



UNIVERSITY OF **HOUSTON** LAW CENTER



AI, LAW, AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

2:00-5:00 PM Central Time

via Zoom in partnership with Akin

Approved for 3.0 hours of Texas MCLE credit

Agenda

2:00-2:05 PM

Opening Remarks

Leonard M. Baynes

Dean, Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz
Cullen Distinguished Chair
Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center

2:05-3:05 PM

Training Lawyers When AI Can Research, Reason, and Write

Leonard M. Baynes, Moderator

Dean, Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz
Cullen Distinguished Chair
Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center

Seth J. Chandler

Professor of Law
Beirne, Maynard & Parsons College Professorship
Director, Center on AI, Law and the Legal
Profession
University of Houston Law Center

Alyson Drake

Assistant Professor of Law
Director, Law Library
Assistant Dean for Legal Research Services
Director, Initiative for Evidence-Based Legal
Education
University of Houston Law Center

Daniel Schwarcz

Fredrikson & Byron Professor of Law
Distinguished University Teaching Professor
University of Minnesota Law School

Agenda

3:05-4:05 PM

From Experiment to Operating Model: Responsible AI in Practice

Alison L. Chen, Moderator

Partner, Tax
Partner in Charge, Houston Office
Akin

Kyle Dingman

Partner, Scott + Scott
Co-Founder, DingDuff

Stephanie Duff-O'Bryan

Senior Counsel, Cleveland Krist PLLC
Co-Founder, DingDuff

Maggie E. Martin

Associate
Vorys, Houston

Alex Shahrestani

Managing Partner
Promise Legal PLLC

4:05-5:05 PM

AI at the Courthouse Door and Inside Chambers

Hilary Reed, Moderator

Clinical Professor
Lawyering Skills and Strategies
University of Houston Law Center

Shlomo Klapper

CEO/Founder
Learned Hand

The Honorable Xavier Rodriguez

United States District Court
Western District of Texas

BIOGRAPHIES



LEONARD M. BAYNES

Dean, Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen

Distinguished Chair

Professor of Law

University of Houston Law Center

Leonard M. Baynes, currently the longest serving law dean in Texas, made history in 2014 with his appointment as the first dean of African descent at the University of Houston Law Center.

During his deanship, the UH Law Center's admission credentials have steadily increased — the median LSAT score climbed from 159 to 163 and the median GPA grew from 3.47 to 3.79. Under Dean Baynes's leadership, the Law Center completed the \$93 million world-class John M. O'Quinn Law Building in 2022 and expanded pathways to legal education through innovative programs including the 3-3 Program with UH Honors College, the UH Law Express Program, and the award-winning Pre-Law Pipeline Programs.

A prolific scholar, Dean Baynes co-authored the casebook "Telecommunications Law: Convergence and Competition" and has published over 25 law review articles and book chapters. He has received numerous honors, including recognition by *National Jurist* as one of the most influential people in legal education, the Paul Robeson Award from his alma mater Columbia Law School, and the Clyde Ferguson Award from the Association of American Law Schools.

BIOGRAPHIES



SETH J. CHANDLER

Professor of Law

Beirne, Maynard & Parsons College Professorship

Director, Center on AI, Law and the Legal Profession

University of Houston Law Center

Seth J. Chandler is a Professor of Law and holds the Beirne, Maynard & Parsons College Professorship at the University of Houston Law Center. He specializes in constitutional law

and the application of mathematics and computer science to law and was recently voted one of the Top 50 Legal Innovators in Academia for 2026, by *The National Law Review* and Wickard. Professor Chandler was a first-year winner of the Innovator Award from Wolfram Research, received the President's Medal from Loyola University for extraordinary service in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and has been called on twice to testify before Congress on the Affordable Care Act.

Professor Chandler has a broad Internet presence, including his blog legaled.ai, the leading blog on AI in legal education, a YouTube Channel for his course *Analytic Methods for Lawyers*, and websites for his courses, including llms4l.netlify.app. He practiced with Munger, Tolles & Olson in Los Angeles and Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C. before beginning his academic career in 1990 at the UH Law Center. Professor Chandler teaches constitutional law, insurance law, *Analytic Methods for Lawyers*, and other courses.

