



Annual Mardi Gras Conference
February 4-8, 2026, The Ritz-Carlton New Orleans

WEDNESDAY 2/4/26

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Board of Governors Meeting

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Welcome Reception
Sponsored by **Esquire Bank**

THURSDAY 2/5/26

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Registration and Exhibits Open
Breakfast Sponsored by
Rebekah Reedy Miller, Sage Settlement Consulting; Bloody Mary and Mimosa Bar
Sponsored by **Arthur Funding**

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
CLE Seminar: Vincent J. Glorioso Jr. Trial Advocacy Track, Conference Wi-Fi
Sponsored by **LawRank**

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM
Welcome to New Orleans and Introductory Remarks
STLA President Kenneth M. Suggs, Columbia, SC

Wisdom in Practice: A Southern Trial Lawyer's Perspective, Vince Glorioso, New Orleans, LA

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM
Navigating Forced Arbitration: Strategies to Avoid It and How to Prevail if You Can't
Elizabeth Todd, Morganton, NC

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM
Not My Fault! Examining Common Excuses in Motor Vehicle Accidents
Sagi Shaked, Miami, FL

THURSDAY Continued

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM Break
Refreshments Sponsored by
Mirena and Company

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Effectively Theming the Premises Liability Case
John H. (Jack) Hickey, Coral Gables, FL

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Judicial Insights on Professionalism From the Bench – The Honorable Anne Elizabeth Barnes, Georgia Court of Appeals and The Honorable Alvin T. Wong, State Court of DeKalb County Georgia. Moderated by Adam Malone, Atlanta, GA

12:30 PM CLE Adjourns

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
War Horse Gala
Sponsored by **The Forge Companies, MediVisuals + High Impact**, and **Streamlined Record Retrieval**

9:30 PM – 10:30 PM
President's Dessert Reception
Sponsored by **Mirena and Company**

FRIDAY 2/6/26

8:30 AM – 12:45 PM
Registration and Exhibits Open
Breakfast Sponsored by
Rebekah Reedy Miller, Sage Settlement Consulting; Bloody Mary and Mimosa Bar
Sponsored by **Cite**

FRIDAY Continued

9:00 AM – 12:45 PM
CLE Seminar, Conference Wi-Fi Sponsored by **LawRank**

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
AI and the Law: 2026 and Beyond, S. Randall Hood, Rock Hill, SC and Chad McGowan, Rock Hill, SC

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM
What Lawyers Can Learn from Magicians, Justin Kahn, Charleston, SC

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM Break
Refreshments Sponsored by
Physician Life Care Planning

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM
How to Prepare a Client for a Deposition – The 5/3 Method
Jon Hawk, Macon, GA

11:15 AM – 11:45 AM
AI: Time to Level Up
Jonathan H. Lomurro, Freehold, NJ

11:45 AM – 12:15 PM
New Damages Paradigms to Maximize Case Value
Joseph A. Fried, Atlanta, GA

12:15 PM – 12:45 PM
Ethics, Wellness and Maximizing Performance, Kevin E. Martingayle, Virginia Beach, VA, Harrison Martingayle, New Orleans, LA, and Judge Madeleine Landrieu, Dean of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law

12:45 PM CLE Adjourns

FRIDAY Continued

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Young Lawyers Happy Hour
Location to be Determined
Sponsored by [Gain](#)

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Costumes and Beads on the
Balcony at Galatoire's
Sponsored by [Preferred
Capital Funding](#)

SATURDAY 2/7/26

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
Breakfast and Bloody Mary's
in the Exhibit Hall
Bloody Mary and Mimosa Bar
Sponsored by [RebuttalPR](#)

9:00 AM – 12:15 PM
CLE Seminar, Conference
Wi-Fi Sponsored by [LawRank](#)

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Proven Tips for Opening from
a Damages-Only Trial
Wes Allison, Charleston, SC

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Bad Facts: Making Margaritas
From Limes, Quentin
Brogdon, Dallas, TX

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM.
Finding Your Why: Sustaining
Purpose and Well-Being in a
Demanding Law Practice
Michael A. Haggard, Coral
Gables, FL

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM Break
Refreshments Sponsored by
[Verus LLC](#)

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM
The Plague of Protective
Orders and How to Overcome
Them, Steven Newton,
Fayetteville, GA

SATURDAY Continued

11:15 AM – 11:45 AM
Persuasion and
Communication
R. Rex Parris, Lancaster, CA

11:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Damages House: A New Way
to Ask for Money, Christy
Crowe Childers, Macon, GA

12:15 PM CLE Adjourns

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Crawfish & Shrimp Boil at
Lucy's Retired Surfers Bar &
Restaurant, Sponsored by
[Physician Life Care Planning](#)