

2026 NEBA *Annual Meeting*

— OCTOBER 22-24, 2026 —
AC HOTEL PORTLAND DOWNTOWN/WATERFRONT



MEETING INFORMATION

REGISTRATION:

Register online at www.newenglandbarassn.org or submit your registration form by email or mail no later than **Oct. 18**. No registrations will be accepted without payment.

CANCELLATIONS:

You may cancel your registration for a full refund through **Oct. 13**. Cancellations made Oct. 14-18 will be assessed a **\$100 administrative fee**. NO REFUNDS will be issued after **Oct. 19**. The date of cancellation is the date received at MSBA Headquarters in Augusta. To cancel your in-person registration, please contact Colin Marquis-Boutin at cmarquisboutin@mainebar.org or 207-622-7523.

DRESS CODE:

Dress is business casual.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Registrants, instructors, exhibitors, and guests attending the event agree that they may be photographed during the event. Photographs taken during the event are the property of NEBA, and NEBA reserves the right to use attendees' names and likenesses in promotional materials without providing monetary compensation.

CLE CREDITS:

Friday, Oct. 23: 5.0 live credits, with the opportunity to earn 1.0 ethics credit

Saturday, Oct. 24: 1.0 live credit

RESERVE YOUR ROOM TODAY!

A discounted room block is available at the AC Hotel Portland Downtown/Waterfront. Rooms are limited, and the discounted group rate is available through Sept. 21, 2026. [Reserve your room today!](#)



ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS

The New England Bar Association gratefully recognizes the following organizations supporting the Annual Meeting:



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

- 3:00-5:00** Meeting Registration
- 5:00-6:30** Welcome Reception at [Shipyard Brewing Company](#)
- 6:30** Dinner on your own in Portland
Visit the [webpage](#) for recommended dining options in Portland.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

- 7:30** Meeting Registration
- 7:30-9:00** Breakfast Buffet
- 7:45-8:45** NEBA Board of Directors Breakfast Meeting
- 9:00-10:00** Session One (1.0 credit)
Emerging Legal Trends & What They Mean for Bar Leaders
- 10:00-10:15** Break
- 10:15-11:15** Session Two (1.0 credit)
Essential AI for Attorneys
- 11:15-11:30** Break
- 11:30-12:30** Session Three (1.0 credit)
Challenges Facing New England's Courts: A Supreme Court Justice Roundtable
- 12:30-2:30** Lunch, Roll Call of the States & Keynote Address (1.0 credit)
The Jailhouse Lawyer
- 2:30-2:45** Break
- 2:45-3:45** Session Four (1.0 ethics)
Addressing Attorney Well-Being: Actual Change to Reduce Risk, Improve Outcomes, & Build Sustainability
- 3:45-6:00** Explore Portland (free time)
For ideas on things to see, do, and explore while in Portland, go to [visitportland.com](#).
- 6:00-7:00** Cocktail Reception
- 7:00-9:00** Dinner & Trivia
Passing of the gavel

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

- 7:30-9:00** Hotel Breakfast Buffet (Voucher)
- 9:00-9:50** Fireside Chat with ABA President Barbara Howard & NCBP President Juan Thomas
- 10:00-11:00** Session Five (1.0 credit)
Rural Access to Justice in New England: Defining the Problem & Exploring Potential Solutions
- 11:00** Program Adjourns

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

9:00-10:00 | SESSION ONE (1.0 CREDIT)

Emerging Legal Trends & What They Mean for Bar Leaders

Back by popular demand, Chris Newbold of ALPS returns to NEBA for an updated look at emerging trends in the legal profession and what they mean for bar leaders. This session will highlight key developments, challenges, and opportunities shaping the profession and the work of bar associations.

Speaker: *Chris Newbold, ALPS*

10:15-11:15 | SESSION TWO (1.0 CREDIT)

Essential AI for Attorneys

This discussion will give the audience a practical high-level understanding of AI: how LLMs work, what really happens when we prompt generative AI tools, and how AI memory works. We will also provide an overview of various AI tools, with examples of how they could be used in the legal field.

Speaker: *Berkeley Almand-Hunter, Ph.D., The Roux Institute at Northeastern University*

11:30-12:30 | SESSION THREE (1.0 CREDIT)

Challenges Facing New England's Courts: A Supreme Court Justice Roundtable

Supreme Court justices from across New England will discuss some of the most pressing issues facing their state courts today. Moderated conversation will explore shared and state-specific challenges, along with strategies courts are using to respond, adapt, and address the evolving needs of the justice system.

