

2026 CORPORATE COUNSEL COLLEGE



April 16 - 17
Four Seasons
Hotel Chicago
Chicago, Illinois USA

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

12:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

IADC CORPORATE COUNSEL TRAINING ACADEMY

For in-house counsel newer to the role. For information as it becomes available, please view the Corporate Counsel Training Academy webpage at www.iadclaw.org/events/2026-corporate-counsel-training-academy/

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

COCKTAIL RECEPTION (CHICAGO REGIONAL MEETING)

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

BREAKFAST

8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS

Spencer H. Silverglate, *Corporate Counsel College Dean, Clarke Silverglate, P.A., Miami, FL USA*

J. Dominic Campodonico, *IADC President, Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP, San Francisco, CA USA*

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Supreme Court Advocates Weigh-in on Business-Related Cases the Court Will Decide During the 2025 Term (October 2025 Through April 2026)

Leading appellate advocates and constitutional law experts will lead a timely discussion of the U.S. Supreme Court's latest opinions and cases still pending in the October Term 2025. Panelists will unpack major holdings, highlight fractures and alignments within the Court, and offer insights on how upcoming decisions could impact the legal landscape for businesses and the broader risk environment facing companies in a shifting judicial climate.

Moderator: **Marief Brookins**, *Counsel, U.S. Chamber Litigation Center, Washington, DC USA*

Speakers: **Professor William Baude**, *University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, IL USA*; **Jonathan Y. Ellis**, *McGuireWoods LLP, Washington, DC USA*; **Kannon Shanmugam**, *Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, Washington, DC USA*

9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

NETWORKING BREAK

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

DEIA on Trial: What is "Illegal Discrimination" and the Future of Diversity in the Workplace?

The past decade has seen an increase in DEIA programs in the workplace (including various Employee Resource Groups), often backed by studies showing that diversity and belonging leads to better corporate outcomes. The landscape changed, however, in 2025 due to Executive Orders issued by the new Administration and various current events that caused many corporations to question the limits of freedom of expression at work. Panelists will discuss the current landscape through both a legal and strategic lens, focusing on the status of state and federal law, as well as current EEOC initiatives in order to provide guidance on what is permissible, what is risky, and how best to align DEIA efforts with evolving compliance expectations, business goals, and corporate culture.

Moderator: **Karen R. Glickstein**, *Freeman Martin McKee, Kansas City, MO USA*

Speakers: **Mark Fahleson**, *Rembolt Ludtke LLP, Lincoln, NE USA*; **Nancy Laben**, *Chief Legal Officer, Booz Allen, Washington, DC USA*

11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

NETWORKING BREAK

SCHEDULE

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Evolving Agencies, Enduring Obligations: What Counsel Need to Know

The landscape for practice before administrative agencies is changing, driven by executive orders, policy memoranda, and shifting enforcement priorities. Yet companies' obligations—and the consequences of missteps—remain significant. This session will examine current trends within the Department of Justice and key agencies, including the SEC and EEOC, and their practical implications for investigations, compliance, and litigation strategy. A panel of experts will share concrete recommendations to help in-house and outside counsel recalibrate expectations, update playbooks, and continue to advocate effectively amid uncertainty.

Moderator: **Natalie T. Furniss**, SVP, P&C Legal
Commercial, Nationwide Insurance, Columbus, OH USA

Speakers: **John Gore**, Jones Day, Arlington, VA USA;
Patrick McInerney, Spencer Fane LLP, Kansas City, MO
USA; **Elizabeth L. Mitchell**, WilmerHale, Washington, DC
USA

12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

NETWORKING LUNCHEON

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JUDICIAL LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC TRUST

Judge Michael Y. Scudder, U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Seventh Circuit, Chicago, IL USA

Judge Michael Scudder joined the court in May 2018, filling the vacancy created upon the retirement of Judge Richard Posner. From 2009 until confirmed in 2018, Judge Scudder was a partner in the Chicago office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, where he practiced complex civil litigation and white collar defense.

From 2007 to 2009, Judge Scudder served in the White House as General Counsel of the National Security Council. He also previously served at the United States Department of Justice on a national security team in the office of the Deputy Attorney General and for four years as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York. He is a former law clerk to Justice Anthony M. Kennedy of the Supreme Court of the United States and to Judge Paul V. Niemeyer of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

For the last ten years, Judge Scudder has taught National Security Law at the University of Chicago.

