



Nationwide Changes and Alaskan Impacts

2026 AK Bar Convention Agenda

April 29 – May 1, 2026

Centennial Hall Convention Center, Juneau

All events hosted at Centennial Hall Convention Center unless noted

Wednesday, April 29

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Registration Open

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Opening Reception

Sponsored by Clio

Hangar on the Wharf

2 Marine Way, 106

Join us for the Opening Reception, where you can connect with colleagues in a relaxed and inviting atmosphere. Enjoy light appetizers and great conversation. A cash bar will be available.

8:00 p.m.

Social Activity (TBA)

Hosted by the Juneau Bar Association

Thursday, April 30

7:00 a.m.

Morning Activities - Start your Day with Colleagues!

Optional Coffee Stroll, Fun Run & Yoga. Meet at the registration area of Centennial Hall. All activities are led by member volunteers

8:00 – 8:50 a.m.

Registration & Exhibits Open

Light Breakfast

8:50 – 9:00 a.m.

Welcome Address

Rebecca Patterson
President, Board of Governors
Sonosky Chambers Sachse Miller & Monkman LLP

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

U.S. Supreme Court Opinions Update

(1.5 General CLE credits)

Sponsored by Banker Law Group

A comprehensive review of recent decisions of the United States Supreme Court.

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky
University of California Berkeley Law School

Professor Laurie Levenson
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Networking Break/Exhibits Open

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

U.S. Supreme Court Opinions Update (Con't)

(1.5 General CLE credits)

Sponsored by Banker Law Group

Dean Chemerinsky and Professor Levenson

12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Lunch: AI in Legal Practice: Practical Uses and Risks

(1.5 General CLE credits)

Sponsored by Stoel Rives

Explore how artificial intelligence is transforming law firms and courtrooms. Walk away with a ready-to-use prompt library and hands-on strategies for leveraging ChatGPT, Copilot, AI-powered legal research platforms, and other tools in your daily practice.

Paul Unger
Affinity Consulting

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. **Alaska Appellate Law Update** (1.5 General CLE credits)
Sponsored by Birch Horton Bittner & Cherot

A comprehensive review of recent decisions of the Alaska Supreme Court and the Alaska Appellate Courts.

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky
University of California Berkeley Law School

4:00 – 4:15 p.m. **Networking Break/Exhibits Open**

4:15 – 5:15 p.m. **Alaska Legislative Update** (1.0 General CLE credits)
Sponsored by Faulkner Banfield

Overview of current bills before the Alaska Legislature impacting the practice of law, the court system, and the judicial branch.

Nancy Meade
General Counsel, Alaska Court System

5:15- 6:45 p.m. **Awards Reception –**
Light appetizers and cash bar while we celebrate the 2026 award winners: (9 awards)

- Bryan P. Timbers Pro Bono Awards
- Judge Nora Guinn Award
- Rabinowitz Public Service Award
- Board of Governors Awards

6:45 p.m. **Social Activity (TBA)**
Hosted by the Juneau Bar Association

Friday, May 1

7:00 a.m. **Morning Activities - Start your Day with Colleagues!**

Optional Coffee Stroll, Fun Run & Yoga. Meet at the registration area of Centennial Hall. All activities are led by member volunteers

- 8:00 – 8:50 a.m. **Registration & Exhibits Open**
Light Breakfast
- 8:50 – 9:00 a.m. **Welcome Address**

Rebecca Patterson
President, Board of Governors
Sonosky Chambers Sachse Miller & Monkman LLP
- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. **Alaska Supreme Court Panel** (1.0 General CLE credits)
- 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Networking Break/Exhibits Open**
- 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Lawyers and Civic Engagement: How Attorneys can Educate and Engage the Public** (1.5 Ethics credits)
Sponsored by Aglietti Offret & Woofter

Jason DeSanto
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law
- 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Annual Bar Update/Meeting** (1.0 General CLE credits)
Recognize
 • 25, 50, 60 Year Membership Recognition
 • In memoriam recognition
 • Pro Bono Champions
- 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

1) Trial Practice Tips (1.5 General CLE Credits)
Sponsored by 49th Estate Planning

Gain practical insights and strategies from experienced local attorneys to improve courtroom preparation, presentation, and advocacy skills.

Tricia Collins
Superior Court (Retired)

Bailey J. Woolfstead
Alaska Department of Law

Rachel Bergartt
Baxter Bruce & Sullivan P.C.

