



A SALVAGED AFFAIR

Repurposed Responsibility and a Celebration at Salvage One

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024 | SALVAGE ONE, CHICAGO

PROGRAM AGENDA

1:00 PM | Registration

1:25 PM | Welcome and Introduction

Christine Binotti, Chapter Past President, Event Co-Chair

Amy Keenan, Chapter Past President, Event Co-Chair

Helena Ledic, Chapter Board Member, Event Co-Chair

1:30 PM | WELLNESS MEETS WORKPLACE: PRESERVING PRODUCTIVITY WHILE SUPPORTING EMPLOYEES

This will be a timely and important conversation about:

- The different ways that mental health challenges manifest themselves in the workplace
- The obligation to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with a disability, including mental health disabilities
- Assessing mental health during the ADA interactive process
- The challenges associated with managing mental illnesses in the workplace
- Managing stress and burnout in the workplace, particularly among attorneys

Presenters

Peter A. Steinmeyer, Managing Shareholder Chicago Office, Epstein Becker Green, Chicago

Shira M. Blank, Member of the Firm, Epstein Becker Green, New York

David G. Susler, Associate General Counsel, National Material L.P., Elk Grove Village

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EPSTEIN
BECKER
GREEN

2:30 PM | BREAK

2:45 PM | MISCONCEPTIONS V. REALITY: A PRIMER ON THE WORK OF DEI

The recent Supreme Court decision in the Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College has added to misconceptions when it comes to the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Some believe DEI programs exist to give benefits to people from certain backgrounds, while excluding others. Others believe it's about giving preferences to certain groups when it comes to hiring and promotion. What the work is really about is:

- identifying and working to eliminate the barriers to success people from historically marginalized backgrounds encounter, whether those barriers are experienced on a personal or systemic level, and
- reshaping organizational culture to be more inclusive and welcoming of people from all backgrounds.

In this session we will try to dispel any misconceptions created by SFFA (or otherwise), while exploring the ways in which DEI professionals can still achieve their goals while minimizing risk.

Presenter

Meghana Shah, Partner-in-Charge DEI Policy and Strategy and Partner in the Litigation Group (New York), Eversheds Sutherland

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EVERSHEDS
SUTHERLAND

3:45 PM | BREAK

4:00 PM | IMPROV FOR WELLNESS

We live and work in a fast-paced, electronic driven world. As technology continues to advance and impact our lives, finding the balance and maintaining genuine human connection personally and professionally can be challenging and can affect our wellness. Our Improv workshop uses AI (Applied Improv) to focus on uniquely human qualities such as creativity, emotional intelligence, adaptability and collaboration. Improv is based on human interaction and authenticity; these skills remain crucial in helping us find balance and move forward in ever changing professional and personal environments.

This workshop teaches legal professionals how to use improv as a tool to better their legal practice and lives. From creative problem solving, working in teams, and building trust to create balance. The tools incorporate basic human skills which can be lost arts in today's corporate environments. Applying basic improv skills to not only your team but your personal development can improve the attorney/client experience and help grow or maintain your practice, achieve better outcomes and create a more well-balanced life.

Presenters

Amy Westrup, Applied Improv Instructor, CSZ, Milwaukee

Alan Guskowski, Applied Improv Instructor, CSZ, Milwaukee

THE CELEBRATION

5:15 – 8:30 PM

Networking, Cocktails, Awards and Raffles



Thurgood Marshall Award Of Excellence Recipient | Katherine Vega

Kathy is an attorney with Accenture's Litigation and Disputes team and has almost 25 years of experience helping business teams navigate and resolve disputes and handle litigation matters. Kathy serves as a trusted advisor to the business teams when disputes arise with clients, vendors, or other third parties. She helps Accenture business teams assess legal arguments, strategize options and approaches, assist with communications, negotiate with opposing counsel, prepare settlement documentation, and guide their teams through the dispute process. She brings experience in a broad spectrum of complex, commercial litigation representation, including contract and delivery disputes; trade secret violations; fraud claims; negligence actions; breach of fiduciary duty claims and other business torts. She also has experience with creditors' rights and bankruptcy litigation. In addition to this, Kathy serves as the Midwest lead for Accenture Legal Access- their global pro bono program designed to maximize Accenture's efforts and drive greater access to justice globally. Kathy also serves as a member of the Accenture Legal Disability Inclusion team, which is striving to recruit, develop, and retain talented people with disabilities.

