

Perrin Conferences
Food & Beverage Litigation Conference: A Look at Hospitality, Liquor and Food Liability
October 17, 2019

8:15 AM: Opening Remarks

Stephen M. Mahieu, Senior Counsel, Litigation, The Kraft Heinz Company, Chicago, IL

Steve Mahieu is Senior Counsel at Kraft Heinz, where he leads the company's U.S. litigation team. Steve manages all aspects of the company's U.S. litigation docket, including litigation and arbitration, pre-litigation claims and disputes, investigations, and subpoenas. He also regularly counsels company leadership regarding a wide variety of legal risks and opportunities. In addition, Steve is responsible for the company's global litigation reporting efforts, and consults regularly with his global colleagues regarding litigation and claims strategy. Prior to joining Kraft Heinz, Steve practiced law at Dykema Gossett in Chicago, where he focused his practice on commercial litigation, products liability, and insurance coverage matters.

Jan E. Simonsen, Esq., Carr Maloney P.C., Washington, DC

Jan Simonsen is a trial lawyer focused on mass tort and toxic tort litigation, retail litigation, and professional liability. She represents retailers, manufacturers, home builders, and other clients in mass tort litigation in state courts, federal courts, and multi-district litigation (MDL). Jan has represented clients in many product liability cases involving large machinery, including cement mixers, boilers, conveyer belts, yachts, and cranes. She advises several large retailers in risk management issues on a national level as well as in litigation, including a multi-claim case involving tainted food from a large gourmet retailer in the Washington metropolitan area. Her approach is marked by looking at the "big picture" in each case, and by trying to resolve disputes in a manner that is in her clients' best interests, not only from a legal perspective, but from a business perspective as well.

Gabriel S. Slominski, Assistant Vice President, Liability/Property Claims, Crum & Forster, Chicago, IL

8:15 AM: Recent & Future Trends in the Food & Beverage Industry

Moderator: Jan E. Simonsen, Esq., Carr Maloney P.C., Washington, DC

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Jaime Careathers, Senior Counsel, Maron Marvel Bradley Anderson & Tardy LLC, Chicago, IL

Jaime Careathers focuses his practice on defending companies, insurers, businesses, and property owners facing asbestos and other toxic tort and hazardous substance claims.

Jaime is an experienced litigator, and has helped to devise and implement the defense strategy for several high-profile clients and cases. In addition to his work with toxic torts, he has also represented and advised clients in matters including finance, contracts, automotive product liability, real estate, and medical malpractice.

Jaime is a dedicated advocate and volunteer for others in need, providing pro bono counsel, guidance, and a helping hand whenever possible. He is also a passionate animal lover and has volunteered for shelters and reserves in the United States and abroad.

R Delacy Peters, Jr., Esq., Chair -Food & Beverage Practice, Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney, Ltd., Chicago, IL

R Delacy Peters, Jr. is the Chair of Segal McCambridge's Food & Beverage Practice. With almost 30 years of experience defending and counseling clients in complex commercial matters, Mr. Peters is equally skilled in both litigation and transactional matters. A business litigator with a focus on complex commercial litigation, Mr. Peters believes in understanding his clients' businesses as his first priority. In litigation and transactions, Mr. Peters focuses on detail and covers every aspect of the matter. His clients include Fortune 100 corporations, and middle market companies as well as federal, state and local governmental entities.

Mr. Peters' practice focuses extensively in the area of Food and Beverage Law where he is able to uniquely represent clients in actions that require both litigation and/or transactional needs, including food safety litigation, regulatory compliance requirements, employment and real estate issues. He has represented global food and beverage companies, as well as food processors, manufacturers, suppliers, growers and producers, retailers, restaurants, warehouse clubs, wholesalers and distributors. On behalf of clients, Mr. Peters has worked with regulators such as the FDA, USDA and EPA as well as other federal, state and social agencies.

