



NCLDB

REGISTER
TODAY!



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LAWYER DISCIPLINARY BOARDS VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

February 4-5, 2021

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Thursday, February 4, 2021

1:00 - 1:30 pm EST **Welcome and Opening Session
Meet and Greet**

Marianne J. Lee, *President, NCLDB*
Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland (AGC)

Joseph S. Berman, *President-Elect, NCLDB*
Board of Bar Overseers of the Supreme Judicial Court

1:30 - 1:45 pm **Break**

1:45 - 3:00 pm **Roundtable of Jurisdictions**

Gayle B. Larkin
Kansas Board for Discipline of Attorneys

During this session, we will have our annual/always-popular and fun discussion of what is new in the world of attorney discipline. Representatives from each jurisdiction in attendance will have the opportunity to introduce their colleagues and provide an update about what is new in their jurisdiction.

3:00 - 3:15 pm **Break**

3:15 - 4:30 pm **Cognitive, Implicit Bias, and Decision-making for Adjudicators**

Dr. Destiny Peery
The Red Bee Group

As attorney discipline adjudicators, the decisions you make have consequences not only for how cases play out, but also the lives of everyone involved, particularly those attorneys facing discipline. Yet, we are often unaware of the ways that our minds, personalities, life experiences, and social structures influence how we take in, process, and use information in our decision-making. This session will give a more in-depth look at how we come to think about others and make judgments of people and situations, with an eye toward the ways that social identity biases, such as those based on race, can affect our perceptions and decisions. We will also consider the impact of COVID-19 and the subsequent increase in virtual interactions on biases in perception and decision-making. Finally, we will discuss some preventative measures to improve individual and organizational decision-making processes so that you can leave this session with ideas for acknowledging, identifying, and addressing bias.



Friday, February 5, 2021

1:00 - 1:30 pm EST Business Meeting

Marianne J. Lee, *President, NCLDB*
Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland (AGC)

1:30 - 1:45 pm Break

1:45 - 3:00 pm Virtual Bar Disciplinary Hearings in a COVID-19 World

Robert C. Gardella
Robert C. Gardella, PLLC

Jordan D. Huck
Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board

Judge Yvette D. Roland
The State Bar Court of California

Jeffrey D. Woolf
Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers

This presentation will address due process and ethical considerations in conducting remote disciplinary hearings, as well as practical, technical, and logistical issues and recommendations.

3:00 - 3:15 pm Break

3:15 - 4:15 pm The Impact of Digital Addiction on Attorney Well-Being

Danielle Hall
Kansas Lawyers Assistance Program

Technology is a wonderful thing. It has brought us significant advantages in being able to connect anytime and anywhere. It allows us to work remotely and flexibly. It can also bring with it, however, the inability to unplug and refresh. This inability can lead to adverse effects on our well-being and can lead to a whole host of problems, including potential ethical violations by attorneys or even developing a digital addiction. During this session, we will discuss how detaching from our devices can increase productivity and our overall well-being, as well as learn strategies for unplugging.



Speaker Biographies

Joseph S. Berman is the general counsel of the Board of Bar Overseers of the Supreme Judicial Court, serving in that role since 2017. As General Counsel, Mr. Berman oversees the enforcement of the Massachusetts Rules of Professional Conduct. He writes and speaks frequently on legal ethics. Prior to holding this position, Mr. Berman practiced commercial litigation for more than twenty-five years and worked exclusively as a mediator and arbitrator for two years. Mr. Berman graduated cum laude from Dartmouth College in 1986 and cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School in 1990. Immediately after law school, he clerked for the Honorable Richard Matsch of the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. In addition to his legal work, Mr. Berman is active in the community. He serves on the Conservation Commission in Weston, Massachusetts. He is a board member of the Associates of the Boston Public Library. He has long been active in the Anti-Defamation League and currently serves as Vice-Chair of the New England Region and National Chair of the ADL's Legal Affairs Committee. He currently serves as President-Elect of the Board of Directors of the National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards.

Robert C. Gardella is a trial attorney and general practice attorney primarily serving Livingston County and southeast Michigan. His areas of practice are family law, divorce, collections, criminal defense, juvenile defense, corporate law, business law, limited liability companies, real estate, oil & gas law, labor and employment law, motor carrier law, personal injury, probate, wills and trusts, commercial law, and civil litigation. Mr. Gardella is admitted to practice law in the State of Michigan and before the U.S. District Courts for Eastern Michigan and Western Michigan, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Gardella is a recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award for Advocacy and earned a B.A. in Journalism from Michigan State University and a J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan. He is a former law clerk to Livingston County 44th Circuit Court Judge Daniel Burrell of Howell, Michigan and a former associate attorney for Burchfield, Park & Associates, P.C. He is a former president of the Livingston County Bar Association. In addition, he is a former Chairman of the Representative Assembly for the State Bar of Michigan. He served on the Representative Assembly from 1999 through 2008. He is a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar of Michigan, and the Livingston County Bar Association. He served on the State Bar of Michigan, Board of Commissioners from 2005-2008 and 2014-2018.