BIOGRAPHIES



ALISON L. CHEN

Partner, Tax

Partner in Charge, Houston Office

Akin

Alison Chen is a partner and Managing Partner of Akin's Houston office. A Chambers-ranked tax lawyer consistently recognized since 2017, she advises public and private companies on the federal income tax aspects of complex mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures, restructurings, and capital markets transactions across the energy sector — spanning upstream, midstream, LNG, energy transition, and oilfield services. Her deal work includes multibillion-dollar M&A transactions, private equity investments, IPOs and other capital markets offerings, project joint ventures, and cross-border energy deals.

Firmwide, Alison serves on Akin's partnership admission committee, opportunity and inclusion committee, and women's initiative. Externally, she serves on the boards of the Houston Area Women's Center and the Houston Bar Foundation and is a longtime leader in the Asian American Bar Association of Houston. In 2024, she established an endowed scholarship at the University of Houston Law Center to support first-generation law students.

BIOGRAPHIES



KYLE DINGMAN

Partner, Scott + Scott

Co-Founder, DingDuff

Kyle Dingman is a Partner in the Scott and Scott Austin office. He is a mass torts lawyer with a passion for history, philosophy, the law, and everything Reddit. He has served as first or second chair in more than two dozen trials and written and argued appellate briefs before the Texas Supreme Court and federal courts of appeals. Kyle grew up in Austin in a family of engineers and lawyers and is a proud double Longhorn (both undergrad and law school) and the main architect behind DingDuff.

BIOGRAPHIES



ALYSON DRAKE

Assistant Professor of Law

Director, Law Library

Assistant Dean for Legal Research Services

Director, Initiative for Evidence-Based Legal Education

University of Houston Law Center

Alyson Drake is an Assistant Professor of Law, the Assistant Dean for Legal Research Services, and the Founding Director of the Initiative for Evidence-Based Legal Education at the

University of Houston Law Center. Her areas of expertise include evidence-based legal education, cognitive science, and experiential education. As Assistant Dean for Legal Research Services, Drake directs the daily operations of the University of Houston Law Center Library. As Founding Director of the Initiative for Evidence-Based Legal Education, Drake leads a team of educators and scholars nationwide as they work to research and advance the use of evidence-based teaching strategies in legal education.

Professor Drake teaches Intermediate Legal Research at the Law Center and coordinates with the Lawyering Skills & Strategies faculty to teach legal research to first-year law students. This research program won a 2024 Bloomberg Law School Innovation Program Honorable Mention for Changing Pedagogy.

Drake has published articles and chapters in leading legal and law librarianship journals and publications, such as *Law Library Journal*, *Buffalo Law Review*, and the award-winning *Integrating Doctrine and Diversity* series from Carolina Academic Press. Drake is a member of the American Association of Law Libraries, where she has served as the chair of the Research Instruction & Patron Services Special Interest Section. She is one of the founders of the Teaching the Teachers Conference for Law Librarians and architect of the Teaching the Teachers Beginners' Bootcamp, and she was named one of the American Association of Law Libraries' Emerging Leaders for 2022.

BIOGRAPHIES



STEPHANIE DUFF-O'BRYAN

Senior Counsel, Cleveland Krist PLLC

Co-Founder, DingDuff

Stephanie Duff-O'Bryan is senior counsel at Cleveland Krist PLLC. She is a commercial litigator with a background in financial regulation and litigation. Since law school, she has practiced in private firms, served in the federal government, clerked for a federal judge, and taught legal research and writing at Georgetown Law. She grew up in the Austin area and received her undergraduate degree from The University of Texas at Austin and her law degree from Columbia Law School.

BIOGRAPHIES



SHLOMO KLAPPER

CEO/Founder

Learned Hand

Shlomo Klapper is the founder and CEO of Learned Hand, the first and only generative AI platform purpose-built for the judiciary. Learned Hand's technology supports judges and court staff across the full arc of a case, from filing through drafting, and is currently deployed with the Michigan Supreme Court, the Superior Court of Los

Angeles County (the largest trial court in the nation), and courts in ten states serving over 20 million Americans.