Judge Scudder also teaches a course in Advance Federal Jurisdiction at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.

Moderator: **Spencer H. Silverglate**, Clarke Silverglate,
P.A., Miami, FL USA

2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

NETWORKING BREAK

SCHEDULE

2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Defending With Empathy and Authenticity: Acknowledging Harm Without Conceding Liability

This panel of esteemed trial lawyers and in-house counsel will discuss the importance of acknowledging the anger jurors feel toward corporate clients along with proven strategies for moving jurors beyond those emotions to decide cases on the law and facts at issue. The program will address effectively defending clients amid the rise in anti-corporate sentiment among jurors; understanding how jurors process injury, grief, and blame; and tools the trial lawyer can use to diffuse the emotional impact of a sympathetic plaintiff. This includes cross-examining a sympathetic plaintiff without losing the jury emotionally and reframing the narrative toward fairness to all parties. Panelists will share real world examples of their experience in high-stakes litigation to illustrate how empathy and authenticity result in better outcomes.

Moderator: **Sandra J. Wunderlich**, Tucker Ellis LLP, Saint Louis, MO USA

Speakers: **Gerrod Bede**, General Counsel, Red Roof Inn, Columbus OH USA; **Allison M. Brown**, Kirkland and Ellis LLP, Philadelphia, PA USA; **Heidi K. Hubbard**, Williams & Connolly, LLP, Washington, DC USA; **Beth Wilkinson**, Wilkinson Stekloff, Washington, DC USA

3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

NETWORKING BREAK

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Not on My Watch: Prevention, Investigation, and Defense of Workplace Violence Claims

This program will discuss the growing trend in workplace violence, intimidation, and physical harassment across the nation. Our panel will offer the perspectives of outside counsel who investigate these matters, corporate security who strive for prevention and mitigation, and in-house legal responsible for advising business leaders on physical protections, cyber-security, and employment considerations. The audience will learn about assembling an emergency response team and strategizing around proactive measures to prevent known and perceived threats or areas of weakness. Our esteemed panel will also share experiences in defending and litigating these matters in the courts.

Moderator: **Ronald J. White**, Associate Deputy Counsel, Illinois Agricultural Association, Bloomington, IL USA

Speakers: **Frank Boudreaux**, Interim Head of Corporate Security, COUNTRY Financial, Bloomington, IL USA;

Melisa Ho, Associate General Counsel, Cavco Industries, Phoenix, AZ USA; **Edward L. Stanton III**, Butler Snow, LLP, Memphis, TN USA

5:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

CONCLUDING REMARKS - DAY ONE

Spencer H. Silverglate, Corporate Counsel College Dean, Clarke Silverglate, P.A., Miami, FL USA

J. Dominic Campodonico, IADC President, Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP, San Francisco, CA USA

5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

RECEPTION

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

7:45 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

From Due Diligence to Decommissioning: Managing AI Risk in the Legal Department

Join a panel of experienced in-house and outside counsel as they examine the pressing challenges facing corporate legal departments with the growing integration of artificial intelligence in business operations. The conversation will include an overview of the current litigation landscape, relevant regulations, ethical obligations and requirements, and regulatory developments that shape risk considerations for AI adoption and use. Panelists will discuss best practices for incorporation of strategies for vetting, selecting, contracting with, monitoring, and auditing AI vendors, as well as discussing current hot topics and mitigation of the biggest legal risks related to AI facing legal teams.

Moderator: **Brandee J. Kowalzyk**, *Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, Atlanta, GA USA*

Speakers: **Laura Fey**, *Fey LLC, Leawood, KS USA*; **Christa Haskins**, *Director, Information Governance, eDiscovery & ESI, Becton Dickinson, Franklin Lakes, NJ USA*; **Kirk Nahra**, *WilmerHale, Washington, DC USA*

9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

NETWORKING BREAK

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Supply Chains on Trial: Legal Risks, Judicial Response, and How to Build Resilience

Global supply chains are experiencing growing scrutiny from courts, regulators, and consumers. This session will examine the evolving legal landscape impacting sourcing, manufacturing, and end-of-life for products while addressing key risk areas, including greenwashing claims, forced labor, conflict minerals, environmental compliance, and extended producer responsibility. The panelists will provide practical strategies for in-house counsel to manage risk and strengthen their compliance frameworks, including diligence documentation, supplier audits, and regulatory tracking. Attendees will learn how to build resilience and litigation-readiness in an era of heightened accountability.