Mark Choate
Choate Law Firm

2) My Story: A Lived Experience of the Criminal Justice System (1.5 Ethics Credits)

Christina Love shares her powerful personal journey through the criminal justice system as a defendant, victim, and now advocate. Drawing on her lived experiences with domestic violence, trafficking, incarceration, substance use recovery, homelessness, and disability, Christina offers a deeply human perspective on the intersection of trauma, mental health, and the justice system, while highlighting pathways toward healing and meaningful systems change.

Christina Love
Alutiiq/Sugpiaq/Unanga, Egegik Tribal Member
Indigenous Storyteller, Survivor, Multi-Level Advocate
U.S Commissioner on Civil Rights
United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Networking Break/Exhibits Open

3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

1) Mitigating the Impact of Workplace Trauma
(1.0 Ethics credits)

Sponsored by Landye Bennett Blumstein

Trauma can deeply impact both clients and the attorneys who represent them. Clients may struggle with fear, grief, or impaired decision-making, while attorneys can experience secondary trauma, compassion fatigue, and burnout from repeated exposure to difficult cases. This session explores how trauma affects both parties and offers strategies for attorneys to support clients effectively while protecting their own well-being.

Robert VandePol
Founder, VandePol Crisis Response Services LLC

- 2) **Federal Court Update** (1.0 General CLE credits)
Sponsored by Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Monkman LLP

A report on current issues, successes, and happenings in United State District Court, District of Alaska.

Chief Judge Sharon Gleason
USDC, District of Alaska

Michael J. Heyman
U.S. Attorney, District of Alaska

Jamie McGrady
Federal Public Defender, District of Alaska

4:15 p.m.

Convention ends - [Enjoy First Friday in Juneau!](#)

The 2026 Alaska Bar Convention agenda is subject to change.

The 2026 Alaska Bar Convention provides up to a total of **13 CLE credits**. Plenary sessions offer 9.0 General CLE credits and 1.5 Ethics credits. Concurrent session offer 2.5 General CLE credits and 2.5 Ethics credits.

SAVE THE DAY AND YOUR TIME

Get covered in minutes.

You got into this business to help people. Until now, the villain in your story has been the time it takes to complete all those PDF applications. With ALPS, you can apply, pay, and secure your malpractice coverage in a flash!

“The policy options and premiums for a solo practice are very competitive.”

★ Trustpilot



alpsinsurance.com

Proudly endorsed by
Alaska Bar Association



ALPS
www.alpsinsurance.com



DENALI SPONSORS

ALPS

ALPS is legal insurance made easy! Founded by lawyers for lawyers in 1988, ALPS offers comprehensive malpractice and business insurance solutions making it easy for you to protect your entire firm. As the Alaska Bar Association's endorsed carrier, they understand how valuable your time is. That's why the ALPS insurance application is flexible, easy, and 100% online. Apply, review your quote, accept and pay in as little as 10 minutes.



[Apply now.](#)

To learn more about what ALPS can do for Alaska attorneys, call [\(800\) 367-2577](tel:8003672577) or visit alpsinsurance.com/alaska.

BANKER LAW GROUP, P.C. - *Sponsoring U.S. Supreme Court Opinions Update and the Awards Reception*

Banker Law Group's philosophy is based on a dedication to protecting and preserving the dignity and rights of people living in Alaska.

People call us when they have obviously complex cases, as well as when insurance companies fail to treat them with dignity and respect by making settlement proposals that are not reasonable. The Anchorage personal injury lawyer at Banker Law Group, Anthony Banker, is committed to securing fair outcomes for his clients. It isn't always easy. It often requires hard work, intelligence, and perseverance.



We find our work especially rewarding because it is a unique opportunity to help our neighbors in very difficult situations. <https://www.bankerlaw.com/>



BANKER
INJURY LAW GROUP

Aviation & Maritime Law
Insurance Bad Faith
Catastrophic Injury & Wrongful Death

Call 907-222-2999 www.bankerlaw.com



GRIZZLY SPONSORS

CLIO - *Sponsoring the Opening Reception*

Clio is the world's leading provider of cloud-based legal technology, trusted by 400,000

legal professionals. As the industry's only end-to-end software solution, Clio centralizes client intake, case management, document automation, payments, accounting and more - powered by AI on its unified platform. Recognized by 100+ bar associations and law societies globally, Clio has the most 5-star reviews of any legal practice management software.



