

CLE FOR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL SAN FRANCISCO | JANUARY 2020

Speakers



Sonia Martin

Office Managing Partner, San Francisco/Oakland

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Welcome Remarks

Sonia Martin is a partner in Dentons' Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice. She serves as managing partner of the Firm's San Francisco and Oakland offices and is also a member of the Firm's US Board.

Sonia has extensive experience defending consumer class actions against insurers and financial institutions, including claims for alleged violations of California's Unfair Competition Act, Business and Professions Code Section 17200, et seq. Sonia also defends insurers in bad faith and insurance coverage litigation.

She has successfully tried cases in state and federal court, argued matters before the California Court of Appeal and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and obtained published decisions in many cases of first impression



Stafford Matthews

Office Managing Partner, Silicon Valley

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The Future of Smart Contracts (10:00 – 11:00 a.m.)

Stafford Matthews is a technology transactions and intellectual property lawyer and the managing partner of the Silicon Valley office of the global law firm Dentons. He is a US Co-Chair of Dentons Global Technology Media and Telecommunications (TMT) Sector and has been recognized by the US Legal 500 in Venture Capital and Emerging Companies. Mr. Matthews is one of only 11 lawyers in the United States selected as a 2016 BTI Client Services All-Star in the field of Competition and Antitrust Law.

Mr. Matthews is dual qualified as an English solicitor and a US lawyer and has extensive experience in both European and Asian markets. He represents technology and industrial companies worldwide in complex contract negotiations; strategic development and the licensing and exploitation of intellectual property and products; litigation and arbitration of contentious contract disputes; the implementation and use of blockchain and smart contract systems; transactional antitrust and competition law matters in the US and the EU; and the negotiation of cross border alliances and joint development ventures.

Stafford has degrees from University of California at Berkeley, A.B. in Rhetoric, the University of Michigan Law School, and Kings College London, where he holds a post-graduate diploma in European Union Competition Law. He speaks and writes extensively on current legal issues, including the integration of law and technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and smart contracts.



Ausra Deluard
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Ethics Issues for In-House Counsel in 2020 (Ethics) (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Ausra is a member of Dentons' national Health Care practice group, resident in the Oakland office. Her current practice focus is on helping clients in the nascent cannabis industry achieve their business objectives by advising them on the sector's rapidly evolving laws and regulations. Ausra's experience in high-stakes antitrust litigation in the M&A context and in civil and criminal investigations was excellent preparation for counseling companies in avoiding the liability risks of operating in a highly regulated consumer industry. Meanwhile, Ausra continues to advise clients across sectors on contentious and non-contentious antitrust matters relating to proposed acquisitions, global pricing and distribution policies, competitor collaboration, licensing arrangements, interlocking directorates and pharmaceutical settlements.

Ausra earned her JD from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, where she was assistant editor for the Berkeley International Law Journal. She is an adjunct professor at UC Hastings College of Law.



Susan Mitchell
Partner and US Deputy General Counsel, Los Angeles
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Ethics Issues for In-House Counsel in 2020 (Ethics) (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Ms. Mitchell is US Deputy General Counsel and a Los Angeles-based litigator whose primary practices are commercial litigation and representation of federal contractors in government investigations and enforcement proceedings. She has extensive experience in federal and California state court litigation involving allegations of breach of contract, fraud, unfair competition, wrongful termination and other business disputes.

Ms. Mitchell has managed litigation in several False Claims Act (FCA) cases, including representation of one of the defendants in the landmark Supreme Court case of *Allison Engine Co. v. United States ex rel. Sanders*. She has conducted more than 50 internal investigations, and successfully represented contractors in more than 20 investigations by the Department of Defense (DOD) Office of Inspector General, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Office of Inspector General, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS), the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) and the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO). She advises clients on reporting under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Mandatory Disclosure Rule, and compliance issues under the FCA, the Anti-Kickback Act, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and other federal statutes and regulations.

**Lita Abella**

Sr. Program Analyst, Lawyer Assistance Program

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Substance Use & Mental Health Issues Among Attorneys (Competence) (12:30 – 1:30 p.m.)

Lita Abella is a Senior Program Analyst at the State Bar of California. She conducts outreach and presents education programs for the Lawyer Assistance Program which assists law students, bar applicants, and attorneys with substance use and mental health issues. Prior to that, Lita worked as an investigator in the Office of Chief Trial Counsel where she investigated and assisted in the prosecution of attorneys for misconduct. She has been with the State Bar for over 7 years.

Beginning in 1980, Lita served with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) for 20 years, breaking many glass ceilings as a female and minority. She worked various assignments including but not limited to patrol, Internal Affairs, narcotics, vice, and the DARE program. She was a court-qualified narcotics expert during her years in law enforcement and attained the rank of lieutenant.

Lita was also a certified AFAA group exercise instructor for 20 years and is currently a health, wellness, and fitness consultant. She has been in the industry for over 20 years.

Additionally, for the past 20 years, Lita is a business owner and licensed private investigator and has worked in many areas of law including criminal defense and workers' compensation.

Lita holds a Juris Doctor from Western State University College of Law. While in law school, Lita was a law clerk for the Riverside District Attorney's Office and the Office of the Attorney General. She is also a Library Commissioner with the City of Azusa and has served on many boards and committees within many organizations and entities.

**Bety Javidzad**

Partner, Los Angeles

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Addressing Racial & Gender Bias in the Legal Profession (Elimination of Bias) (1:30 – 2:30 p.m.)

