

47th Annual Corporate Counsel Institute
May 15-16, 2025 • Royal Sonesta Hotel Houston • Houston, TX
May 15-16, 2025 • Live Webcast

Thursday Morning, May 15, 2025

Presiding Officer:

Chantel Jordan, Golden Laurel Advisors / ACC Houston - Houston, TX

7:30 am In Houston Only	<p>Registration Opens</p> <p>Includes continental breakfast.</p>
8:20 am	<p>Welcoming Remarks</p>
8:30 am 1.00 hr	<p>Privacy Law Update</p> <p>Nearly a year after the effective date of the new Texas privacy laws, gain up-to-date practical solutions and best practices for maintaining privacy compliance programs across all states with effective or pending state consumer data privacy laws. In addition, examine pending enforcement priorities and how to achieve a culture and posture of compliance that will pass regulatory scrutiny.</p> <p>Ashley Fischer, Tiff's Treats - Austin, TX Elizabeth Rogers, Winstead PC - Austin, TX</p>
9:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>Annual Employment Law Update</p> <p>Hear the latest labor and employment developments over the last year, focusing on the most significant changes under the current administration.</p> <p>Gary D. Eisenstat, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. - Dallas, TX</p>
10:15 am	<p>15-Minute Break</p>
10:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>Where Are We Now with Non-Competes?</p> <p>As more states move to restrict the enforceability of non-competes, employers are taking increasingly nuanced approaches to protecting sensitive information and goodwill. This session provides an overview of various state and local restrictions on post-employment non-competition agreements and alternatives to traditional restrictive covenants.</p> <p>Jason Boulette, Boulette Golden & Marin L.L.P. - Austin, TX Michael D. Marin, Boulette Golden & Marin L.L.P. - Austin, TX</p>
11:15 am 0.75 hr	<p>Contract Drafting Tips and Tricks in Anticipation of the Aftermath</p> <p>Discuss drafting tips on commonly used contract clauses as well as the litigator's perspective when they become the subject of litigation.</p> <p>Gus Bourgeois, BoyarMiller - Houston, TX Chris Hanslik, BoyarMiller - Houston, TX Nicole Moss, Geophysical Technology, Inc. / ACC Houston - Houston, TX</p>

12:00 pm
In Houston Only

Pick Up Lunch (in Houston)

Included in registration.

Thursday Afternoon, May 15, 2025

Presiding Officer:

Gary D. Eisenstat, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. - Dallas, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:20 pm
0.75 hr

The Texas Business Court: Insights and Impacts after the First Nine Months

Explore the operations and outcomes of the Texas Business Court since its inception in September 2024. Judge Sofia Adrogué, one of the inaugural Houston judges, and commercial litigator Michael Morfey share insights and updates on the Court's handling of complex commercial disputes and its influence on the business legal landscape in Texas.

Hon. Sofia Adrogué, Texas Business Court Eleventh Division - Houston, TX
Michael D. Morfey, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP - Houston, TX

1:05 pm

10-Minute Break

1:15 pm
1.00 hr

Trump 2.0 – The First 100 Days and What is Next

The first 100 days of Trump 2.0 have been tumultuous — a record number of executive orders, the removal of career regulatory leaders, suspension of regulations and public announcements that some laws will not be enforced as aggressively (Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, for example), orders imposing tariffs, major legislation moving through Congress, DOGE and more than a dozen federal lawsuits. What does it all mean for corporate legal departments and corporate compliance officers?

Moderator:

Mark Curridden, The Texas Lawbook and The Dallas Morning News - Addison, TX

Panelists:

Joseph A. Brazauskas, Bracewell LLP - Washington, DC

Elizabeth McGinley, Bracewell LLP - New York, NY

Jeffery B. Vaden, Bracewell LLP - Houston, TX

2:15 pm
0.75 hr

Preparing for an M&A Sale Transaction

This panel of legal and financial advisors covers key topics in preparing for an M&A sale transaction including engaging a financial advisor, trends in deal terms and recent Delaware case law.