Moderator: **Roy Prather**, *Beveridge & Diamond PC, Baltimore, MD USA*

Speakers: **Shani Harper Alexander**, *Senior Counsel, Gilead, Washington, DC USA*; **Shelbee Hundley**, *Deputy General Counsel & Assistant Corporate Secretary, Amrize, Chicago, IL USA*; **Kirsten W. Konar**, *General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Chemring Group North America, Chicago, IL USA*; **Stephanie Penninger**, *Associate General Counsel, Supply Chain, Wayfair, Boston, MA USA*

11:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Spencer H. Silverglate, *Corporate Counsel College Dean, Clarke Silverglate, P.A., Miami, FL USA*

Mark R. Beebe, *2027 Corporate Counsel College Dean, Adams and Reese LLP, New Orleans, LA USA*

GENERAL INFORMATION



LOCATION

Four Seasons Hotel Chicago
120 East Delaware Place, Chicago, Illinois 60611 USA
Phone: +1.312.280.8400
Fax: +1.312.280.1748
www.fourseasons.com/chicago

A vibrant hub of culture, style, and energy, Four Seasons Hotel Chicago is iconic luxury reimagined to capture the essence of Chicago through inspired food, drink, art, and music. Experience unrivalled lake and skyline views at the heart of the Magnificent Mile and North Michigan Avenue's best shopping and attractions.

RESERVATIONS AND ROOM RATES

The room rate, which is subject to the current applicable occupancy and sales tax per room, per night, is \$375 single/double occupancy for a King Guestroom. In order to make your hotel reservation you must first register for the meeting with the IADC. Once registered, a link will be generated by the IADC, along with your registration confirmation, that will allow you to secure a hotel room at the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago. You must contact the hotel directly, either by web link or telephone. Hotel reservations in IADC's room block and at the group rate are for registered attendees only. **Reservations must be made on or before Tuesday, March 24, 2026.** Unused rooms held for this meeting will be released on this date. Any reservation requests received after March 24, 2026 will be accepted only on a space-available basis at the group rate. Please note that the room block may fill before March 24, so we encourage you to register with the IADC so that you can make your hotel reservation early. Cancellations must be made at least 24 hours in advance of check-in or a penalty equal to one night's room rate, plus tax and service penalty, will be charged. Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and check-out time is 12:00 noon CST.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Average one-way cab fare to the hotel from O'Hare International Airport is \$45-\$55 and from Midway Airport is \$40-\$50. GO Airport Express provides service from both O'Hare and Midway airports to downtown Chicago for discounted fares. For more information, visit the GO Airport Express website at www.airportexpress.com. During rush hour times, you may consider taking the Orange Line train (Midway) or Blue Line train (O'Hare) to the downtown Loop stations and taking a short cab ride to the hotel. (www.transitchicago.com)

CLIMATE AND DRESS

When packing for your trip, please note that average temperatures in Chicago this time of year range from a high of 60 degrees Fahrenheit to a low of 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Business casual attire (slacks, button down/blouse/sweater, skirt) is recommended for the meeting.

REGISTRATION FEES AND PROCEDURES

Registration is available online only. IADC outside counsel members - contact your in-house clients today and invite them to join you at the Corporate Counsel College. Outside counsel members and partners of members can attend the College only if they are accompanied by a client. The package registration fee is \$2,195 [includes one outside counsel (\$1,700) and one ticket for an in-house client (\$495)]. The fee for additional clients is \$495 each. For in-house counsel and insurance executive members and in-house counsel and insurance executive non-members who are attending on their own, the fee is \$495.

Register online at www.iadclaw.org/events/2026-corporate-counsel-college.

CLE CREDIT

Approximately 8.0 hours of general CLE credit in 60-minute states and 9.6 hours of general CLE credit in 50-minute states will be requested for accreditation from all mandatory continuing legal education jurisdictions.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CPD CREDIT (CANADA)

The IADC is a Pre-Approved Provider of CPD Credit with the Law Society of British Columbia. The Quebec CPD Committee recognizes courses approved by other Canadian bars as approved in Quebec. 8.0 CPD credits are available for attendance at the Corporate Counsel College.