Throughout his career, Mr. Peters has represented clients in complex litigation matters involving antitrust and trade regulation, fraud and deceptive practices, insurance coverage, securities law violations, professional liability claims, products liability, catastrophic injury, commercial

contract disputes, franchise and dealership law, toxic tort and environmental law, entertainment law, intellectual property and class action defense. Mr. Peters has also represented municipal clients in litigation matters and public finance.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Peters has been heavily involved as a board member holding positions in numerous legal and non-legal clubs and associations. He has also held the role of general counsel for both the National Bar Association and the 100 Black Men of Chicago. Further, he has served as outside general counsel for several clients. Mr. Peters obtained his J.D. from the University of Baltimore School of Law and attended IIT Chicago Kent College of Law where he completed studies toward his L.L.M. in Financial Services Law. He received his B.S. in Finance from the University of Baltimore. He also is a Le Cordon Bleu trained chef.

Carrie F. Ricci, Associate General Counsel, Marketing, Regulatory and Food Safety Programs Division (MRFSPD), Office of the General Counsel (OGC), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Senior Executive Service. Ms. Ricci has supervisory responsibility for a team of 30 attorneys and professional support staff that provide legal services to both the Marketing and Regulatory Programs and the Food Safety mission areas of USDA. Ms. Ricci joined OGC in June of 2012 as the Assistant General Counsel for MRFSPD and was promoted to Associate General Counsel in October of 2013. Prior to joining USDA, Ms. Ricci served as an Assistant General Counsel with the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), providing legal support to fourteen school districts worldwide that service 87,000 children in grades K-12. Before her role with DoDEA, Ms. Ricci served on active duty as an Army officer nearly 22 years, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. While on active duty, she served in a variety of leadership, supervisory, and senior advisory positions. Ms. Ricci is a graduate of Georgetown University and the University of Maryland School of Law. She holds an LL.M. in Intellectual Property Law from the George Washington University, and an LL.M. in Military Law from the Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School.

9:15 AM: Farm to Table Challenges

Moderator: Megan Champine, Manager, AgriBusiness Claims, Crum & Forster, Southfield, MI

Megan is responsible for the management of a Commercial Lines Claims Unit at Crum and Forster Insurance, with a special focus on Primary and Excess Liability Claims, spanning from Middle Markets and Propane to Agribusiness and Assisted Living Facilities. Megan joined C&F in 2011, and was promoted to her managerial role, after serving as an Executive Specialist with a focus on complex claims and dedicated account handling. Megan has a combined 16 years of Commercial Insurance Claims experience with focuses in Agribusiness, Professional Liability, Employers Liability, Products Liability, General Liability, Commercial Auto and Commercial Property, working for Hanover, Nationwide and Selective Insurance, prior to joining C&F. Megan holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Albion College and CCP designation. She holds adjuster licenses in 15 states.

Tim M. Agajanian, Esq., Partner Ropers, Majeski, Kohn & Bentley, Los Angeles, CA

Tim M. Agajanian is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Ropers Majeski Kohn & Bentley. Mr. Agajanian is a member of the firm's Business Litigation, Intellectual Property and Toxic Tort & Environmental Law practice groups. He focuses his practice on matters involving business law and commercial litigation, construction defect litigation, environmental law, general liability and casualty litigation, insurance, municipal contracting and government affairs, professional liability, business transactions and real estate.

Known for providing practical, hands-on advice to regional and national clients in business transactions and litigation, as well as his ability to work out creative terms and solutions that keep deals "on track" and prevent litigation, Mr. Agajanian regularly advises clients in such industries as petroleum, oil and gas, waste management, insurance and construction. His business counsel includes advising clients on daily operations, leases, strategic planning for future ventures and growth, new business formation and entity selection.

In addition, Mr. Agajanian has extensive experience handling environmental remediation matters across Southern California, involving Superfund issues and other regulatory compliance concerns for waste management and landfill companies.

Prior to joining RMKB, Mr. Agajanian headed his own law firm, Agajanian Law Group, P.C., which he founded in 1988. More recently, he was a partner at Murchison & Cumming. He is *AV® rated by Martindale Hubbell*.

