



**2023 NAALJ Annual Conference**  
**“Setting a Course through Common Seas”**  
**October 15-18, 2023**  
**The Westin Tampa Waterside, Tampa, FL**

**Preliminary Agenda 09/12/2023**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023**

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|------------------|--|
| 12:00PM – 5:00PM | <b>Registration</b>                      |
| 4:00PM – 5:00PM  | <b>NAALJ Board of Governor’s Meeting</b> |
| 5:00PM – 6:30PM  | <b>Welcome Reception</b>                 |
| 6:30PM –         | <b>Dinner on Your Own</b>                |

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023**

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|-----------------|---|
| 8:00AM – 8:30AM | <b>Registration &amp; Continental Breakfast</b> |
| 8:30AM – 8:45AM | <b>Welcome Remarks</b>                          |

Hon. Bruce Culpepper, NAALJ President, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings; Hon. Kathleen Chapman, Administrative Law Judge & Annual Conference Co-Chair, Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings; & Hon. Brian Newman, Annual Conference Co-Chair, Director & Chief Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings

8:45AM – 9:45AM

### **Plenary Session 1: Professionalism in Administrative Forums**

Speaker: Justice Alan Lawson, Retired Florida Supreme Court Justice

10:00AM – 12:00PM

### **Plenary Session 2: Maintaining an Impartial Judiciary: A Comparative Analysis between the Central Panel Approach versus an Agency-Centric Approach**

Moderator (Central Panel): Hon. Robert Cohen, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings

Central Panel Speakers: Hon. Katy Straub, Deputy Director, Illinois Bureau of Administrative Hearings; Hon. Brian Newman, Director & Chief Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings; Hon. Carrie Ingram, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Indiana Office of Administrative Law Proceedings

Moderator (Agency Dedicated): Hon. Carrie Ingram, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Indiana Office of Administrative Law Proceedings

Agency Dedicated Speakers: Hon. Evan McGinley, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Illinois Department of Public Health; Hon. Melanie Neely, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Illinois Department of Revenue

12:00PM – 1:30PM

### **Lunch on Own**

12:00PM – 1:30PM

### **State Affiliate Lunch Meeting** (*attendance is open to all state affiliate leaders*)

Moderators: Hon. Carrie Ingram (former Indiana Affiliate President & current NAALJ Board Member) & Hon. Kathleen Chapman (former Maryland Affiliate President & current NAALJ Board Member)

Join fellow state affiliate leaders to discuss challenges unique to your region and identify ways to collaborate.

1:30PM – 3:00PM

### **Plenary Session 3: Writing Strategies and Communicating Effectively**

Speaker: Hon. Lori Rowe, Florida First District Court of Appeal

*followed by:*

Panel Moderator: Hon. Michelle “Miki” McGovern, Deputy Commissioner (*retired*), Iowa Division of Workers’ Compensation

Panelists: Hon. Latonya Dargan, Director of Quality Assurance, Executive Administrative Law Judge, Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings;

Hon. Gabriel Paul, Chairman, Indiana Unemployment Insurance Review Board; Jami Webster Hall, Administrative Law Judge, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

3:00PM – 4:00PM

**Breakout Session 4:**

**Breakout Session 4A: Tech Talk: Making Your Computer Work for You!**

Speaker: Hon. Megan Silver, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings

**Breakout Session 4B: Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in Administrative Law**

Moderator: Hon. James “Pete” Peterson, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings

Panelists: Hon. Todd Resavage, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings; Hon. Raymond Kramer, Adjunct Professor, New York University; Administrative Law Judge, New York City (NYC) Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings; Director of the Administrative Judicial Institute; and the Executive Director of the NYC Center for Creative Conflict Resolution; Joanna Woodson, Director of Education, Community Mediation Maryland; Tracee Ford, Director of Quality Development, Community Mediation Maryland

**Breakout Session 4C: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): managing high volume dockets**

Speaker: Hon. Noel Garcia, Deputy Commissioner – Special Education Hearings Division, Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) | City of New York

4:00PM – 4:15PM

**Refreshment Break**

4:15PM – 5:15PM

**Plenary Session 5: Managing Hearings – Managing Expectations and the Strong Side of Fair**

Speaker: Brad Culpepper, Esq., Culpepper Kurland Law Firm

5:15PM –

**Dinner on Your Own**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023**

8:00AM – 8:45AM

**Continental Breakfast**

8:00AM – 8:45AM

**Affiliate Q&A Breakfast** (attendance is open to all attendees interested in starting an affiliate program)

Join NAALJ affiliate outreach co-chairs, Hon. Carrie Ingram (former Indiana Affiliate President & current NAALJ Board Member) & Hon. Kathleen Chapman (former Maryland Affiliate President & current NAALJ Board Member), for an informal get together to answer all your questions regarding the benefit of having an affiliate state program and how to start one in your state.