Prior to joining Accenture in 2012, Kathy was a partner in the Chicago law firm of Neal, Gerber Eisenberg where she handled a variety of commercial litigation matters. She spent her first few years of practice in the Chicago office of Latham Watkins. Outside of work, Kathy devotes much of her time to serving on the Board of Trustees of the Glenview Public Library and the Glenview Public Library Foundation as well as several regional committees for her alma mater Duke University. She chaired her former firm's Women's Network and served on committees at her church. Over the years she has also participated in various pro bono matters and other community service projects.



Chapter Member Of The Year Award Recipient | Christine Binotti

Christine Binotti is Lead Counsel at Motorola Solutions where she is the head of a global team of lawyers, para-professionals and immigration specialists supporting the Employment, Immigration, and Employee Mobility function of the nation's leading mission critical communications and solutions provider. She is an accomplished leader with more than 20 years of experience as a C-suite advisor, legal strategist and diversity champion who embodies inclusivity as a personal value, known for investing in and developing high performing teams.

Christine is the current ACC Chicago Advocacy Chair and Co-chair of this event. She has previously held the positions of Chair of Street Law, Programs Director, and Chapter President. She is active at the ACC National level as a member of the Employment and Labor Network and a recognized speaker on key employment issues, diversity, equity and inclusion and leadership. Christine graduated from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and now lives in Oak Park with her partner Nick, 14-year-old twins and cavapoo Coco.

Thank you to the 2024 PR Event & Celebration Committee

CO-CHAIRS

Christine Binotti, Lead Counsel, Motorola Solutions

Amy Keenan, Senior Counsel – Marketing and Product, Camping World & Good Sam

Helena Ledic, Associate General Counsel, CSC

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Michelle Ruff, Assistant Vice President Corporate Counsel, Harrison Street Real Estate Capital

Katherine Sams, Chief Legal Counsel North America, DeLaval, Inc.

SPEAKER BIOS

Wellness Meets Workplace: Preserving Productivity While Supporting Employees



Peter A. Steinmeyer, is the Managing Shareholder Chicago Office, Epstein Becker Green, Chicago. When a highly valuable employee moves from one company to another, attorney Pete Steinmeyer is an employer's first call. Whether losing an employee to a competitor or hiring one away, companies trust Pete to respond at a moment's notice with practical advice in plain English. Knowing he may only get one shot, he thrives in fast-paced, high-stakes environments while protecting a company's most valuable data, trade secrets, and customer relationships. Pete diffuses stressful situations with humor and candor to help his clients decide what is truly important before they act.

Outside of his employee mobility practice, Pete counsels employers on responding to a wide variety of workplace challenges, including discipline and discharge. He also leads investigations of alleged workplace misconduct, such as harassment and retaliation. Through close communication and meticulous analysis of the details, Pete uncovers potential problems early. And when the facts show his client is in the right, he'll fight to the end to prove it. Pete is a thought leader who frequently writes and speaks about employment and workforce mobility issues. He is also Managing Shareholder of Epstein Becker Green's Chicago office.



Shira M. Blank defends companies against lawsuits alleging violations of all aspects of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including with respect to the accessibility of public accommodations and technology, and equivalent state and local laws. Employers also rely on Shira's representation to defend against litigation involving claims of discrimination, sexual harassment and hostile work environment, retaliation, wrongful termination, whistleblowing, and wage and hour violations, among others, in state and federal courts and before various federal, state, and city administrative agencies. Her clients include retailers, health care organizations, and financial services companies.

While the COVID-19 pandemic spurred a significant increase in lawsuits involving accessible technology, Shira has been handling hundreds of these cases over the last three years. And as companies were forced to reduce their workforces because of the pandemic, Shira worked with clients on methods of avoiding litigation related to the layoffs, including assisting with resolutions pre-litigation. Clients value Shira's superb negotiation skills, responsiveness, and extensive trial experience, and her ability to secure good results in litigation matters, including, in some instances, having the litigation withdrawn altogether.



David G. Susler is Associate General Counsel for National Material L.P., a privately held, minority owned manufacturing company, with operating companies throughout the U.S., Mexico, Canada and China. He has been with NMLP since 2007 and has practiced in-house since May 1999. Previously, David was in private practice for 12 years, focusing primarily on litigation. He received both his BA and JD from the University of Illinois.