Ashley Bunge, Executive Underwriter, AgriBusiness, Crum & Forster, Des Moines, IA

Ashley Bunge is an Executive Underwriter at Crum & Forster. She recently joined C&F's agribusiness division in Des Moines, IA. Prior to that she worked for 9 years with a different carrier, the last 5 of those years at the underwriting desk in the ag and food division.

Robert L. Guenther, Senior Vice President, Public Policy, United Fresh Produce Association, Washington, D.C.

Robert Guenther is the Senior Vice President of Public Policy for United Fresh Produce Association headquartered in Washington, DC, where over the last 20 years Robert has led the government and public affairs staff in representing the fresh fruit and vegetable industry before Congress, the Administration, regulatory agencies and the media. Prior to United Fresh, Robert's worked on Capitol Hill for 10 years as a Legislative Aide and Policy Director focusing on agriculture, environment, trade, water, and food policy. He also spent a year in the Office of Pesticide Programs at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Highly regarded for his bipartisan approach and strategic advocacy initiatives, Robert has testified before Congress on a number of important issues including trade, small business, and agriculture related programs. In addition, Robert was instrumental in the formation the Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance in 2006, which is the leading coalition representing specialty crop producers across the country during the past three Farm Bills. Robert has also been appointed to numerous positions, including the Board of Directors of the North American Dispute Resolution Corporation, the Minor Crop Farm Alliance, and the National Council of Agriculture Employers. In addition he serves on the USDA Agriculture Policy Advisory Committee on Trade for Fruits

and Vegetables and a former member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the Food and Drug Policy Forum.

Robert is a former collegiate swimmer earning All-American honors and was Captain of the 1987 University of Maryland Men's Swim team. He is also an avid runner having run 6 marathons since 2010 along with numerous half-marathons during that same time.

With a Master's degree in Public Administration and Bachelor's degree in Government, both from the University of Maryland, Robert has been interviewed by CNN and C-Span and has been quoted in major media publications including the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, NY Times, Chicago Tribune, LA Times, and U.S. News and World Report.

10:00 AM: Proposition 65: Best Practices for Implementing the Food & Beverage Safe Harbor Warnings

Jeffrey A. Keithline, Esq., Partner, Keller and Heckman LLP, Washington, D.C.

Jeffrey Keithline practices in the area of food and drug law.

Mr. Keithline assists companies in establishing the suitable regulatory status of their products under the requirements of various federal agencies including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Mr. Keithline also assists clients with compliance issues under state and local requirements relating to the manufacture, labeling and disposal of products and packaging, including toxics in packaging, legislation and various state right-to-know acts. In addition, Mr. Keithline advises clients regarding the requirements for these products throughout the world, especially in Canada, Mexico, the European Union, Central and South America, and the Pacific Rim.

Prior to law school, Mr. Keithline served as a commissioned officer in the United States Navy aboard the USS West Virginia (SSBN 736), a nuclear submarine. Mr. Keithline earned his law degree from Washington and Lee University where he served as the editor-in-chief of the *Washington and Lee Law Review*.

Amy P. Lally, Esq., Partner, Sidley Austin LLP, Los Angeles, CA

AMY P. LALLY is a trial lawyer who practices in all areas of litigation, including class actions, contract dispute litigation and real estate litigation. She serves as a global co-leader of Sidley's Consumer Class Actions practice area. Amy has broadly represented the consumer products and services industries in litigation arising under Proposition 65, California's Unfair Business Practices Act (UCL, Section 17200), False Advertising Law (FAL, Section 17500), the Consumer Legal Remedies Act (CLRA), labeling laws (including on comparative pricing and Made in America), the California Invasion of Privacy Act (CIPA), TCPA, the Song-Beverly Credit Card Act and California's Shine the Light law. She is a leading member of Sidley's CCPA Litigation Task Force, a dedicated group of lawyers focused on the California Consumer

Privacy Act (CCPA), counseling clients on how to assess and mitigate litigation risks by putting in place the policies, procedures and protocols that comply with the new law. Her clients include numerous consumer goods manufacturers and retailers, including vitamin and dietary supplement companies, pharmaceutical companies, apparel, furniture and home goods companies and e-commerce companies. Amy also has represented a wide variety of other businesses such as financial institutions, hedge funds, accounting firms and oil and gas companies.