Bety Javidzad is a partner in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice who focuses on litigating complex commercial disputes. Among her national and international clients are fintech, financial services, blockchain, fashion and retail, e-commerce and advertising, media and digital media, real estate, food and beverage, dietary supplement and other consumer product companies.

Bety has defended some of the largest organizations in the US and globally against multibillion-dollar competitor suits involving claims of breach of contract, business fraud, false advertising, unfair competition, defamation, trademark and copyright infringement, as well as against multibillion-dollar class actions involving claims of false or misleading advertising, Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) violations and various other consumer protection law claims, including claims related to labor and employment law.

Bety has a strong track record for resolving matters for her clients through early-stage strategy and communication, negotiated settlement, mediation, trial and arbitration. She is recognized by her clients for navigating the most direct and efficient route to victory, and keeping the client's best interests in mind. Bety also advises her clients on how to proactively protect themselves from litigation exposure.



Carol Yur
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Addressing Racial & Gender Bias in the Legal Profession (Elimination of Bias) (1:30 – 2:30 p.m.)

Carol Yur is an associate in the Los Angeles office and a member of Denton's Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice and Employment and Labor group. She has defended employers in wage-and-hour class actions and Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) lawsuits; in cases alleging employment discrimination, wrongful termination and retaliation; and in other employment-related disputes, including administrative actions before the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Her work has included drafting responsive pleadings and briefs, crafting discovery responses and requests, and calculating exposure damages in wage-and-hour cases. She also has experience defending companies in Americans with Disabilities Act website accessibility lawsuits and architectural barrier suits. Carol also defends clients against trade secret misappropriation claims. As a member of the defense team in a breach of contract and fraud case, she won a motion to stay on forum non conveniens grounds. She was also member of a defense team that successfully opposed an ex parte application for a writ of attachment.

Carol has also represented businesses in patent cases across a wide range of technical areas, from Coriolis flow meters to lip synchronization animation, including drafting motions to stay and in limine, and an ex parte application to strike; and twice served as law clerk, first to Judge Lois H. Goodman of the US District Court of New Jersey, where she analyzed and reviewed motions and letter requests in employment-related disputes, breach of contract actions, and other civil matters; and then in Los Angeles County Superior Court, where she drafted opinions on demurrers; writs of mandate and attachment; and opinions on various motions, including for an appointment of a receiver, injunctive relief and set-aside of a default judgment.



Evangelina Almirantearena
VP and Associate General Counsel, Antitrust and Commercial Litigation, Intel Corporation
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Addressing Racial & Gender Bias in the Legal Profession (Elimination of Bias) (1:30 – 2:30 p.m.)

Eva Almirantearena is Vice President, Associate General Counsel, Antitrust and Commercial Litigation at Intel Corporation. Eva has been with Intel since 2004, mainly in the Litigation Group, handling a wide variety of matters, including antitrust litigation and investigations, commercial litigation and misappropriation of confidential information and trade secrets. Eva is Intel Legal's Diversity Leader, a member of Intel Legal's Diversity & Inclusion Steering Committee and leads Intel Legal's Outside Counsel Diversity & Inclusion Program team. She is also co-chair of Intel Legal's Pro Bono Committee. Prior to joining Intel, Eva was an antitrust partner at Howrey in Northern California and, before that, was a trial attorney at the Antitrust Division of the US Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.



Judith Shopket Sidkoff
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The California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) (2:45 – 3:45 p.m.)

Judith is a member of Dentons' Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice, focusing on complex commercial litigation. She has extensive class action experience, specializing in defense of alleged violations of unfair competition, consumer protection, and data privacy laws. She has represented individual and corporate clients across multiple industries, including insurance, real estate, technology, manufacturing, and sports equipment. She has litigated disputes over international contracts, policy coverage, products liability, trademark and trade dress, malpractice, unfair competition and consumer fraud in both state and federal court, as well as in arbitration. Judith manages all phases of discovery, analysis and trial preparation in large-scale, multi-party disputes. She has counseled clients on compliance with state consumer privacy laws, local employment laws, corporate governance issues, and the preparation of advertising, direct marketing, internet marketing, employee handbooks, and customer contracts.



Peter Stockburger
Senior Managing Associate, San Diego
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The California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) (2:45 – 3:45 p.m.)

Peter Stockburger, senior managing associate, focuses his practice on the unique intersection between cybersecurity, data privacy, and employment law. Peter regularly advises clients on a broad range of cutting-edge legal issues, including cybersecurity resiliency and data privacy compliance under international legal regimes including the GDPR and CCPA, workplace disputes, and complex trade secret and breach of contract matters. Peter is a frequent author and speaker in the areas of cybersecurity and data privacy, including with groups such as the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (NATO CCDCOE) in Tallinn, Estonia, the US Cyber Institute at West Point, and the Daily Journal. He recently participated as an international expert in cybersecurity on projects commissioned by the University of Leiden in the Netherlands, the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom, and the NATO CCDCOE. Peter previously served as a “virtual fellow” with the US Department of State, where he provided counsel on international labor issues, and has served as an adjunct professor at the University of San Diego School of Law in the area of cyber law and as an advisor with the University of San Diego's School of Engineering and Center for Cyber Security Engineering and Technology. Peter has been recognized as a Rising Star by Southern California Super Lawyers Magazine every year since 2015.