Panelists: *Chief Justice Valerie Stanfill, Maine Supreme Judicial Court*
Associate Justice William Bright, Connecticut Supreme Court
Associate Justice Harold E. Eaton Jr., Vermont Supreme Court
Associate Justice Erin L. Prata, Rhode Island Supreme Court

12:30-2:30 | LUNCH & KEYNOTE ADDRESS (1.0 CREDIT)

The Jailhouse Lawyer

Join Calvin Duncan as he explores how evolving laws have made it harder for prisoners, especially those from impoverished backgrounds, to access the justice system. The discussion will also examine the distinctive dynamics of attorney-client relationships and highlight the crucial role of jailhouse lawyers.

Speaker: *Calvin Duncan, J.D., Director, Light of Justice Program, Loyola University New Orleans*

2:45-3:45 | SESSION FOUR (1.0 ETHICS)

Addressing Attorney Well-Being Actual Change to Reduce Risk, Improve Outcomes & Build Sustainability

Prioritizing attorney health is not just an ethical imperative, but a sound financial strategy that can deliver a significant return on investment through reduced malpractice and disciplinary risk, less turnover, lower absenteeism, higher productivity, and enhanced client outcomes. While legal organizations often express a commitment to wellness, structural pressures and the demands of fee generation frequently send a conflicting message to lawyers and staff. During this session, we will discuss the transition from superficial initiatives to systemic, policy-based, process-oriented changes that can promote a culture where well-being is embedded into day-to-day operations in legal workplaces. Concrete strategies that ensure attorneys and staff are supervised effectively, monitored for well-being challenges, and encouraged to seek help foster a sustainable professional environment that supports core human values, while contributing measurable value to the organization.

Panelists: *Gavin F. Alexander, Esq., Jackson Lewis PA*
Jonathan M. Dunitz, Esq., Verrill

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

10:00-11:00 | SESSION FIVE (1.0 CREDIT)

Rural Access to Justice in New England: Defining the Problem & Exploring Potential Solutions

Join us as our panel discusses the growing shortage of lawyers in less densely populated communities in New England and evaluates strategies, both successful and unsuccessful, that have been employed in an effort to address the problem, as well as new, as-yet-untried ideas for improving access to justice in those areas.

Panelists: *Donald Hayes, Esq., Director, South Royalton Legal Clinic, Vermont Law and Graduate School*
Toby D. Jandreau, Esq., District Defender, Aroostook County Rural Defender Unit
Mark C. Rouvalis, Esq., New Hampshire Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission
Dean Leigh I. Saufley, University of Maine School of Law

NEBA Annual Meeting Registration Form

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

Name of Registrant _____ Bar # _____ State _____

Organization _____

Email Address _____ Tel # _____

Names of Guests _____

Dietary Restrictions/Food Allergies: ☐ Gluten-Free ☐ Vegan ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Other: _____

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Registration (Thursday - Saturday)

Includes: Thurs. welcome reception; Fri. breakfast, lunch & reception/dinner; Sat. breakfast; and all CLE.

MEETING

☐ Attendees: \$375

Please check the meals you are attending:

- ☐ Thurs. Reception
- ☐ Fri. Breakfast
- ☐ Fri. Board of Directors Breakfast Meeting
- ☐ Fri. Lunch
- ☐ Fri. Reception/Dinner
- ☐ Sat. Hotel Breakfast Buffet (Voucher)

Non-Registrants & Guests: Meals Only

Includes: Thurs. welcome reception; Fri. breakfast & reception/dinner; Sat. breakfast.

MEALS	PRICE	QTY (#)	TOTAL
Non-Registrant/Guest	\$175	_____	_____

FRIDAY LUNCH	PRICE	QTY (#)	TOTAL
Non-Registrant/Guest	\$56	_____	_____

Total Meal Cost: \$ _____

Payment Information

☐ Check Enclosed # _____ Registration Subtotal \$ _____



Additional Meals Subtotal \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ CSC Code _____

Name on Card _____

Billing Address _____

Telephone _____ Signature _____

HOW TO REGISTER

Online: www.newenglandbarassn.org

Mail: Attn: Colin Marquis-Boutin | Maine State Bar Association, 124 State Street, Augusta, ME 04330

Phone: 207-622-7523, option #3 | **Fax:** 207-623-0083

Email: cmarquisboutin@mainebar.org