Amy has tried cases to verdict in both California state and federal court and the Court of Federal Claims. She litigates cases in multiple courts throughout California, including in the counties of Alameda, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco and San Mateo.

Clients have described Amy as “an excellent trial lawyer; she is an aggressive and knowledgeable advocate in Prop. 65 Cases” (*Chambers USA*, 2015). She was also recommended in the 2017 edition of *The Legal 500* for dispute resolution.

Amy earned her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and her B.A. from Boston College, *summa cum laude*, and was a member of *Phi Beta Kappa*, Golden Key National Honor Society and Cross and Crown Honor Society.

10:45 AM: Class Action Litigation Developments

Steven P. Blonder, Esq., Principal, Much Shelist, P.C., Chicago, IL

A member of the firm’s Management Committee, Steve is a valued legal and business counselor who focuses on complex business litigation. Steve has argued successfully before the federal and state appellate courts as well as the Illinois Supreme Court. He possesses a record of consistent success in motion and trial practice (both jury and non-jury) in state and federal courts and in arbitration. His clients range from Fortune 500 companies to government entities to small businesses and entrepreneurs in a variety of industries, including gaming, food and beverage, financial services and real estate.

As a counselor, Steve helps clients identify and overcome obstacles and strategize plans to accomplish their business objectives. He handles matters related to class action defense, corporate governance and control, securities, insurance, real estate, regulatory compliance and other business issues. Steve also represents clients before state and federal regulatory and governmental bodies, in response to inquiries from state attorneys general and in qui tam litigation. He has experience leading internal investigations regarding alleged corporate misconduct as well as successfully representing parties in trust disputes and other probate matters.

Jennifer Elmer, Senior Counsel – Americas, Barilla America, Inc., Chicago, IL

Chantale Fiebig, Esq., Partner, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, Washington, D.C.

Chantale Fiebig is a partner in the Washington D.C. office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. Her practice focuses on complex civil litigation in federal court. She has significant experience handling high-stakes cases on behalf of a wide range of clients, including global banks, financial and professional services firms, private equity firms, consulting firms, technology and engineering companies, and large government contractors.

Ms. Fiebig has substantial experience at every stage of commercial litigation, including through trials and appeals, and has successfully litigated or resolved matters for her clients involving a broad range of substantive legal issues, including disputes arising under the federal securities laws; the Sherman Act and state antitrust statutes; the False Claims Act; the Carmack Amendment; and California, New York, and other state consumer protection statutes.

Ms. Fiebig also has substantial experience litigating consumer class actions, particularly relating to products that are heavily regulated. She has successfully defended claims against her clients involving branded pharmaceuticals, polyurethane foam, automobiles, and food and beverage products. In addition, Ms. Fiebig routinely represents corporate clients in high-value contractual and transactional disputes, including where litigation arises from contractual or business disputes with a company's joint venture partners, competitors, large service providers, or executives and employees.

Prior to joining Gibson Dunn, Ms. Fiebig served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Michigan, where she focused on criminal appellate matters and was involved in the public corruption prosecution of former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. She also successfully represented the federal government in over 20 appeals, many of which she argued before the federal court of appeals. Before serving as an AUSA, Ms. Fiebig practiced with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in New York, where she represented corporate clients in antitrust and securities litigations. She attended Stanford Law School, where she was an articles editor on the *Stanford Law Review*, and received her B.A. in economics from the University of Virginia. She is Chair of the Litigation Committee for the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, and serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center where she co-teaches an advanced seminar on class actions.

