 - 9:30 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS (1.0 CREDIT)

#11 **Catastrophic Workplace Injury Claims: The Intersection of Personal Injury and Workers' Compensation**

In 2023, a worker died every 99 minutes from a work-related injury and employers reported 2.6 million injury and illness cases. According to the Maine Department of Labor, there are approximately 18-20 occupational fatalities each year in Maine. Catastrophic workplace injuries and deaths create a myriad of legal issues that must be identified and evaluated quickly to protect the rights and interests of workers and their families. This presentation will help attorneys understand the different legal issues that arise in probate, personal injury, and workers' compensation. We will discuss workers' compensation immunity and strategies for building a third-party liability claim. We will outline critical and time sensitive actions that attorneys must take to preserve evidence, undertake an investigation, and engage expert witnesses when evaluating a third-party liability claim. We will discuss challenges to advance these cases in litigation and strategies to overcome them by highlighting recent case examples.

Speakers: *Travis M. Brennan, Esq., Berman & Simmons PA*
Matthew W. Marett, Esq., Kaplan & Grant

#12 **Data Privacy Essentials: Practical Strategies for Attorneys and Clients**

This practical session equips attorneys with data privacy fundamentals and actionable strategies to address the area's growing risk and compliance challenges. Participants will learn the basics of identifying key privacy obligations facing law firms and corporate clients, implementing effective data protection practices, and developing responsive breach management protocols. Through examination of real-world breach examples and their consequences, attorneys will gain insights into both reputational and financial impacts of privacy failures. The presentation provides concrete steps to mitigate risk and maintain client trust in an increasingly complex regulatory landscape. Attendees will leave with practical tools to enhance their firm's data practices and help their clients identify and mitigate critical privacy concerns.

Speaker: *Hannah Cole, Esq., S.R. Labby LLP*

#13 **Lawyer Tools for Better Physical, Emotional, and Mental Wellness (ethics)**

This program will explore the common wellness challenges attorneys face; how attorneys can proactively meet more of their needs more of the time; and how to achieve and experience better wellness.

Moderator: *David Levesque, Esq., Levesque Law*
Speaker: *Jason Gootman, MS, NBC-HWC, Puvema*

#14 Top Ten Tips for Taking Depositions

In his over 40 years as a trial lawyer, David Soley has examined more than 800 witnesses. Here are the top tips – from Mr. Soley and the audience – for winning trials through depositions.

Speaker: *David A. Soley, Esq., Bernstein Shur*

10:00 - 11:00 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS (1.0 CREDIT)

#15 Avoiding Disputes Through Contract Drafting

Learn about drafting agreements to avoid disputes and how enforcement in litigation affects the interpretation of agreements. This presentation will include basic drafting tips along with practice pointers for more experienced practitioners and would include references to lessons from recent cases, such as *McKenna v. Pray, 2024 ME 58* and *Keep v. Indorf, 2024 ME 14*.

Speaker: *Christopher W. Carmichael, Esq., Pine Coast Law, LLC*

#16 It's Me, Not You...Breaking Up Is Hard To Do (ethics)

Learn about ethical considerations and everyday implications arising out of block departures and firm dissolution. Whether the issue is client concerns, fee disputes, file retention, or all the above, this session is sure to bring helpful insights and practical guidance to any lawyer or firm facing this unique challenge. Panelists will discuss applicable Maine Rules of Professional Conduct and Maine Bar Rules to reflect on while planning your move and once you have made the leap. Bring your questions along for this real-world discussion on emerging issues that face all lawyers in transition.

Moderator: *Aria Eee, Esq., Maine Board of Overseers of the Bar*

Speakers: *Mara R. King, Esq., Maine Board of Overseers of the Bar*
Daniel Pileggi, Esq., Acadia Law Group LLC

#17 Mastering the Opening Statement: Capturing the Jury from the Start

The opening statement is a critical moment in any trial—it sets the stage, frames the evidence, and establishes credibility with the jury. This seminar will provide attorneys with essential strategies for crafting and delivering compelling opening statements. Attendees will learn how to develop a persuasive narrative, structure their presentation effectively, and avoid common pitfalls. The session will include examples, practical tips, and a brief demonstration of effective opening techniques.

Speakers: *Meryl E. Poulin, Esq., Gideon Asen LLC*
Trevor D. Savage, Esq., Gideon Asen LLC

#18 A View from the Bench: If Only We'd Known...

Join us for an engaging and candid discussion as newly appointed judges reflect on their transition from advocate to district and superior court jurists. The judges will share their fresh perspectives on courtroom and motion practice, managing clients in the courtroom and professional conduct. Hear firsthand what surprised them the most after taking the bench, what they wish they had known as practicing attorneys, and practical tips for effective advocacy in the courtroom. Whether you are a seasoned attorney or just starting out, this session offers valuable insights to help litigators better navigate judicial expectations and courtroom dynamics from recent practitioners who remember the challenges of practicing law.