Before founding Learned Hand, Shlomo clerked for the Honorable Steven J. Menashi on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, litigated complex commercial disputes at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, and worked as a deployment strategist at Palantir Technologies in both the commercial and government sectors. Earlier in his career, he was a behavioral researcher in Dan Ariely's lab at Duke University.

Shlomo received his J.D. from Yale Law School, where he won the Thomas I. Emerson Prize for his writing, and holds a B.S. in Economics from the Wharton School and a B.A. in European History from the University of Pennsylvania, both *summa cum laude*. He has published in the *Brooklyn Law Review* and *Buffalo Law Journal*, the *Sedona Conference Journal*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. He has been featured on the LawNext podcast, Lawfare, Legally Disrupted, and the AI Skeptics podcast, and has spoken at judicial conferences nationwide on the intersection of AI, institutional legitimacy, and access to justice.

BIOGRAPHIES



MAGGIE E. MARTIN

*Associate
Vorys, Houston*

Maggie Martin is an associate in the Vorys Houston office and a member of the intellectual property (IP) group. Maggie has experience drafting and prosecuting patent applications across software and data-driven technologies. Her work spans internet and data systems, fintech systems, and AI/ML engineering. She also has experience in 5G telecommunications, semiconductors, optical systems, geophysical processing technologies, and quantum computing. Her patent prosecution experience includes standards essential patent prosecution.

Maggie has honed her practice to stay current on evolving subject matter eligibility considerations before the USPTO, an area that is relevant to software and data-driven technologies. She brings that perspective to her claim drafting and prosecution strategy, helping clients secure patent protection in technology spaces where eligibility challenges are common. Beyond prosecution, Maggie has experience in IP licensing and has provided portfolio analysis, invalidity and freedom-to-operate analysis, and due diligence services.

Maggie received her J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center and her B.S. *cum laude* in geophysics, with a minor in mathematics, from the University of Oklahoma. She also brings a decade of hands-on experience with AI technologies, beginning with her work implementing early denoising diffusion probabilistic models (DDPMs). More recently, she has developed a working proficiency in natural language processing (NLP), supported by her background in statistical modeling and complemented by use of calibrated reasoning frameworks for accuracy control.

BIOGRAPHIES



HILARY REED

*Clinical Professor
Lawyering Skills and Strategies
University of Houston Law Center*

Professor Hilary Reed teaches Lawyering Skills and Strategies, as well as an upper-level course in Trusts and Wills. She is active in the national legal writing community, including chairing several committees for both the AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research (LWRR)

and the Association of Legal Writing Directors. She currently serves on the Executive Board for the AALS LWRR Section. In 2023, she was part of the University of Houston Legal Writing faculty awarded the University of Houston Group Teaching Excellence Award.

Professor Reed is passionate about student learning and well-being. She emphasizes practical, problem-based, collaborative instruction to promote bar and practice readiness. She is also interested in the impact of artificial intelligence on legal education and law practice, recently teaching a CLE to several hundred attorneys on the use of generative AI in legal writing.

She earned a B.A. in History from Abilene Christian University, *magna cum laude*, and a J.D. from Pepperdine University School of Law, *magna cum laude*. After law school, she practiced at O'Melveny & Myers LLP in Los Angeles, where her work focused on general litigation and corporate bankruptcy. From 2007 to 2017, she taught Legal Research and Writing at Pepperdine. From 2014 to 2017, she also taught Honors Appellate Advocacy and directed the Appellate Moot Court Program.

BIOGRAPHIES



THE HONORABLE XAVIER RODRIGUEZ

*United States District Court
Western District of Texas*

The Hon. Xavier Rodriguez, J.D., LL.M., is a former Texas Supreme Court Justice and currently sits on the bench as a United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas. Judge Rodriguez has spoken extensively on the use of generative AI as a tool for attorneys, pro se litigants, and the judiciary.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge Rodriguez was a partner in the international law firm of Fulbright & Jaworski (now known as Norton Rose Fulbright). He was board certified in labor and employment law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps and has served on the board of directors of several charitable organizations across Texas.