Steven A. Hart, Esq., Hart McLaughlin & Eldridge, Chicago, IL

A seasoned trial lawyer with more than two decades of experience, Steven litigates a wide variety of civil matters including class action, mass torts, personal injury, products liability, toxic tort, environmental, automotive, and transportation cases. He also has a record of success representing both defendants and plaintiffs, from Fortune 500 companies, medium, and small businesses to individuals, in class action cases. Most recently, Steven obtained a \$100 million-plus settlement for a class of farmers and small businesses in an antitrust class action suit in the Northern District Federal Court in Chicago. Steven received a 2013 Jury Verdict Reporter Trial Excellence Award for his work on this case, the highest reported Illinois verdict/settlement in 2013.

Steven has tried cases to successful jury verdict throughout the country and has argued before State and Federal courts of appeal. His practice includes State and Federal trial work in construction and premises liability actions. It was Steven's work in the latter arena that led Kohl's to nominate Steven's firm as a "Go-To" Litigation Law Firm in American Lawyer's 2012 survey. Steven also represents corporations and individuals in employment-related matters.

Steven serves as National Coordinating and Trial Counsel for several Fortune 500 companies in asbestos and environmental litigation. He is National Coordinating and Trial counsel for DHL transportation litigation. He has tried cases in Illinois, New York, Texas, Indiana, California, and

Wisconsin for manufacturers and premises owners. He has developed extensive experience in epidemiology, medical causation, industrial hygiene, accident reconstruction, and biomechanics. Steven is a published legal author and frequent lecturer. His writings have been published by the Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education, including "Using Expert Witnesses: Principles and Pitfalls." Steven is also an adjunct professor in trial advocacy at Chicago-Kent College of Law. Numerous bar associations and legal organizations have asked him to speak at distinguished events.

Steven was recently appointed to the 47th Ward Democratic Organization Judicial Review Committee, where his committee will be responsible for interviewing, vetting and slating Cook County Judicial Candidates for election.

A resident of Chicago, Illinois, Steven is married to Jill Hart, and together they have two daughters and a son.

11:30 AM: Recent & Future Trends in the Hospitality Industry

Moderator: Brian D. Gross, Esq., MG+M The Law Firm, Boston, MA

Brian Gross has an exceptional track record of finding client-oriented solutions to complex litigation issues. Drawing on two decades of courtroom experience, he handles a broad spectrum of litigation, including products liability, food and beverage liability claims, asbestos and other toxic tort litigation, pharmaceutical and medical device claims, environmental litigation, as well as trucking claims, general liability issues, and business disputes for clients across the United States. Whether he is trying an individual case or managing national litigation, clients trust Brian to keep their best interests firmly in his sights.

Kathleen G. Fuell, Esq. Regional Liability Adjuster, The Hanover Insurance Group, Worcester, MA

I have worked for Hanover Insurance in Chicago for over three years. I have unique experience in handling, overseeing and supervising complex domestic and international technical claims for a personal lines carrier and two large Property and Casualty Commercial lines carriers.

In my years in the insurance industry, I have held many roles including auditing legal billing, training on litigation management, international insurance programs cross functionally, mentoring, and handling or supervising a variety of claims including Premises, Product Liability, Auto, Workers Compensation, Employee Benefits and International claims. My skills have contributed to profitable results through my commitment to adherence to Best Practices, claim and litigation strategy and resolutions, and reasonable and customer centric claim resolution via settlements, mediations and trials.

Michael L. Martinez, Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel, Dispute Resolution Marriott International, Inc., Bethesda, MD

Michael L. Martinez is Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel for Dispute Resolution at Marriott International, Inc. and is based at Marriott's headquarters in Bethesda,

Maryland, just north of Washington, D.C. In that role Michael oversees Marriott's litigation and arbitration matters worldwide (with the exception of tax or labor and employment matters). Prior to joining Marriott, Michael was a partner for ten years at Crowell & Moring LLP in Washington, D.C. where he handled commercial and government related litigation and arbitration. Prior to that Michael was, among other things, an Assistant United States Attorney in Washington and Philadelphia. Michael grew up in northern California and obtained his Law degree from the University of California, Berkeley and a Bachelors degree in Economics from the University of California, Davis

1:15 PM: Human Resource Issues in the Restaurant Industry

Punam Kaji, Assistant General Counsel – Employment & Litigation, Ben E. Keith Company, Fort Worth, TX

Punam Kaji is Assistant General Counsel at Ben E. Keith Company. Her practice focuses on employment and litigation matters for the Company, which has over 4000 employees working in fourteen and is the 7th largest food distributor in the country. She is Board Certified in Labor and Employment law.