Redeem your Alaska State Bar* discount below and schedule a demo to begin working in Clio today!

[Redeem your discount](#)

*Clio is a legal technology solution recommended by the Alaska State Bar. Members of Alaska State Bar receive a 15% discount on Clio products, excluding Clio Draft.



EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT FOR ALASKA BAR MEMBERS

10% off Clio products

Connect everyone and everything
across your firm with the leading
legal software

[Book a demo](#)



GRIZZLY SPONSORS



LANDYE BENNETT BLUMSTEIN LLP – *Sponsoring Mitigating the Impact of Workplace Trauma*

Our growth and success are grounded in a firm culture committed to providing exceptional legal representation, advice and advocacy that is practical and laser-focused on the needs and objectives of our clients. This commitment has driven us to the leadership position we occupy today in Alaska's unique legal environment of many specialized practice areas including Alaska Native law, real estate, utilities, municipal law, environmental law, and banking.

LBBLawyers.com



Trusted legal counsel
for Alaska's businesses,
communities, and organizations.



LBBLawyers.com | 907-276-5152



EAGLE SPONSORS

SONOSKY, CHAMBERS, SACHSE, MILLER & MONKMAN LLP – *Sponsoring the Federal Court Update*

Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Monkman, LLP was established fifty years ago, in 1976, with a single purpose – to represent Indian tribes. And our focus remains today on preserving and expanding the rights and interests of tribes. We represent tribes across Alaska and throughout the country in litigation, lobbying, economic development, health care, self-determination and self-government, transportation, tribal government, and much more. We have offices in Juneau, Anchorage, Albuquerque, San Diego, Portland, and Washington D.C., and practice at all levels of tribal, federal and state courts.

SONOSKY, CHAMBERS, SACHSE, MILLER & MONKMAN, LLP

510 L STREET, SUITE 310
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 258-6377

302 GOLD STREET, SUITE 201
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
(907) 586-5880

WWW.SONOSKY.COM



WWW.SONOSKY.COM

**OVER 50 YEARS OF
WORKING TOGETHER**

For more than 50 years, Trident's success has been built by people we work with – the fishermen who fish for us, the employees who work with us, the customers and suppliers who partner with us, and the communities who collaborate with us to responsibly share wild Alaska seafood with the world.

We're in this for the long run. We're in this together. We're committed to ensuring a sustainable future for all.

Trident
TridentSeafoods.com

© Trident Seafoods Corporation

TRIDENT SEAFOODS

Trident Seafoods owns and operates shore-based processing facilities in 10 coastal communities in Alaska, serving hundreds of independent catcher vessels in nearly all major commercial fisheries off Alaska. In addition, Trident has two floating processors used to support seasonal peak salmon and groundfish processing needs in several communities throughout the year. Trident also owns and operates 3 catcher processors, 15 catcher vessels, and their Unalaska support center. Trident is a global leader in product development and creating new markets for wild Alaska seafood through its research and development, value-added processing facilities, and sales offices around the world.

Trident is family owned, founded by Chuck Bundrant, with a multi-generational business strategy. Trident reinvests in Alaska each year, with intent to provide markets for Alaska fishing fleets for generations to come.

FIREWEED SPONSORS

FOLEY PEARSON RIEKKOLA IVERSON, P.C.

Foley Pearson Riekkola Iverson, PC is a full-service estate planning and probate law firm in Anchorage, Alaska, helping clients efficiently navigate the complexities of wills, trusts, probate, and business succession planning. Their structured approach minimizes stress, ensuring clients stay organized and focused on what matters most. Committed to excellence, integrity, and superior service, Foley & Pearson has become a trusted guide for families in Alaska and beyond, assisting with estate administration, planned giving, and charitable bequests to create lasting legacies. <https://www.foleypearson.com/>

NAEGELI DEPOSITION & TRIAL

Since 1980, NAEGELI Deposition & Trial has been the trusted provider of court reporting and litigation support services for attorneys and legal professionals throughout the nation. Our commitment to continuous training, professionalism and advanced technology ensures your case is expertly handled from discovery to verdict.

For law practices big and small, our comprehensive suite of services is designed to meet any litigation request, whether you require Court Reporting, Legal Transcription, Transcript Summaries, Videography, Remote Depositions, Legal Interpreting, Trial Support or Copying and Scanning. Discover how NAEGELI can provide the winning advantage to your next deposition or trial.