8:45AM – 9:45AM

**Plenary Session 6: The Role of the Administrative Judiciary – Challenges to Judicial Independence**

Speaker: Hon. Simone Marstiller, Secretary, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (*retired*) & Florida First District Court of Appeal (*former*)

10:00AM – 11:00AM

**Plenary Session 7: Podcast Production: Professionalism – Never Contemplated**

Host: Hon. Hetal Desai, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings

Speaker: Rebecca Bandy, Esq., Director, Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism at the Florida Bar

11:00AM – 11:15AM

**Refreshment Break**

11:15AM – 12:15PM

**Breakout Session 8:**

**Breakout Session 8A: Podcast Production: Water for Fighting**

Host: Brett Cyphers, Esq., Anfield Consulting

Speakers: Douglas Manson, Esq., Law firm of Manson Bolves; Elizabeth Fernandez, Esq., Deputy General Counsel for the Southwest Florida Water Management District

**Breakout Session 8B: ALJ Remedial Authority under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA): A Fuller Meaning of “Doing Equity”**

Introduction: Hon. Jessica Varn, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings

Speaker: Professor Perry Zirkel, University Professor Emeritus of Education and Law at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

**Breakout Session 8C: Workers' Compensation: Forensic Analysis: a review of injuries and how to evaluate them**

Speaker: Raymond D. Harbison, PhD, Professor Director, Center for Environmental/Occupational Risks Analysis & Management, University of South Florida College of Public Health

12:15PM – 1:45PM

**Luncheon – NAALJ Annual Business Meeting**

1:45PM – 2:45PM

**Breakout Session 9:**

**Breakout Session 9A: Ethics & Professionalism**

Speakers: Hon. Matthew Lucas, Florida Second District Court of Appeal; Rebecca Bandy, Esq., Director, Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism at The Florida Bar.

**Breakout Session 9B: The Four Dimensions of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): An Adjudicative Checklist**

Speaker: Professor Perry Zirkel, University Professor Emeritus of Education and Law at Lehigh University

**Breakout Session 9C: Workers' Compensation: American Medical Association (AMA) Impairment Guide**

Speaker: Douglas Martin, MD, Co-chair of the AMA Guides<sup>®</sup> Editorial Panel and Medical Director for the Center for Neurosciences, Orthopaedics & Spine Occupational Medicine, Sioux City, Iowa

2:45PM – 3:00PM

**Refreshment Break**

3:00PM – 4:00PM

**Breakout Session 10:**

**Breakout Session 10A: Evidentiary issues in bench trials**

Speaker: Professor Henry Zhuhao Wang, Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee alumni professor

**Breakout Session 10B: Workers' Compensation: Occupational Diseases**

Speaker: Hon. Mark Massey, Judge of Compensation Claims – Workers Compensation, Florida Department of Administrative Hearings

6:00PM – 9:00PM                   **Optional Dinner with Colleagues at the Columbia Restaurant**  
*(separate fee required)*

6:00PM –                               **Dinner on Your Own**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023**

7:45AM – 8:45AM                   **Breakfast on Own**

7:45AM – 8:45AM                   **President’s Breakfast** *(by invitation only)*

A special gathering of NAALJ past presidents to meet and greet the new and returning leaders of the NAALJ Board of Directors, and to offer them pearls of wisdom.

8:45AM – 9:45AM                   **Plenary Session 11: Managing Courtrooms: Maintaining Professionalism and Civility**

Speakers: Hon. Nina Ashenafi-Richardson, Second Judicial Circuit In and For Leon County, Florida; Hon. Chris Nash, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Hillsborough County, Florida

10:00AM – 11:00AM               **Plenary Session 12: Managing Courtrooms: Pro Se Parties**

Moderator: Hon. Melanie Neely, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Illinois Department of Revenue

Speakers: Hon. Bruce Culpepper, Administrative Law Judge, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings; Hon. John Leidig, Director of Operations, Executive Administrative Law Judge, Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings; Hon. Syeetah Hampton-El, Deputy Director of Operations, Executive Administrative Law Judge, Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings

11:00AM – 12:00PM               **Plenary Session 13: Code of Judicial Conduct**

Speakers: Hon. David Langham, Deputy Chief Judge of Compensation Claims – Workers Compensation, Florida Division of Administrative Hearings; Hon. Lourdes Sancerni, Judge of Compensation Claims – Workers Compensation, Florida Department of Administrative Hearings

12:00PM – 1:30PM                   **Lunch on Your Own**

1:30PM – 2:30PM

**Plenary Session 14: Artificial Intelligence & a Discussion on ChatGPT**

Speaker: Professor Kristen Davis, Stetson Law School, Tampa, Florida

2:45PM – 3:45PM

**Plenary Session 15: Administrative Law Update**

Speaker: Professor Nancy Hunt, Pepperdine Caruso School of Law, Malibu, California

3:45PM – 4:00PM

**Conference Wrap-Up/Announcements**

6:00PM – 7:00PM

**NALJ Foundation Silent Auction and Reception**

7:00PM – 8:30PM

**NAALJ Annual Banquet**

*conference concludes*

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023**

9:00AM – 11:00AM

**Board of Governor's Meeting**