



2025 AK Bar Convention
April 23-25, 2025
Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, Anchorage
(updated 4/14/2025)

Wednesday, April 23

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Registration Open
Sheraton, 2nd Floor Lobby

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Opening Reception
Sheraton, The Summit, 15th Floor

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.

Sponsored by Clio

8:00 p.m.

Hospitality Suite
Sheraton, Suite 1315
Hosted by Anchorage Bar Association

Thursday, April 24

All events hosted on the 2nd floor unless noted

7:30 – 8:20 a.m.

Registration & Exhibits Open
Light Breakfast

- 8:20 - 8:30 a.m. **Welcome Address**
Jeffrey Robinson
President, Board of Governors
Partner, Ballard Spahr
- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **U.S. Supreme Court Opinions Update (1.5 credits)**

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

Sponsored by Banker Law Group
- 10:00 – 10:25 a.m. **Networking Break/Exhibits Open**
- 10:25 – 10:30 p.m. **Clio Introduction**

Join Kevin Connell for a brief introduction to Clio, a legal technology solution recommended by the Alaska Bar Association. Members receive a 15% discount on Clio products (excluding Clio Draft).
- 10:25 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **U.S. Supreme Court Opinions Update (Con't)**
(1.5 credits)

Dean Chemerinsky and Professor Levenson
- 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch: Federal & State Courts Update (1.0 credits)**

A report on current issues, successes, and happenings in both the state and federal courts of Alaska.

Chief Justice Susan Carney
Alaska Supreme Court

Senior U.S. District Judge Ralph Beistline
US District Court; District of Alaska

Sponsored by Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Alaska Appellate Law Update (1.5 credits)

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

Sponsored by Banker Law Group

3:00 – 3:25 p.m.

Networking Break/Exhibits Open

3:25 – 3:30 p.m.

vLex Fastcase Introduction

Join TJ Diggins for a quick introduction, a preview of Friday's legal research training, and a conversation about how AI tools like Vincent are shaping the future of legal research.

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Ethics: Succession Planning
(1.5 Ethics credits)

Join Mark and a panel of Alaska Bar members for an insightful discussion on succession planning. Whether you're a solo or small firm attorney, a government lawyer, or in private practice, planning for retirement and a smooth transition is essential. Learn how to identify the right successor, transfer your clients seamlessly, and wrap up loose ends effectively. Gain valuable best practices and expert advice to ensure a successful transition.

Mark Bassingthwaighe, Esq.
Risk Manager, ALPS

Kara Nyquist

Nyquist Law Group

Brent Cole

Law Office of Brent R. Cole

Sponsored by Foley & Pearson P.C.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Awards Reception

Light appetizers and cash bar while we celebrate the 2024 & 2025 award winners:

- Bryan P. Timbers Pro Bono Awards
- Judge Nora Guinn Award
- Rabinowitz Public Service Award
- Board of Governors Awards
- Benjamin Walters Distinguished Service Award
- 25, 50, 60 Year Membership Recognition
- In memoriam recognition

Sponsored by Birch Horton Bittner & Cherot, PC

7:00 p.m.

Hospitality Suite

Sheraton, Suite 1315

Hosted by Anchorage Bar Association

Friday, April 25

All events hosted on the 2nd floor unless noted

7:30 – 8:20 a.m.

Registration & Exhibits Open

Light Breakfast

8:20 - 8:30 a.m.

Welcome Address

Jeffrey Robinson

President, Board of Governors

Partner, Ballard Spahr

8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Keynote Address - The Modern Supreme Court and the Rule of Law (1.5 credits)

Neal Katyal

Lawyer, Professor, Former Acting Solicitor General & Author

Sponsored by Banker Law Group, Jermain Dunnagan & Owens P.C. and Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Monkman LLP

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Networking Break/Exhibits Open**

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Ethics: Thinking Ethically About AI (1.5 Ethics credits)**

Are you aware of the Rules of Professional Conduct that apply to AI use in legal practice? Join us to explore the ethical implications, ensure compliance, and navigate this evolving AI landscape—both for yourself and opposing counsel.

Jason Brandeis

Senior Counsel, Birch Horton Bittner & Cherot

Phil Shanahan

Bar Counsel, Alaska Bar Association

Sponsored by Rogers Law Group LLC

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch: AK Bar Update & Annual Bar Meeting/Passing of the Gavel (0.5 credits)**

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. **How to Make Pro Bono a Part of Your Practice (1.5 credits)**

Join our keynote speaker and a panel of Alaska Bar members for an engaging discussion on integrating pro bono work into your practice. Learn practical strategies, hear real-world experiences, and discover how giving back can enhance your career while serving the community. Whether you're in private practice, government, or a firm, find ways to make pro bono a meaningful and sustainable part of your work.

Moderated by Lea McKenna

Pro Bono Director, Alaska Bar Association

Panelists:

- *Neal Katyal, Keynote speaker*
- *Ben Hofmeister, Attorney General's Office*
- *Chelsea Riekkola, Foley & Pearson*
- *Leslie Need, Landye Bennett Blumstein*

Sponsored by Ballard Spahr-Lane Powell

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Networking Break/Exhibits Open

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

vLex Fastcase Training (1.25 credits)

Join us for an engaging in-person training designed to help you harness the full potential of the vLex Fastcase platform, included in your member benefit with the Alaska Bar Association! Explore our cutting-edge legal research tools, discover customizable features, and experience game-changing AI-driven insights like Case Analysis with Headnotes.

Led by T.J. Diggins, your dedicated Customer Success Representative, this session will provide actionable insights and tips to save time and supercharge your legal research process!

T.J. Diggins
Customer Success Representative
vLex Fastcase

4:30 p.m.

Convention ends

The 2025 Alaska Bar Convention provides a total of 13.25 CLE credits of which 3.0 credits are Ethics credits.

The 2025 Alaska Bar Convention agenda is subject to change.