



# 2021 OACTA ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 11-12, 2021

HILTON COLUMBUS/POLARIS

PROGRAM AGENDA

## Thursday, November 11th

**8:00 AM Registration/Continental Breakfast/Exhibits Open**

*Continental Breakfast Sponsored by: Freund Freeze & Arnold*

**8:30 AM Welcome**

Natalie M.E. Wais, Esq., OACTA President

Nicole A. Mitchell, Esq., OACTA Annual Meeting Chair

Elisabeth C. Arko, Esq., OACTA Annual Meeting Moderator

**8:45 AM "Civil Rights: The Impact on Trials in Light of BLM" APC CREDIT**

Mr. Woods will discuss issues when trying cases in the current politically-charged environment, including juror bias. He will also address our ethical and professional obligations as lawyers when dealing with opposing counsel and in trying cases, as well as our duties to give access to justice and fairness in the courts to all.

**Ricardo A. Woods, Esq., Burr & Forman LLP, Mobile, AL**

*Sponsored by: DRI*

**10:15 AM Networking & Break with Exhibitors**

**10:30 AM "Moving Forward...What Can We Expect from the Ohio Courts?"**

Our panel of esteemed Supreme Court Justices and Court of Appeals Judges will educate us on the future of cases after the pandemic. Topics will include the lessons learned from the pandemic, the choice of procedures and processes to remain after the pandemic, and the anticipated process for Ohio Courts moving forward.

**Justice Patrick F. Fischer, Supreme Court of Ohio**

**Justice Melody J. Stewart, Supreme Court of Ohio**

**Judge Craig R. Baldwin, Ohio Fifth District Court of Appeals**

**Judge Julia L. Dorrian, Ohio Tenth District Court of Appeals**

**Moderator: Nicole A. Mitchell Esq., Freund, Freeze & Arnold, Cincinnati, OH**

**12:00 PM OACTA Legal Excellence Awards Luncheon & Annual Business Meeting**

*Sponsored by: ESI*

**1:30 PM "Legislative and Civil Rules Update"**

Mr. McCrystal will examine legislative and case law developments. This presentation will educate us about new statutes, inform us of the status of pending legislation, and highlight new civil rule amendments of particular relevance to us as practitioners.

**James L. McCrystal, Jr., Esq., Sutter O'Connell, Cleveland, OH**

**2:15 PM Networking & Break with Exhibitors**

*Sponsored by: Robson Forensic Inc.*

**2:30 PM Breakout Sessions – Choose A or B**

**Breakout A:**

**"Emerging Trial Tactics regarding Requests of Pain and Suffering without Medical Bills"**

We are seeing a trend with plaintiffs electing to proceed to trial in personal injury cases without submitting medical bills into evidence, with mixed results, including some larger than expected jury verdicts. This presentation will detail the origins and mechanics of this tactic and provide attendees with information and options to defend against this emerging trend.

**James L. Mann, Esq., Attorney James L. Mann, Chillicothe, OH**

**Breakout B:**

**"Practical Advice for Responding to an Emergency on a Construction Project"**

Advice to the practitioner for handling large losses on an emergency basis. What you can prepare ahead of time, how to proceed, delegation of duties, and how to keep your own sanity and health at the same time.

**Cornelius J. O'Sullivan Jr., Esq., Weston Hurd LLP**

**Kent D. Riesen, Esq., Anspach Meeks Ellenberger LLP, Toledo, OH**

**3:30 PM Networking & Break with Exhibitors**

**3:45 PM "Marketing 101 for Lawyers"**

Ms. Eustler will use her experience and knowledge of marketing to share what attorneys are doing right (and wrong), effective ways to market, and best practice tips for marketing during the pandemic. She will discuss how to best present yourself professionally with approaches that carryover into how the attorney presents in front of clients, the court, jurors, and opposing parties.

**Karen L. Eutsler, Professor, Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH**

**4:45 PM Day 1 Adjournment**

**5:30 - 8:30 PM OACTA Evening Social Event: Casino Night**



# PROGRAM AGENDA CONTINUED...

## Friday, November 12th

### 8:00 AM Continental Breakfast/Exhibits Open

*Sponsored by: Young & Alexander Co. LPA*

### 8:25 AM Welcome

### 8:30 AM *"Mediation Tips from a Mediator in the Pandemic World"*

Mr. Mordino will share his experiences as both counsel and a mediator participating in mediation with all the COVID-19 uncertainty. He will also provide "dos" and "don'ts" in defending clients at mediation and touch on strategies that are effective in virtual mediations.

**Joseph T. Mordino, Esq., Faulkner & Tepe, LLP, Cincinnati, OH**

### 9:30 AM *"Insurance Industry Updates"*

The esteemed panel of insurance professionals will update us on the status of the insurance industry in light of the pandemic. Topics will include the impact of COVID-19 in claim handling, recommendations for working with representatives in a virtual world, and a discussion of how we, as practitioners, can help facilitate cases to conclusion.

**Randall B. Anderson, State Farm Insurance Companies, Newark, OH**

**Charles R. Wendland, Branch Insurance, Columbus, OH**

**Theresa Bratton, National Interstate Insurance, Cleveland, OH**

**Moderator: Natalie M. E. Wais, Esq.m, Young & Alexander Co., L.P.A., Cincinnati, OH**

### 10:30 AM Networking & Break with Exhibitors

### 10:45 AM Exhibitor Door Prizes

### 11:00 AM *"Maintaining Mental Health in Our New Work World"* **APC CREDIT**

With the onset of the pandemic, lawyers face even more challenges to maintaining mental health. Ms. Enslow will provide tips and techniques for dealing with stressors in a positive and healthy manner, and for finding balance in our new work world while keeping mental health at the forefront.

**Beverly Perfect-Endslow, CDCA, Ohio Lawyer's Assistance Program, Inc., Columbus, OH**

### 12:00 PM Adjournment

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