CANCELLATION POLICIES

Registration Fee: A CASH REFUND, less a \$150 processing fee, will be made if a written notice of cancellation is received by the IADC office more than thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the meeting. No reason for the cancellation need be provided for a timely notice of cancellation. NO CASH REFUND will be made if notice of cancellation is received by the IADC office thirty (30) days or less prior to the first day of the meeting. However, if special circumstances arise before the meeting which prevent attendance, a member may request a future meeting credit. The request needs to be in writing and submitted to the IADC office. It should be directed to the Finance Committee's attention and note the special circumstances which caused cancellation. The credit request can only apply to meeting registration fees (not air, hotel, activity, tour, or special event fees) and, if approved, will be valid for use toward any IADC meeting for one (1) year from the date of the meeting for which credit is requested. A \$150 processing fee will be deducted from the total future meeting credit. All future meeting credit requests will be considered by the Finance Committee and the decision of that Committee will be final.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have any special needs during the meeting (i.e. diet or accessibility), please contact Melisa Maisel Vanis, Director of Meetings and Professional Development, at mmaisel@iadclaw.org.

DATA PRIVACY AND COLLECTION

Data is collected on attendees through registration for the purposes of executing the meeting and communicating with attendees about the meeting. Meeting sponsors have access to the registration list provided to all attendees. If any attendee has questions on data use and privacy, please contact Executive Director and CEO Mary Beth Kurzak at mkurzak@iadclaw.org.

PHOTO POLICY

Photos are taken at the meeting by staff and hired photographers and those photos of attendees may be used in association marketing. If you wish to not be included in photos that are used in association marketing, please contact Ashley Hatfield, Director of Communications, at ahatfield@iadclaw.org.

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Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP, San Francisco, CA USA

Mark D. Hansen, IADC President-Elect

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Fred M. "Tripp" Haston, III, *Bradley LLP, Birmingham, AL USA*

Brandee J. Kowalzyk, *Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, Atlanta, GA USA*

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Thomas W. "Trea" Southerland III, *Federal Express Corporation, Memphis, TN USA*

Ronald J. White, *Illinois Farm Bureau, Bloomington, IL USA*

Sandra J. Wunderlich, *Tucker Ellis LLP, Saint Louis, MO USA*

Stephen J. Zralek, *Spencer Fane LLP, Nashville, TN USA*

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

In-house counsel responsible for hiring and managing outside counsel /

Senior insurance industry executives / Corporate compliance officers /

Senior executives and counsel to non-profit corporations /

Heads of corporate governmental relations departments /

Heads of litigation departments / Experienced outside defense trial counsel

The IADC Corporate Counsel College is designed to be an interactive and dynamic learning experience that takes advantage of the vast knowledge and experience of panelists, in-house corporate counsel, and the outside counsel attendees. While each session will follow a slightly different format, panelists and moderators will share their experiences and what they learned. The moderators will engage the audience and panel members in a spirited and educational discussion about the issues, sometimes posing hypothetical situations to stimulate further discussion.



“As an in-house attorney, I get invited to a lot of programs targeting general counsel. I have been to many, but I keep coming back to the **IADC Corporate Counsel College**.

I have always been impressed by the level of programming, attention to what matters today for in-house lawyers, and the networking opportunities. If you want to learn from subject matter experts, meet colleagues wrestling with the same issues that you are, and perhaps find a lawyer for your next big case, you won't go wrong attending the CCC.”

– Matt Cairns, Senior Associate General Counsel, Textron, Inc.



“Highly recommended (the **IADC Corporate Counsel College**) conference for in-house and outside counsel.

Having attended, I can vouch for the quality of the substantive content, the presentations and speakers.

Thank you to IADC and our speaker panels!”

– Ronald White, Associate Deputy Counsel, Illinois Farm Bureau



“As General Counsel for HNTB Corporation, a national transportation infrastructure consulting firm, I have found attending the **IADC Corporate Counsel College** to be extremely valuable. It gives me an opportunity to build upon existing relationships, and develop new ones, with outside and in-house counsel. The participation of IADC leadership provides a chance to get to know them in a more intimate environment than the larger meetings. The programs offered are timely, relevant, and presented by true experts. It has become an annual event that I don't want to miss.”

– George E. Wolf, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, HNTB Corporation

