



## **March 12-13, 2026, CLE Agenda**

**Spring Convention 2026 – Mid-Year Annual CLE and Networking Event at the Dixie Center in St. George, Up to 8 hours MCLE credit (approval pending from MCLE Board)**

### **“Securing Our Relationships and Our Skills: Practicing Law in Ever-Changing Times”**

#### **Thursday, March 12 CLE & Networking Agenda**

- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.      Registration Desk at Dixie Center Opens, Exhibitor Hall Opens  
Continental Breakfast served in Exhibitor Hall, Ballrooms AB  
Also please visit and support the Utah Legal Services auction, Ballrooms AB
- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.      Welcome to 2025 Spring Convention    Garden Room for Day 1 Welcome  
Utah State Bar Business, including welcoming exhibitors and sponsors, as well as updates from the Bar Commission
- 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.      Opening Keynote Presentation, Garden Room at Round Tables for Dialogue,  
1 hour MCLE ethics credit
- The Obligation of Legal Practitioners for Safety and Security in our Legal Community and for our Judges, a keynote from Paul Kiesel, from Stand Up for Justice/Kiesel Law LLP
- This CLE discussion will focus on how the practice of law is directly impacted by the safety and security of our courthouses and our judiciary. Our faculty will share lived experience working toward protecting those who work and advocate in our courthouses daily and toward ensuring that those who serve are not at risk while working toward justice and fulfilling their oaths as officers of the court.

## **Thursday, March 12 Continued**

- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Morning Break, Visit Exhibitor Hall (Ballrooms AB) , Go to the Utah Legal Services Auction
- 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Second Morning Plenary, Ballrooms CDEF, 1 hour MCLE professionalism/civility credit
- Celebrating the 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Utah State Bar with a panel discussion from Past Bar Presidents about solidarity in our profession and the rule of law in Utah; the “Promise We Keep, Oath of Utah Lawyers” video will be shared during this CLE presentation (please see blog link below for additional information and a copy of the video).
- Panel moderator, John A. Adams, Ray Quinney & Nebeker. Panelists will include Kim Cordova, Bar President, Nathan Alder, Christensen & Jensen, V. Lowry Snow, Snow Jensen & Reece, and Katie Woods, Law Office of Kristin K. Woods.
- <https://www.utahbar.org/protecting-the-courts-protecting-the-public-the-meaning-behind-utahs-attorney-oath/>
- 11:15 – 11:30 a.m. Second Morning Break, Visit Exhibitor Hall, Go to the Utah Legal Services Auction
- 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. Midday CLE, Lunch, and Awards Presentation, Garden Room
- 11:35 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. Awards Presentation of the Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award (advancement of women), Raymond Uno Award (advancement of underrepresented populations), and Well-Being Impact Award
- 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. CLE Address – “A Conversation with our Federal Courts,” A panel discussion with district and magistrate judges from the United States District Court for the District of Utah
- 1 hour MCLE credit
- 1:15 – 1:30 p.m. Early Afternoon Break, Visit Exhibitor Hall, Go to Utah Legal Services Auction

## **Thursday, March 12 Continued**

- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.            Afternoon Breakout Sessions, 1 hour MCLE credit per session
1.     Rich Christiansen from Dentons Durham Jones Pinegar on protecting AI information (held Sunbrook AB)
  2.     Paralegal Division, marks 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Division, and building skills for lawyers and paralegals to work together effectively (held Entrada BC)
  3.     Duane Ostler presentation on Constitutions and Rights (held Auditorium)
  4.     Litigation Section CLE: Offering tips and advice for practitioners (held Ballroom CDEF – Main Plenary Space)
- 2:30 p.m.                    CLE Agenda closes for the day, Up to 4 hours MCLE credit for today

## **Thursday, March 12 Additional Opportunities**

### **YLD Opportunity**

- 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.            Special CLE Offering from Young Lawyers Division, at the Dixie Center (in the Lion's Den at the Dixie Center)  
Training for Wills for Heroes Pro Bono Service, advance registration requested, all licensees eligible to participate
- 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.            YLD Wills for Heroes Service Opportunity with Southern Utah First Responders and Utah Bar Practitioners, at the Dixie Center

### **Pickleball Tradition**

- 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.            Optional Networking Tradition: Annual Pickleball Tournament and Beginner Classes at The Picklr, St. George, Registration required

### **YLD Social Tradition**

- 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.            YLD Event – Food & Fun at Crush Golf (formerly known as Big Shots)  
  
Advance RSVP requested, invitation for all YLD members and for licensees hoping to support and mentor our newest, youngest practitioners

## **Friday, March 13 CLE & Networking Agenda**

- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.      Registration Desk & Exhibitor Hall Opens for Day Two  
Continental Breakfast served in Exhibitor Hall, Ballrooms AB
- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.      Welcome to Day Two, and Utah State Bar business, including President-Elect remarks from Tom Bayles to the assembled audience, Ballrooms CDEF
- 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.      Day Two Opening Keynote Presentation, Ballrooms CDEF, 1 hour professionalism/civility MCLE credit  
  
Presentation from BYU Professor Julianne Holt-Lunstad, about well-being, loneliness and connection, and our professional relationships. The colleagues and mentors around us help teach us, help us develop our practice, and maintain relevance to one another and our community. Our well-being and competence as practitioners rely directly on the relationships and authenticity we build.
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m.      Morning Break, Visit Exhibitor Hall (Ballrooms AB)
- 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.      Day Two Second Plenary Presentation, Ballrooms CDEF, 1 hour MCLE credit  
  
Steve Kelson, of Christensen and Jensen, will share insights and outcomes about the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his research and the 2026 survey on violence in our legal community of Utah and our legal profession.
- 11:15 – 11:30 a.m.      Second Morning Break, Visit Exhibitor Hall (Ballrooms AB)
- 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.      Midday CLE and Lunch, Garden Room, 1 hour MCLE credit  
  
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.  
  