Judge Rodriguez is a frequent speaker at continuing legal education seminars and has authored numerous articles regarding employment law, discovery, and arbitration issues. He is the editor of *Essentials of E-Discovery* (TexasBarBooks 2d ed. 2021). He is a member of The Sedona Conference Judicial Advisory Board, the Georgetown Advanced E-Discovery Institute Advisory Board, the EDRM Global Advisory Council, and serves as the Distinguished Visiting Jurist-in-Residence and adjunct professor of law at the St. Mary's University School of Law. He is a Past Chair of the State Bar of Texas Litigation Section, Past Chair of the State Bar of Texas Labor and Employment Law Section and Past Chair of the State Bar of Texas Continuing Legal Education Committee.

BIOGRAPHIES



DANIEL SCHWARCZ

*Fredrikson & Byron Professor of Law
Distinguished University Teaching Professor
University of Minnesota Law School*

Professor Daniel Schwarcz is the Fredrikson & Byron Professor of Law and a Distinguished University Teaching Professor at the University of Minnesota Law School. His scholarship focuses on insurance law, financial regulation, consumer protection, and the growing role of artificial intelligence in legal practice and legal education.

Schwarcz's work has appeared in many of the nation's leading law reviews, including the *University of Chicago Law Review* (three times), *Virginia Law Review* (twice), *UCLA Law Review*, *Southern California Law Review* (twice), *Washington University Law Review*, *Minnesota Law Review* (three times), and *Iowa Law Review* (three times). His scholarship has also been published in leading peer-reviewed journals, including the *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, the *Journal of Law and Empirical Analysis* (twice), and the *Journal of Legal Education* (three times).

His research has received numerous honors, including the American Law Institute's Early Career Scholars Medal, awarded to law professors whose work shows exceptional promise in shaping public policy and improving the law. Schwarcz has repeatedly been recognized among the most cited scholars in tort and insurance law and consistently ranks among the most downloaded law professors on SSRN.

A leading authority on insurance law and regulation, Schwarcz is the co-author, with Kenneth Abraham, of *Insurance Law and Regulation: Cases and Materials*, now in its eighth edition and used as the principal text in insurance law courses at more than one hundred American law schools. His research has been featured in major media outlets including the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, NPR, CNN, Reuters, and Bloomberg. He has testified before U.S. congressional committees on financial and insurance regulation and has served as an expert witness and consultant in litigation and regulatory matters involving a wide range of insurance law and policy issues.

BIOGRAPHIES



ALEX SHAHRESTANI

Managing Partner

Promise Legal PLLC

Alex Shahrestani is Managing Partner at Promise Legal PLLC, a technology-focused law firm in Austin, Texas. He combines extensive legal expertise with deep technical skills, having practiced law for nearly a decade while maintaining 15+ years as a software developer and 7+ years in AI development. Alex holds a J.D. from The University of

Texas School of Law and is a member of the Texas Bar.

Beyond his legal practice, Alex is deeply committed to education and community service. He founded the *Journal of Law and Technology at Texas* (JOLTT) and serves on the Texas Bar's inaugural Emerging Technology Committee. He coordinates continuing legal education programming at SXSW, has been recognized with the ABA Young Lawyers Division "On The Rise – Top 40 Young Lawyers Award" (2022), and has run multiple non-profits dedicated to educating Texas youths.

RESOURCES

1. ASK A HUMAN: AI Q&A SERIES (STATE BAR OF TEXAS LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT)

- Series hub (all episodes): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/category/video/ask-a-human/>
- Live webinar #1, Nov 2025 (recording): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-webinar-recording/>
- Live webinar #2, Apr 2026 (recording; moderated by Alex Shahrestani and Patrick Wright): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-webinar-april-2026/>
- Episode 1, Kassi Burns (Dec 2025): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-questions-ep-1/>
- Episode 2, Kassi Burns (Jan 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-questions-ep-2/>
- Episode 3, Kassi Burns (Feb 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-questions-ep-3/>
- Episode 4, Seana Willing (Chief Disciplinary Counsel) and Brad Johnson (Mar 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-questions-ep-4/>
- Episode 5, Patrick A. Wright (May 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-questions-ep-5/>
- Episode 6, Alex Shahrestani (Jun 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-questions-ep-6/>
- Episode 7, Joshua Weaver (Jul 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-questions-ep-7/>
- Episode 8, Seana Willing and Brad Johnson (Aug 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-answers-to-unanswered-ai-questions-episode-8-video/>
- Episode 9, Kassi Burns, on confidentiality and AI (Sep 29, 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/ask-a-human-answers-to-unanswered-ai-questions-episode-9-video/>

