**TLAW Empowerment Conference 2019**

**Brave New World for Women: Connect and Reinvent**

Schedule and Course Descriptions

**Date**: March 28 and 29, 2019

**Time**: Thursday 3:30-7:00; Friday 8:45 -3:30 (continental breakfast/coffee beginning at 8:15)

**Location**: Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP, 511 Union Street, Suite 2700, Nashville, TN 37219

**Cost**: $90 Public Service/Government; $140 Members, $190 non-members: Includes all CLE sessions, Thursday reception and Friday coffee/breakfast & lunch

**Thursday, March 28, 2019**

3:00 p.m. Registration opens

3:25 p.m. Introductions and Thank-yous – Holly Renken (TLAW President 2018-2019)

3:30 p.m. Opening Presentation: Why we need more men involved in diversity and inclusion efforts by Patty Wise of Legility (Formerly Counsel on Call)

4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. ***Good Guys Panel Discussion: Making the Business Case for Diversity***. Businesses become better when they are diverse from the bottom to the top, and we all become better with diversity, because diversity challenges us.

* Moderator: Justice Holly Kirby (Tennessee Supreme Court)
* Jeffrey B. Jones, Office Managing Shareholder, Littler Mendelson, P.C (Orlando, FL)
* Charles Bone, Founder and Chariman, Bone McAllester Norton, PLLC (Nashville, TN)
* David Billions, Managing Director of Litigation FedEx, (Memphis, TN)

5:30 -7:00 Cocktail reception and networking

**Friday, March 29, 2019**

8:00 a.m. Registration opens

8:15 - 8:45 coffee and networking

8:45 - 8:55 Welcome and introduction of morning keynote speakers (by Holly Renken)

Friday morning keynote 8:55 – 9:55 a.m.: *Women Designing the Law Firm of the Future: Techonology, Ethics, and More* by **Megan Zavieh, Esq.** and **Erin Gertsenzang, Esq.**

The law firm of the next 5, 10, or 20 years looks nothing like law firms of the recent past. Today’s inexpensive yet highly effective technology tools enable us to build firms we want to run, which exceed client expectations, and which allow us to live our professional lives on our terms. We can meet countless challenges of the profession ethically and effectively if we know what tools to use and where to find them. Megan Zavieh and Erin Gerstenzang will walk us through a number of those tools, how they meet our ethical and professional obligations, and how we can continue to evolve over the coming years to remain at the forefront of the profession.

9:55-10:05 Short Break

10:05 – 11:35 *Women Mentoring Women in the Business of Law* – Interactive Session – **Megan Zavieh, Esq.**  and **Erin Gerstenzang, Esq.**

A recent study published by Notre Dame University tells us what many women already know - women are great at helping other women succeed. Their research discovered that women who have female-dominated inner circles are more likely to succeed than those with male-dominated inner circles. Unfortunately, it is not always easy to cultivate these female-driven networks in the legal profession. For those of us in male-dominated practice areas, these inner circles don't always naturally form. In this session, our keynote speakers will workshop how to intentionally create these networks, identify strategies that help women accomplish business goals, and share valuable insights that are often missed in male-centric work environments.

11:35-12:45 Lunch Break and Keynote: *Women and the Modern Law Firm: Building, Scaling and Managing for Growth and Balance* by **Billie Tarascio, Esq**., Modern Law, Scottsdale, Arizona

The latest business, management, and growth theories rely heavily on emotional intelligence and building relationships. In this session you will receive a roadmap to build and scale your firm all while harnessing the power of being a woman.

12:50 – 2:15 **Breakout #1**: Solo Practitioner and Small Firm Panel

* Moderator Ramona DeSalvo, DeSalvo Law Firm, PLLC, Nashville, TN
* Psonya Hackett, Hackett Law Firm, Memphis, TN
* Amanda Jelks, Jelks Law, Chattanooga, TN
* Susan Curtiss, Carns Curtiss Law, PLLC and founder of Girl Attorney, Oklahoma City, OK
* Chasity Grice, Peppel, Grice, & Palazzolo, P.C., Memphis, TN

***OR*** **Breakout #2**: Trial Skills, **Julie Peak, Esq.**, Liberty Mutual Insurance Group, Nashville, TN and **Wendy Longmire, Esq.**, Ortale, Kelley, Herbert & Crawford, Nashville, TN

2:15 – 2:20 Closing announcements and Thank-yous. Have attendees select break-out sessions and once breakout sessions are over, conference is over

2:20-2:30 Short Break

2:30 – 3:45 **Breakout #3**: Elected and Appointed Panel – Focusing on nuts and bolts how-to’s, the art of raising money and what it takes to build the background for successful electability and how to mount a successful campaign, including the best ethical practices to fundraise.

* Moderator Kim Looney, Esq., Waller Lansden, Dortch & Davis, Nashville, TN
* Senator Raumesh Akbari (Tennessee District 29 – Shelby County)
* Chancellor Patricia Moskal, Davidson County
* Judge Ana Escobar, General Sessions Court Davidson County

***OR* Breakout #4**: Family Law Update: **Jackie Dixon, Esq.**, Weatherly, McNally & Dixon, PLC, Nashville, TN