Danielle Hall serves as the Executive Director for the Kansas Lawyers Assistance Program. In addition to overseeing the daily operations, she administers a variety of programs designed to assist lawyers and law students who are impacted by a substance abuse, mental health, or law practice management related issue. Prior to her appointment in 2019, Danielle served as a Deputy Disciplinary Administrator for the State of Kansas where she investigated and prosecuted disciplinary cases before the Kansas Supreme Court, assisted with Client Protection Fund investigations, and served as a coordinator for the Attorney Diversion Program. As part of coordinating the Attorney Diversion Program, her primary focus was in providing lawyers with assistance and training in the area of law practice management and technology. She also worked directly with lawyers who were struggling with time management, stress, and burnout issues related to the practice of law. Danielle is a member of the executive committee of the Kansas Task Force for Lawyer Well-Being, Co-Chair of the Kansas

Women Attorneys Association Minority Women in the Profession Committee, and a member of the Kansas Bar Association Law Practice Management and Ethics Advisory committees and is a regular contributor to the KBA Law Practice Management and Technology Blog. She is also an active member in the ABA Law Practice Division, having served on several committees. In her free time, she teaches law office technology in the Legal Studies Department at Washburn University and is an adjunct professor at Washburn School of Law, teaching in the Intensive Trial Advocacy Program and coaching the trial competition teams. Danielle received her B.A. in 2006 from Washburn University and her J.D. in 2009 from Washburn School of Law.

Jordan D. Huck is the Hearing Committee Counsel for the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board. Jordan provides legal counsel to the Board's Hearing Committees in adjudicative matters. He is also responsible for the training and development of the Hearing Committee members. Prior to working for the Disciplinary Board, Jordan served as the law clerk for the Honorable Emile St. Pierre in the 29th Judicial District Court of Louisiana (St. Charles Parish). He is a graduate of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. Jordan currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards as Ex Officio Director.

Gayle B. Larkin graduated from University of Kansas, School of Law in 1990. She started her career as a criminal prosecutor – first as an Assistant District Attorney for Douglas County, Kansas, and later as an Assistant Attorney General. While in the Attorney General's office, Ms. Larkin was cross-designated as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Kansas, handling Medicare and Medicaid fraud cases. Ms. Larkin began her tenure with the Kansas Board for Discipline of Attorneys in 1999. She serves as counsel to the board, advising the board and drafting the final hearing reports following attorney disciplinary hearings. Ms. Larkin also serves as the Admissions Attorney, conducting character and fitness investigations of bar applicants.

Marianne J. Lee is the Executive Secretary & Counsel for the Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland (AGC). Prior to her appointment in 2016, she served as Assistant Bar Counsel and Senior Assistant Bar Counsel for over fourteen years, investigating and prosecuting disciplinary cases. Before joining the AGC, Ms. Lee served as Litigation Counsel of the Illinois Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission in Chicago. She also previously worked as a civil litigator in federal and state courts in Chicago, focusing on class action and consumer protection litigation, and clerked for the chief judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. Ms. Lee received both her B.A., magna cum laude, and J.D. from the University of Maryland. She currently serves as President of the Board of Directors of the National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards.

Dr. Destiny Peery is a social psychologist and legal scholar who studies identity, bias and discrimination, and diversity, equity and inclusion, including their intersections with the law and in spaces within the legal profession. Destiny has been on the faculties of Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law and Duke University School of Law. She facilitates workshops on cognitive and implicit biases and diversity and inclusion-related topics across the legal profession and other professional communities, and she has conducted research on diversity in the legal profession with the American Bar Association and the National Association of Women Lawyers. She holds a J.D. and a Ph.D. in social psychology from Northwestern University.

Judge Yvette D. Roland was appointed to the California State Bar Court's Hearing Department in Los Angeles on August 25, 2014 by California Assembly Speaker Emeritus, Toni G. Atkins. November 1, 2018, Judge Roland started her second term with the State Bar Court of California when she was appointed by Governor Edmund Brown and sworn in by California Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye. Before joining the bench, she was a partner at Duane Morris LLP and Hancock, Rothert, and Bunshoft LLP, practicing in the areas of complex civil and commercial litigation, insurance coverage, and employment law. While practicing law, she served as lead trial counsel on an array of cases including copyright infringement, trademark infringement, defamation, employment, environmental coverage, and products liability. Judge Roland has served on various boards, including the Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, Inc. (President 2008-2009), the California Association of Black Lawyers (Chair-Legislative Day Committee, Co-chair of the Judicial Evaluations Committee), Southern California Education Fund (Chair), ONE LA, and the Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles Foundation (Treasurer). Her extensive *pro bono* and community service activities include presenting at and conducting workshops on legal ethics, foreclosure prevention, sentence reduction clinics, the Affordable Care Act, and healthcare enrollment programs. Judge Roland is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law. After graduating from law school, she clerked for the Honorable Terry J. Hatter, Jr. in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

Jeffrey D. Woolf is an Assistant General Counsel to the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers and was previously an Assistant Bar Counsel at the Office of the Bar Counsel. Before that, he spent many years in private practice, where he concentrated in personal injury, products liability, medical malpractice, toxic torts, and corporate litigation. He is a member of the Massachusetts and District of Columbia bars and is active in numerous bar associations. From 2012-2016, he was an adjunct professor at Boston University Law School. He also previously taught at New England School of Law and at Northeastern University. He has taught numerous continuing legal education programs in civil litigation, discovery, and related topics. He is the author of numerous articles, seminar materials, and book chapters. Mr. Woolf has also served as a mediator for the federal court mediation program, as a conciliator for the Boston Bar Association's volunteer project, and as a hearing officer for the Board of Bar Overseers. From 1995 through 2000, he was a special assistant attorney general, representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in tobacco litigation (*Commonwealth v. Philip Morris*). He received his undergraduate degree from Yale University, where he was on the Dean's List, and received his M.A. and law degree from Boston University. Mr. Woolf currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards.

Registration Information

- This year's conference will be entirely virtual.
- The registration fee is \$215 per person.
- Annual membership in NCLDB is \$100 per jurisdiction. New jurisdictions do not have to pay the membership fee for the first year of NCLDB membership.

Click [here](#) to register.