A Conversation with our Courts – The Utah Supreme Court and the Utah Court of Appeals  
Joining us will be Justice Paige Petersen, Justice Diana Hagen, Justice John Nielsen, Presiding Judge Michele Christiansen Forster, Judge David N. Mortensen, and Judge John D. Luthy.  
  
Presentation of the 2025 Judge of the Year Award.

## **Friday, March 13 Continued**

12:45 – 1:00 p.m.      Early Afternoon Break, Visit Exhibitor Hall Break

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.      Day Two Afternoon Breakout Sessions, 1 hour MCLE credit per session

1. The Digital Execution Revolution: From Pen to Pixel", Presented by Christina Alleman CEO TrustSafe LLC (held Sunbrook AB)

The Uniform Law Commission's Electronic Wills Act (UEWA 2019), and Electronic Estate Planning Documents Act (UEEPDA 2023) bring estate planning execution and storage into the digital realm; enforceable digital estate documents signed with the click of a button. Originally led by the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA 1999), it previously excluded Will and Trust documents and required pen-to-paper signatures. This was when the internet was in its infancy, and it was implemented when there was a fear that electronic wills would be less secure than paper wills, and subject to possible tampering by disgruntled heirs. In the 2020's, we know the opposite to be true. Secure, tamper-evident electronic documents are now commonplace, and paper documents present a greater opportunity for fraudsters. Under the UEWA & UEEPDA, digital signatures authorize vital estate documents which allow people broader measures to secure and access vital documents digitally rather than relying solely on paper documents as has been the legal requirement of the past. // The American Bar Association in its publication from the commission on law and aging, [family article](#), stated: *"To eliminate any doubt that electronic estate plans are legal...the Uniform Law Commission approved the Uniform Electronic Estate Planning Documents Act (UEEPDA). This new uniform law will have the same effect as UETA did for electronic contracts – it does not require anyone to use electronic estate planning documents, but it provides that electronic versions of these documents are legally equivalent to paper versions, thus valid and enforceable."*

And while Nevada, in 2001, was the first state to pass its own state laws authorizing digitally signed wills, the [Uniform Law Commission actually credits Utah](#) as the first state to adopt the more comprehensive Uniform Electronic Wills Act (UEWA) during the pandemic of 2020 – quickly followed by Colorado, North Dakota, Washington, Florida, Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Wash DC, North Dakota, and so on. // Utah is also recognized as one of the earliest states to pass the related UEEPDA which was created to complement the UEWA. Both acts are available at [www.uniformlaws.org](http://www.uniformlaws.org). This comprehensive legislation also provides a useful rule for interstate recognition of digital estate documents, requiring probate courts everywhere to recognize these executed documents under the laws of another state and does not require them to comply with any specific technical standard or process; therefore, this legislation will not need to be updated to accommodate future developments.

Part and parcel to these digital laws, the ULC enacted the [Law on Notarial Acts, in 2021 as Revised](#) which allows electronic notarization performed remotely online further demonstrating this country's technological advancements in the area of digital documents. // In its most recent statement, the ABA said: *"Looking ahead a few years, its easy to imagine a world where anyone can meet with an attorney online to create and execute an estate plan – just like they routinely do today with bank accounts and business agreements."*

## **Friday, March 13 Continued**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Day Two Afternoon Breakout Sessions Continued  
Each breakout worth 1 hour MCLE credit per session

2. Pro Bono/A2J breakout session about the service of lawyers to our wider community and the needs of clients (held in Entrada BC)

3. “The Dawning of a New Era: Combining Extractive and Generative AI for New Possibilities”, Presented by Christine Dickover, Lexis Nexis (held in Auditorium)

Chances are, you’re already using extractive Artificial Intelligence (AI) in some areas of your legal practice – whether that be for case search, client management, document preparation, or some combination of these. Now, generative AI – the type of AI that powers tools like ChatGPT – is on the verge of changing the way you research again. This CLE will detail how AI can be harnessed in the legal industry, offering examples, resources, and tips. Additionally, the CLE will cover a lawyer’s ethical duty to use generative AI responsibly to ensure the information generative AI is accurate and reliable to ensure the best outcome for your clients.

4. Litigation Section CLE, including YLD, to offer best practices to lawyers about how to improve their practice and build their repertoire of skills (held in Ballroom CDEF – Main Plenary Space)

2:00 p.m. CLE Agenda closes for the day, Up to 4 hours MCLE credit for today  
Up to 8 hours live, verified MCLE credit for both CLE days (approval pending from the MCLE Board)

## **Golf Tournament**

1:00 – 5:30 p.m. Golf Tournament at Coral Canyon Golf Course, Registration required

## **FOR FULL CONVENTION ATTENDANCE:**

Up to 8 hours of live, verified MCLE credit available (approval pending from MCLE Board),

Including both ethics and professionalism/civility credit available for certain sessions

Please plan to scan the QR code at each CLE session to verify your attendance and receive credit.