David has helped run the ACC Chicago Law Student Diversity Summer Internship Program since 2006 and is the current co-chair of that committee. He served on the ACC Chicago Chapter board from 2004 – 2017 and is a past chapter President. He has volunteered with Posse Foundation and served on the Leadership Council of Posse Chicago since 2009, including as co-chair from 2015-2017. He is currently a member of the board of directors of Legal Prep Charter Academy High School in Chicago and is a member of the board's governance committee. He also served on the board of directors, including as president for 4 years, of REST, a homeless shelter and services agency in the Uptown neighborhood of Chicago from 1989 – 2004. David is the co-author, along with his wife, Tina Martini (a partner at McDermott Will & Emery), of "Inside Out," a recurring column published in Chicago Lawyer Magazine, since April 2010.

Misconceptions V. Reality: A Primer On The Work of DEI



Meghana D. Shah is a Partner in the New York City office of Eversheds Sutherland. She is a dynamic and solution-focused litigator with over two decades of experience managing all aspects of domestic and international litigation and investigations. Meghana's expertise includes handling class action and large-scale multi-district litigation, as well as managing multi-lingual, international investigations around the world. She is also the founder and leader of the Cannabis Industry Team at Eversheds Sutherland, advising clients on a range of cannabis-related issues. Meghana is also the Partner-in-Charge of DEI Policy and Strategy (US) at the firm. In that role, she works hand-in-hand with the Managing Partner and Chief Diversity Officer on all aspects of the firm's DEI program. Beyond her practice, community service, civic engagement and pro bono work are an important part of her professional life. She is a member of the Board of Directors of SAPNA NYC, co-founder of the South Asian Bar Association of Connecticut, and passionate pro bono advocate, having represented political asylees seeking asylum in the United States throughout her career.

Improve For Wellness

Amy Westrup came up through the ComedySportz workshop program and has now been a professional player and coach with ComedySportz for 9 years. With her background in professional services marketing, she naturally gravitated toward wanting to teach professionals how to apply improv skills to improve their work life and performance. She teamed up with fellow improvisors to develop CSZ's Applied Improv Program and is the creator of "Improv for Attorneys" which has been approved for Continuing Legal Education credit in 7 states.

Ms. Westrup served as the Executive Director of the Association of Corporate Counsel-Wisconsin for 8 years. In 2022 she was honored by the Wisconsin Law Journal as a Legal Unsung Hero and in 2022. Amy is the Owner of MKW Consulting and AI MKE, providing business development consulting for professional service providers. Amy was previously a Principal and Co-Founder of Shift Worldwide a virtual production and training company, served as Director of Marketing & Communications for the Milwaukee Bar Association and as Director of Marketing for Weiss Berzowski Brady LLP, a mid-sized full-service law firm in WI.

Ms. Westrup is a founding member of the Long-Form Improv Troupe, GoodLanders and a member of Voyager Comedy and has been a guest performer throughout the United States. Amy has taught "Applied Improv" and "Improv for Attorney's" workshops around the country to numerous professional and non-profit associations, corporations and law firms. Ms. Westrup is a member of the Global Applied Improv Network and is a graduate of Saint Louis University, with a B.A. in Communication/Public Relations.

Alan Guskowski has been performing and coaching improv since 2001, primarily with ComedySportz Milwaukee (CSZ). He has led improv workshops of various levels in both the creative and corporate setting. Alan has been the Lead Instructor for many long-standing programs at CSZ, including; CSZ's Kids Camp and High School Leagues, and is one of three, primary instructors for corporate, non-profit and education workshops. Alan is the co-author of the "Applied Improv for Business" Workshop.

Alan serves as the instructor for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Theatre Program where he teaches Improv and Advanced Improv courses. He also conducts cross-training Applied Improv Programs with the Lubar School of Business at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Alan is highly sought-after guest Theater Instructor at the High School and Collegiate Level. He has taught 100s of workshops both in-person and virtually for numerous professional and non-profit associations, corporations and law firms, including; WI Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Association of Trial Lawyers, Northwestern Mutual, SC Johnson, KONE Corporation, Greenfield School District, University of Wisconsin, and Marquette University. He is a Consultant for AI MKE where he both teaches and develops customized corporate workshops. Alan is a Producer of the 20-year live show, The Midnite Show, a member of Voyager Comedy and performs with improv and sketch comedy groups around Milwaukee and the Midwest. Alan Guskowski is a graduate of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a dual degree in Theatre Studies and Theatre in Society.