



Summer Convention 2026

CLE Agenda

Conference to be held Sun Valley Inn (and Lodge)



The Utah State Bar at 95 Years – Honoring Our Legacy & Building Our Future

**Featured Keynote Remarks from Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson;
Justice Gregory Moeller of the Idaho Supreme Court; and
Lindsey Blake, one of the Lori Daybell prosecutors (and a fellow, local law
school alum)**

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

6:00-9:00 pm Opening reception on the Sun Valley Lodge Terrace/Ice skating available
and dinner served; all attendees, faculty and guests included at event

Thursday, August 6, 2026 - First Day of CLE agenda

7:30 – 9:00 am Continental breakfast and registration, Continental Room
At the Sun Valley Inn with exhibitors in Continental Room also

8:00 – 9:00 am Opening remarks, business reports, first group of awards (4 awards)
Held in Limelight B / Main Ballroom at Sun Valley Inn

Opening welcome and report from the Utah State Bar Commission, Kim Cordova, Utah State Bar President; along with reports from the Utah Bar Foundation and our two Utah law schools.

Awards to be presented on Day One:

1. Committee of the Year – presented to Government Relations Committee
2. Section of the Year – presented to Paralegal Division
3. Special Service Award – presented to Gil Athay
4. Lawyer of the Year – presented to John Moody

9:00 – 10:00 am Opening CLE Keynote – Justice Gregory Moeller, Idaho Supreme Court, held in Main Ballroom / Limelight B (1 hour professionalism/civility)

“Mockingbirds & the Court System: My Journey for Justice”

The presentation explores how Harper Lee’s classic novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, inspired Justice Moeller’s lifelong legal career and directly paralleled a major, real-life murder case he defended early in his career. It is a message of hope in our legal system and shows how one person—inspired by a book—was able to find a measure of justice.

10:00 – 10:15 am Break, Visit exhibitors

10:15 – 11:15 am Morning plenary/keynote session, Main Ballroom / Limelight B
Second plenary CLE – Lori Daybell prosecutor from Idaho, Lindsey Blake
“Lessons for My Colleagues from Prosecuting a High Profile Case”

Thursday, August 6, 2026

11:15 – 11:30 am Snacks in Continental Room / Exhibitor remarks in Limelight B

11:30am – 12:30 pm “Capturing AI's Upside with Confidence, Speed, and Defensibility” (Held in Limelight B/Main Ballroom)

This plenary CLE session, presented by Bennett B. Borden (*Founder & CEO, Clarion AI Partners*), gives lawyers a practical playbook for advising clients on AI adoption, covering: where to start, build-vs-buy decisions, proprietary data as a competitive moat, and designing trustworthy agentic systems. It closes with a regulatory update on Utah's framework and the shifting federal-state landscape attorneys will need to help clients navigate.

12:30 – 12:45 pm Snack Break, Visit exhibitors – Continental Room networking

12:45 – 1:45 pm Breakout series of CLE session (X5 options, 1 hour MCLE each session)

1. “Navigating the Labyrinth: An Expedition Through Modern U.S. Immigration Law” featuring Magistrate Judge Dustin Pead (Limelight B / Main Ballroom)
2. “Utilizing AI in Legal Practices” - This session, presented by Bennett B. Borden (*Founder & CEO, Clarion AI Partners*), introduces classical and generative AI through Bennett's "Iron Man, not Terminator" lens—AI as augmentation, not replacement. It covers building AI governance programs amid a shifting regulatory landscape, including federal executive order updates and Utah's 2025 legislative session, plus emerging litigation trends attorneys should watch. (Limelight C Ballroom)
3. Securities Section presents Michelle Quist sharing insights about recent appellate and SCOTUS decisions, entitled, “A Look at Post-*Liu* Disgorgement and Other Recent SEC-Related Decisions: Managing Shifting Precedent in District Court and Appellate Practices” (Sage Room)
4. Bankruptcy CLE Panel with Engels Tejeda and Ellen Ostrow (Sun Valley Inn Board Room)
5. Litigation Section and YLD co-hosting skill building CLE session: “Becoming Better Negotiators”, Faculty will include: Hon. James Gardner, Elaina Maragakis, Andrés (Andy) Morelli, Ken Okazaki, and Hon. Paige Petersen with moderator for panel, Jonathan Hafen (Limelight A Ballroom)