Punam's expertise comes from years of counseling and litigating employment law matters for clients while working at Haynes and Boone, LLP in the firm's Fort Worth, Dallas, and Houston offices. Punam graduated from SMU Dedman School of Law and University of Texas at Austin for her undergraduate studies.

When Punam is not handling labor and employment issues, she is working in the community. She is the past Chair of the Asian Pacific Interest Section of the State Bar of Texas. She has served on the board of the South Asian Bar Association of Houston (SABA Houston) and as a committee chairperson of the Dallas Asian American Bar Association (DAABA). She has served on the board of various non-profit organizations in Houston and Dallas. She is currently on the board of New Leaders Council Dallas. In 2013, she was recognized as DAABA's Member of the Year. In 2016 she received the Outstanding Public Service Award by SABA Houston. Punam regularly speaks at conferences and other venues regarding employment law issues and updates, and on diversity and inclusion.

She enjoys traveling with her husband, eating out and cooking (you can follow her food adventures on Instagram @eatsbyPK).

Samera Syeda Ludwig, Esq. Partner, Lowis & Gellen LLP, Chicago, IL

Samera Syeda Ludwig is a litigator who focuses her practice on employment discrimination, immigration and commercial disputes. Specifically, Ms. Ludwig represents employers in both federal and state courts defending claims of discrimination and harassment. She also counsels employers on effectively handling discrimination complaints and discipline of employees. Additionally, Ms. Ludwig provides employers with guidance related to the I-9 employment eligibility and verification process including conducting internal I-9 audits and representing employers who are audited by the government. Because Ms. Ludwig represents many multinational corporations and U.S. employers who rely on foreign workers, she also advises

both employers and individuals on employment related immigration issues including obtaining work visas.

Thomas L. McCally, Esq., Equity Partner, Carr Maloney P.C., Washington, D.C.

Thomas McCally has over 25 years of experience as a litigator representing clients in federal and state courts, the EEOC, and FEP agencies. Tom represents and counsels businesses including Fortune 100 companies, nonprofits, and professional firms in all aspects of employment law and management issues.

He also serves as outside general counsel to businesses leveraging his experience with management and business issues/policies, litigation, terminations/layoffs, and internal investigations to ensure compliance with state/local, federal, and international employment laws and regulations.

Diane Sanford, PHR, SHRM-CP, Chief People Officer, On the Border Mexican Restaurants, Dallas, TX

Diane Sanford is the Chief People Officer at Mexican casual dining chain On The Border Mexican Grill & Cantina and loves helping people tap into their strengths so they can grow their careers. She has spent the majority of her career in the Restaurant Industry gaining experiences in a variety of disciplines. As the top HR professional and a member of the company's executive team, she provides strategic leadership to Employee Relations, Talent Acquisition and Retention, Training and Development, Compensation, Benefits and Risk & Safety teams.

She began her career at On The Border in December 2014 as the Senior Vice President of Human Resources. She was promoted to Chief People Officer and has served in her current role since February 2016.

Diane joined On The Border from Day Star Restaurant Group where she served as Senior Vice President of Human Resources for four years. She started her restaurant career at Brinker International where she served in a variety of people-focused roles. While supporting people is her day job, Diane enjoys spending time with her family and giving back to her community.

