



AGENDA

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Online CLE Program | 4.25 Hours CLE

MORNING SESSION

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | 2.0 Hours CLE

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. | Session 1 – 45 Minutes

What Makes a Good Associate?

What do partners really expect from young associates? Practical advice on communication, taking ownership, meeting deadlines, handling feedback and avoiding common mistakes.

Speakers: Jennifer Egbe, Huie Fernambucq & Stewart LLP, Birmingham
Megan Jones, Clark May Price Lawley & Paul LLC, Birmingham

YLS Session Leader: Caitlin Cobb, Capell & Howard PC, Montgomery

10:15 – 11:00 a.m. | Session 2 – 45 Minutes

Professionalism & Civility: Why It Matters

Professionalism and civility are not simply rules of good behavior for lawyers. They are critical parts of the infrastructure that sustains public confidence in the rule of law, the legitimacy, and the effectiveness of the judicial branch itself.

Speaker: Chief Justice Sarah Stewart, Supreme Court of Alabama, Mobile

Ethics CLE Credit

YLS Session Leader: Kevin Bufford, Samford & Denson LLP, Opelika

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. | Session 3 – 30 Minutes

Artificial Intelligence in a Young Lawyer's World

Learn how lawyers are using AI in day-to-day legal practice, including research, drafting and case preparation. This session will also cover the benefits and risks of AI, verification of AI-generated content, confidentiality, firm policies, and ethical and professional responsibility considerations.

Speaker: Bruce Barze, Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC, Birmingham

YLS Session Leader: Murphy Barze, Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC, Birmingham

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch Break

Years 1–3: Learning How to Practice Law

This session will cover what to expect during the first three years of practice, including managing deadlines and billable hours, responding to feedback, working with different partners, and developing legal judgment and confidence.

Speakers: Jarred Kaplan, Holtsford Gilliland Hitson Howard Stevens Tuley & Savarese PC, Montgomery

Nathan Hill, Lanier Ford, Huntsville

YLS Session Leader: Nathan Hill, Lanier Ford, Huntsville

Building Your Career: From Young Associate to Partnership

This session will provide practical guidance for young lawyers on building a successful long-term career, including understanding the path to partnership, finding mentors and sponsors, becoming involved in professional associations, developing a professional network, and establishing a strong reputation within the legal community.

Speakers: Kim DeShazo, Webster Henry, Birmingham

Chris Williams, Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC, Mobile

YLS Moderator: Katherine Peek, Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC, Mobile

Young Lawyer Roundtable: What I Wish I Had Known

This roundtable will offer practical advice for navigating the first few years of practice, including early-career mistakes, firm culture and expectations, workload, time management, and working with different partners and work styles. Panelists will also discuss building relationships, career paths at different-sized firms, work-life realities, and the advice they wish they had received as young lawyers.

Small Firm: Amanda Goozee, Swift Currie McGhee & Heirs, LLP, Birmingham

Medium Firm: Felicia Long, Hill Hill Carter Franco Cole & Black PC, Montgomery

Large Firm: Melody Eagan, Lightfoot Franklin & White LLC, Birmingham

YLS Moderator: Amanda Graham, Gaines Gault Hendrix PC, Birmingham

This course or a portion thereof has been approved by the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission of Alabama for a maximum of 4.25 hours' credit, including 1 hour of ethics.