Thursday, August 6, 2026

3:00 – 5:00 pm Law school receptions and networking opportunities
All conference attendees and alumni are welcome, with families
SJQ at Limelight Terrace, BYU at Duck Pond Lawn

Friday, August 7, 2026 – Second Day of CLE agenda

7:30 – 9:00 am Continental breakfast and registration, Continental Room
Held at the Sun Valley Inn with all exhibitors available

8:00 – 9:00 am Opening remarks, business reports, final awards presentation; oaths of office for Bar Commission/YLD – Limelight B / Main Ballroom

Reports from the State and Federal Judiciary, from Justice Paige Petersen and Judge Jill Parrish, as well as a celebration of Justice Matthew Durrant, receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Judge of the Year Award, presented to Judge James Gardner, Third District

Followed by the administration of oaths to Bar Commission and to Young Lawyers' Division, as well as remarks from incoming Bar President, Tyler Young.

9:00 – 10:00 am Day Two Opening Plenary Session, Held at Limelight B Ballroom at the Inn

“A Conversation with our Courts” - A panel discussion with state and federal judges and a moderator discussing recent changes and developments in our courts. (1 hour ethics MCLE credit)

Our distinguished judicial faculty will include Chief Judge Jill Parrish and Magistrate Judge Cecilia Romero, from the United States District Court for the District of Utah, along with Justice Paige Petersen and Justice Jay Jorgensen, from the Utah Supreme Court, and Judge James Gardner, Third District Court.

Friday, August 7, 2026

10:00 – 10:15 am Break, Visit exhibitors

10:15 – 11:15 am Morning keynote session, Limelight B / Main Ballroom (1 hour
professionalism/civility)

Day Two Keynote – We are honored to include former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, Co-Chair of the ABA Task Force on American Democracy, as our keynote speaker at our 95th anniversary Summer Convention, to share insights with practitioners about the important work of standing together in our advocacy, in our legal practice, and in building our legal community.

11:15 – 11:30 am Snack Break in Continental Room

11:30am – 12:30 pm (Second series of breakout sessions x5, 1 hour MCLE each session)

1. Litigation Section on advocacy skills: “Becoming Better Advocates,” with CLE panel featuring Hon. Rita Cornish, John Mejia, Hon. Daphne Oberg, John Pearce, and Nicole Salazar-Hall, along with moderator Abby Dizon-Maughan (Limelight A)

~~2. YLD hosting a CLE about lawyering skills, mentoring, and well-being (Inn Board Room)~~

3. Securities Section presents a CLE from by Michael Wadsworth and Keith Woodwell – “*What’s the Deal With Securities?* – Using *Seinfeld* to navigate securities law for non-securities practitioners” (Sage Room)

4. Romaine Marshall speaks about “AI’s Evolution & the Future of Foreseeability (legal duties)” (Limelight C Ballroom)

5. “Giving Context to the Colorado River Conundrum: A Limited History of Western Water Law” with Wendy Crowther, Utah AG’s Office (Limelight B / Main Ballroom)

After years of negotiations, the Colorado River Basin states are at an impasse regarding how Lake Powell and Lake Mead should be operated following the expiration of the current operating guidelines on December 31, 2026. Without consensus agreement among the seven Basin States and in the face of unprecedented drought and low reservoir conditions, the United States Department of Interior must issue a Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision determining the operations of these critical reservoirs. This presentation will review key aspects of western water law and the “Law of the River” to help participants understand the legal and operational history behind current Colorado River issues.

Friday, August 7, 2026

1:00 – 5:00 pm Sporting and networking events scheduled (golf, tennis, gun club/trap shooting, and pickleball are all reserved at venue; registration ahead of event required – individual registrants will receive instructions/timing via email from the CLE Department

MCLE CREDITS: (accreditation application pending)

7 hours of total CLE credits offered for full attendance, including at least 1 hour each for ethics and professionalism/civility CLE credits

A New Addition to our Agenda – Please plan to join our colleagues!

Saturday, August 8th, 9 to 11 am

At the Continental Room of the Sun Valley Inn

A Farewell Breakfast for all attendees and families, before making the drive home

No advance registration required – Hope to see you there!

Also, “Sun Valley on Ice” show in the evening of Saturday, August 8 – by individual ticket purchase for ice show and/or for dinner buffet on Sun Valley Resort website.

EVENT Wi-Fi INFORMATION FOR ATTENDEES:

Username: Utah State Bar

Password: Happy95th