1:45 PM: Update on Dram Shop and Liquor Liability

Moderator: Gabriel S. Slominski, Esq., Assistant Vice President, Surplus & Specialty Lines, Crum & Forster, Chicago, IL

Christopher Ballantyne, CPCU, SCLA, ARM, Chief Claims Officer, McNeil & Company Inc., Cortland, NY

Experienced claim executive with a demonstrated history of leadership and management success supporting a variety of insurance distribution channels and markets. Skilled in coaching and developing teams and individuals as well as implementing and executing successful claim businesses which deliver superior service and financial outcomes. A rich history of leadership

and technical excellence with significant standard, multiline, program, E & S, mutual and Lloyds underwriters experience.

Craig J. Compoli, Jr., Esq., Partner, O'Toole Scrivo Fernandez Weiner Van Lieu, LLC, Cedar Grove, NJ

Craig is an experienced trial attorney and litigator in both State and Federal court. He is designated by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a Certified Civil Trial Attorney, a distinction in trial advocacy bestowed on only 2-3% of all attorneys practicing in the State of New Jersey. His practice routinely encompasses a wide range of legal disputes focusing on catastrophic loss matters, industrial accidents, products liability law, commercial litigation, employment litigation, including CEPA and LAD claims, defense of civil rights actions, defense of professional liability matters, including legal and accounting malpractice, premises liability defense, dram shop liability defense and insurance coverage litigation. He has significant experience defending class action lawsuits through conclusion brought against New Jersey businesses and professional entities. He represents both insured and self-insured entities and is an experienced appellate practitioner, having argued on multiple occasions before the New Jersey Appellate Division. Craig also provides counsel to corporations, universities, and major pharmaceutical companies, regarding rights, remedies, compliance, liabilities and exposure in a variety of areas, including potential adverse employment claims.

Jacob Felderman, Esq., Partner, Tyson & Mendes, Denver, CO

Jacob Felderman is a Partner in Tyson & Mendes' Denver offices. Mr. Felderman has in-depth experience in a number of practice areas, including: general negligence, professional liability, premises liability, product liability, personal injury, and commercial & general civil litigation in California and Colorado.

Mr. Felderman earned his J.D. in 2003 from the University of Iowa, where he was a staff writer and Manager for the Journal of Gender, Race & Justice. He received his B.A. in English with honors from University of Iowa. In 1997, Mr. Felderman was a member of the University of Iowa's Division I NCAA National Championship wrestling team.

Mr. Felderman has had a successful career as a litigator. He obtained a favorable jury verdict of 2% of plaintiff's final demand in an admitted-liability auto accident case, in which plaintiff claimed life changing neck and back injuries. He successfully defended an international produce corporation sued after an alleged food-borne outbreak caused over 300 cases of Hepatitis A and multiple deaths in the Eastern United States. He has successfully defended C.P.A firms in suits involving multi-million-dollar embezzlement schemes alleging failure to uncover internal fraud during corporate audits.

2:30 PM: The In-House Counsel Perspectives

Moderator: Stephen M. Mahieu, Senior Counsel, Litigation, The Kraft Heinz Company, Chicago, IL

Steve Mahieu is Senior Counsel at Kraft Heinz, where he manages the company's U.S. litigation docket and pre-litigation claims and disputes. Prior to joining Kraft Heinz, Steve practiced law at Dykema Gossett in Chicago, where he handled commercial litigation, products liability, and insurance coverage matters.

Doug Besman, Esq., Senior Counsel, Head of Litigation, Nestlé USA, Inc., Solon, OH

Doug Besman is Senior Counsel - Head of Litigation for Nestle USA, Inc. He is based out of Nestlé's corporate offices in Solon, Ohio. Doug joined Nestlé's Legal Department in 1991. Prior to that he practiced in New York City with the law firm Mendes & Mount where he was a Partner in the firm's Aviation Department, and in Cleveland for two years with Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff in the firm's Trial Department. Doug received his graduate and post-graduate degrees at University of Florida and The Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Kenneth Odza, Corporate Counsel, Food & Safety, Kellogg Company, Portage, MI

Ken's professional passion is bringing industry and regulators together in a way that promotes public health and delivers affordable foods that people love and enjoy. My unique and successful approach combines deep technical knowledge of food safety, understanding of food manufacturing and specialized experienced in food law.