Matthew Ochsner, Austin, TX

J. Robert Suffoletta, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. - Austin, TX

Derek L. Willis, Oxy Low Carbon Ventures - Houston, TX

3:00 pm

15-Minute Break

<p>3:15 pm 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics</p>	<p>Handling Internal Investigations: Landmines and Best Practices</p> <p>Internal investigations can be fraught with legal and ethical challenges for GCs to navigate. Explore the different ways that complaints may arise and how GCs should respond. Understand your role as GC in handling any investigation, the key steps to take (protecting privileges, conducting and protecting internal audits, etc.), and the ethical landmines to avoid.</p> <p>Moderator: J. Nicholas Bunch, Haynes Boone, LLP - Dallas, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Adrienne Frazier, Polsinelli - Dallas, TX Carrington Giammittorio, Haynes Boone, LLP - Dallas, TX Jason Varnado, Jones Day - Houston, TX</p>
<p>4:15 pm 0.75 hr</p>	<p>Multijurisdictional Practice, Part 1: Hot Button Compliance Issues and Practical Tips When You Have Business in Multiple States</p> <p>Multi-state compliance issues have become more pressing due to the variety of differing (and sometimes conflicting) state obligations. This session covers how to handle multi-state issues in key hot button areas, including practical tips to manage a multi-state workforce.</p> <p>Brian A. Aslin, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. - Austin, TX Shafeeqa W. Giarratani, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. - Austin, TX</p>
<p>5:00 pm 0.75 hr ethics</p>	<p>Multijurisdictional Practice, Part 2: Ethical Landmines to Avoid</p> <p>None of what we do is confined to one state. All of us have transactions, negotiations, and even litigation that either occur outside of Texas or that involve the laws of other states. And we often travel to other states to do business or are engaged in interstate phone calls and teleconferences. But that's okay, right? And if we're licensed to practice in one state, we can essentially do that kind of practice anywhere, right? Wait, are you sure that the answers to these questions are as clear cut as they seem? This fast-paced, multi-media presentation challenges your thinking, raises issues to ponder, and gives you something to smile about.</p> <p>Michael H. Rubin, McGlinchey Stafford PLLC - Baton Rouge, LA</p>
<p>5:45 pm</p>	<p>Adjourn</p>

Friday Morning, May 16, 2025

Presiding Officer:
Brooks Igo, The Texas Lawbook - Dallas, TX

<p>8:00 am In Houston Only</p>	<p>Conference Room Opens</p> <p>Includes continental breakfast.</p>
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8:30 am 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	<p>Navigating AI Implementation: Governance Across Your Organization and the Ethical Use of AI in Your Legal Department</p> <p>Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming business operations, reshaping how lawyers deliver legal services, and redefining the functioning of courts. It presents unmatched opportunities to streamline workflows, improves decision-making, and opens new doors for growth and efficiency. However, the adoption of AI also introduces unique challenges, especially in addressing the complex ethical and legal issues that arise.</p> <p>Jonathon K. Hance, Bracewell LLP - Houston, TX</p>
9:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>Cybersecurity Litigation and Enforcement Trends</p> <p>Data breaches continue to plague businesses and other organizations. Further, those incidents are often followed by litigation and regulatory investigations. Explore the most common claims and other latest developments and gain practical suggestions for how to prepare and lessen risk.</p> <p>Joseph W. Swanson, Foley & Lardner LLP - Tampa, FL</p>
10:15 am	<p>15-Minute Break</p>
10:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>IP Protection and Ownership</p> <p>Explore different considerations for protecting your intellectual property assets, from ownership and licensing to monetization and enforcement.</p> <p>Natalie Alfaro Gonzales, Yetter Coleman LLP - Houston, TX Brianna Hinojosa-Smith, Yum! Brands - Coppell, TX</p>
11:15 am 0.75 hr ethics	<p>Ethics Lessons from HBO's Succession</p> <p>HBO's hit series "Succession" follows a fictional media company led by a legendary patriarch. As the title suggests, the patriarch's children are angling to seize the throne and succeed their father as the company's CEO. Track the power plays of the company's C-level executives and general counsel, explaining whether their on-screen actions comply with specific ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct (spoiler alert: most of the time, they don't.).</p> <p>Brent A. Turman, Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP - Dallas, TX</p>
12:00 pm	<p>Adjourn</p>