Speakers: *Hon. Daniel J. Mitchell, Maine District Court*
Hon. Julia G. Pitney, Maine District Court
Hon. Heather M. Seasonwein, Maine District Court

11:15 - 12:15 | PLENARY SESSION (1.0 H&D)

#19 Universal Trauma Informed Law Practice Is Best Practice—Practical Tools That Boost Results, Increase Job Satisfaction, and Reduce Liability in a Swiftly Tilting World

The essence of trauma-informed practice is learning to recognize and respond skillfully to the universal human stress response in real time as it operates in ourselves and others, allowing us to see clearly and make good decisions. Brain science explains how stress and trauma temporarily rewire our physiology, enhancing critical functions for surviving a tiger attack but impairing many of the skills useful to lawyers and the people we work with—including critical thinking, creativity, and curiosity. When a stress response is engaged outside of a survival situation, without awareness and some simple intervention, it causes unintended fallout for everyone—including decisions based on incomplete information, incorrect assumptions, disengagement, and impulsive behavior. To mitigate the fallout, attorneys can integrate universal trauma-informed precautions into their practice. These simple tools are easy to learn, applicable in every aspect of our work, and effective at relieving stress, enhancing clarity, and reducing burnout.

Speakers: *Timothy M. Kenlan, Esq., Berman & Simmons PA*
Andrew J. Kull, Esq., Andrew Kull Law
Julia A. Sheridan, Esq., Maine Board of Overseers of the Bar

2025 Summer Bar Conference Registration Form

Attendees of the meeting consent to being photographed for historical and marketing purposes.

Name of Registrant _____ ME Bar # _____

Organization _____

Email Address _____ Tel # _____

Names of Guests/Children _____

Dietary Restrictions/Food Allergies: _____

Registration Information: Pre-registration is available until **June 22**. No registrations will be accepted without payment.

Cancellations: You may cancel your registration for a full refund until 4 p.m. on **June 6**. Cancellations made from June 7–June 17, will be assessed a **\$75 administrative fee**. NO REFUNDS will be made after **June 17**. The date of cancellation is the date received at Bar Headquarters in Augusta.

Walk-In Registrations: All walk-in registrants will be required to pay the applicable registration fee **at the non-member rate**.

1 Full-Meeting Registration

Includes: Wed. reception; Thurs. breakfast, lunch and dinner; Fri. breakfast; and CLE for Thurs. & Fri.

Member: \$475

Non-Member: \$550

Please check the meals you are attending:

Wednesday Reception

Thursday Awards Luncheon

Thursday Dinner

One-Day Registration (either Thurs. or Fri.)

THURSDAY ONLY
(Includes CLE, breakfast, lunch, and dinner)

Member: \$425

Non-Member: \$500

Please check the meals you are attending:

Thursday Awards Luncheon

Thursday Dinner

FRIDAY ONLY
(Includes CLE, and breakfast)

Member: \$350

Non-Member: \$425

2 Meals only (non-registrants & guests)

Wed. Reception@ \$65 x _____ (#) = \$ _____

Thurs. Awards Luncheon ..@ \$45 x _____ (#) = \$ _____

Thurs. Dinner

Adults@ \$75 x _____ (#) = \$ _____

Children 12 and under@ \$25 x _____ (#) = \$ _____

DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION FEES:

- Public Sector members save 10% at checkout.
- New Lawyers Section members save 25% (must call MSBA for coupon code).

RESTRICTIONS:

- Discounts do not apply to meal only tickets.
- One discount code per registration. Discount codes cannot be combined.

HOW TO REGISTER

Online: www.mainebar.org, under CLE/Education.

Mail: Attn: Jennifer Altmiller | Maine State Bar Association, 124 State Street, Augusta, ME 04330

Phone: 207-622-7523, select #2 | **Fax:** 207-623-0083

Email: jaltmiller@mainebar.org

3 Please Select Your Sessions Below

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

8:00-9:15 | PLENARY SESSION

1. A View From the Pines: Legal Trends in Maine and Beyond

9:45-10:45 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2. Fraud in Real Estate Transactions: 2025 Developments

3. Our Duty to the Rule of Law (ethics)

4. Peak Performance: The Extended Mind (ethics)

5. Stand Up and Say Something: Objections Practice

11:15-12:15 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

6. Anxiety, Stress, and Burnout: Wellness Challenges (Young) Lawyers Face and How We Can Better Support Them (ethics)

7. The Business and Ethics of Law Firm Withdrawal (ethics)

8. Avoiding the Oops: A Look at Malpractice Trends in Maine and the U.S.

9. Persuasion is the Point: Effective Written Advocacy for the Modern Practitioner

2:00-3:00 | PLENARY SESSION

10. Normalizing Attorney Well-Being by Eliminating Stigma (ethics)

3:15-4:15 | YOGA

Restorative Yoga

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

8:30-9:30 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11. Catastrophic Workplace Injury Claims

12. Data Privacy Essentials: Practical Strategies for Attorneys and Clients

13. Lawyer Tools for Better Physical, Emotional, and Mental Wellness (ethics)

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10:00-11:00 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

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18. A View from the Bench: If Only We'd Known...

11:15-12:15 | PLENARY SESSION


19. Universal Trauma Informed Law Practice is Best Practice (H&D)

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