RESOURCES

2. LIVE AI DEMOS AND TALKS ON TEXAS BAR PRACTICE

- LPM video library (all topics): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/videos/>
- Practice Technology topic hub: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/practice-technology/>
- How to Use ChatGPT: A Live Demo for Attorneys (Alex Shahrestani and Patrick Wright, Dec 2025): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/chatgpt-demo-for-attorneys/>
- Model Context Protocol (MCP): A Live Demo for Attorneys (Alex Shahrestani and Patrick Wright, Apr 2026): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/law-practice-management/mcp-tutorial-ask-a-human/>
- AI Legislation: AI for Law Firms (Alex Shahrestani, Nov 2025): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/video/ai-legislation/>
- Practical Applications for AI: AI for Law Firms (Joshua Weaver, Nov 2025): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/video/practical-applications-ai/>

RESOURCES

3. STATE BAR OF TEXAS AI TOOLKIT

- AI Toolkit (main page): <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/artificial-intelligence-toolkit/>
- AI Toolkit announcement on TexasBar.com: <https://www.texasbar.com/aitoolkit/>
- Texas Bar Blog, “Charting the Course: Building the State Bar of Texas AI Toolkit”: <https://blog.texasbar.com/2025/09/articles/technology/charting-the-course-building-the-state-bar-of-texas-ai-toolkit/>
- Toolkit sections:
 - o Ethics & Professional Responsibility: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/ethics-professional-responsibility/>
 - o AI Procurement & Vendor Selection: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/ai-procurement-and-vendor-selection/>
 - o Liability & Risk Management: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/liability-and-risk-management/>
 - o Data Privacy & Security: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/data-privacy-and-security/>
 - o AI Policy & Governance: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/ai-policy-and-governance/>
 - o Client Communication: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/client-communication/>
 - o Sample Uses of AI in Law Practice: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/sample-uses-of-ai-in-law-practice/>
 - o Access to Justice: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/access-to-justice-2/>
 - o AI in the Courts: <https://www.texasbarpractice.com/ai-in-the-courts/>

RESOURCES

4. TEXAS ETHICS AUTHORITY ON AI

- Professional Ethics Committee Opinion 705 (lawyers' use of generative AI): <https://www.legalethicstexas.com/resources/opinions/opinion-705/>
- Tex. Disciplinary R. Prof'l Conduct 1.01, cmt. 8 (technological competence): <https://www.legalethicstexas.com/resources/rules/texas-disciplinary-rules-of-professional-conduct/competent-and-diligent-representation/>

5. CLE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- More TexasBarCLE AI courses: <https://www.TexasBarCLE.com/new/?TransferTo=FOUND118>
- TexasBarCLE online library, AI articles: <https://www.texasbarcle.com/new/?transferTo=AIARTICLES>
- State Bar Knowledge Center, AI topic: <https://knowledge.texasbar.com/?topics=AI>
- TexasBarCLE, "Handling Your First (or Next) AI & ChatGPT Case" (5.5 hrs, 2 ethics): <https://www.TexasBarCLE.com/new/?TransferTo=O22168>
- TexasBarCLE, "Dual Nature of Applying AI in the Practice of Law" (2 hrs): <https://www.TexasBarCLE.com/new/?TransferTo=O23283>
- State Bar of Texas Podcast, "AI and the Practice of Law: Insights for Attorneys and Paralegals": <https://legaltalknetwork.com/podcasts/state-bar-texas/2024/01/ai-and-the-practice-of-law-insights-for-attorneys-and-paralegals/>

6. LINK TO FORTHCOMING ARTICLE CO-AUTHORED BY UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE XAVIER RODRIGUEZ (W.D. TEX.)

<https://law.uh.edu/events/ai/ssrn-7354578.pdf>

For more information about the Center on
AI, Law and the Legal Profession at the
University of Houston Law Center:



www.law.uh.edu/ai/



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HOUSTON
LAW CENTER

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One public research university and an EO institution.