Ken has been fortunate to have the perspective of working in food law and food safety for nearly twenty years. In his current role in-house at Kellogg, Ken is responsible for building capabilities globally, training on regulatory compliance and documentation, and enhancing Kellogg's regulatory relationships. Ken also co-leads Kellogg's North American crisis management team, manages prop 65 litigation and supports Kellogg's Environmental, Health and Safety professionals. The thing Ken loves most of about his job is the time he gets spend in factories.

Prior to joining Kellogg, Ken was a partner in the Seattle office of Stoel Rives practicing food and environmental law. He "grew up" as an environmental and products liability trial lawyer honing his effectiveness as a "nice litigator" and becoming engrossed in regulatory compliance and science.

When not hard at work fulfilling professional passions, Ken spends time admiring the amazing accomplishments of his teenage children and managing the chaos at home caused by a dog and two cats.

Melissa S. Sellers, Senior Director & Assistant General Counsel, Global Supply Chain & International, The Hershey Company, Hershey, PA

Melissa S. Sellers is Senior Counsel at The Hershey Company - the largest producer of quality chocolate in North America and a global leader in chocolate and sugar confectionery, producing more than 80 brand names, including such iconic global brands as *Hershey's*, *Reese's*, *Hershey's Kisses*, *Brookside*, *Kit Kat*, *Twizzlers*, *Jolly Rancher* and *Ice Breakers*. Headquartered in

Hershey, Pa., The Hershey Company has operations throughout the world and approximately 14,000 employees. Ms. Sellers handles all commercial legal support in the United States and Mexico.

Prior to joining The Hershey Company, Ms. Sellers was general counsel for Phillips Foods and Seafood Restaurants, in Baltimore, Maryland, where she managed all legal issues for the company's restaurant and global seafood operations for more than 10 years.

Ms. Sellers was also an associate in the business department at Saul Ewing LLP in Baltimore, Maryland. She attended law school at night while Director of Operations for Medex Assistance Corporation, an emergency medical travel assistance company located in Towson, Maryland.

Ms. Sellers is a graduate of University of Baltimore School of Law. She earned a B.A. in Spanish, Sociology and Politics from the National University of Galway in Ireland. Melissa is also highly proficient in Spanish.

Ms. Sellers is admitted to practice in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Shayon T. Smith, Assistant General Counsel - Global Litigation, The Hershey Company, Hershey, PA

Shayon T. Smith is head of global litigation at The Hershey Company headquartered in Hershey, Pennsylvania. She is responsible for Hershey's global litigation strategies as well as dispute and litigation management. She is also responsible for providing commercial legal support to the Hershey's Chocolate World retail business. Shayon joined Hershey in 2015 from the Baltimore office of Goodell DeVries where she was a partner. Her practice focused on the representation of pharmaceutical and medical device companies facing products liability litigation in both state and federal jurisdictions. She previously served as in-house counsel with Steelcase Inc., managing disputes, claims and litigation matters both domestically and abroad. Shayon holds an undergraduate degree from Notre Dame of Maryland University, and a law degree from the University of Maryland.

3:45 PM: The Ethical Issues with the Growing Trend of CBD and Marijuana Related Products in the F&B Industry

Kay Barnes Baxter, Esq., Managing Partner, Foley & Mansfield, New Orleans, LA

Kay Barnes Baxter, managing partner of Foley & Mansfield's New Orleans office, is a seasoned litigator focused on the defense of toxic torts, occupational disease and environmental claims alleging personal injury and property damage, including matters involving construction litigation. Kay is a driven litigator who enjoys finding and implementing innovative ways to defend and protect her clients' interests. She has extensive experience defending cases involving a wide range of products including asbestos, benzene, silica, talc and chemical solvents. These matters include individual claims, as well as mass torts and class actions.

Kay serves a wide range of clients in varied aspects of litigation including manufacturers, miners, suppliers, contractors, and executive officers in toxic torts, environmental, transportation,

and workers compensation claims. A widely acknowledged authority in her field of practice, Kay handled the first Chinese Drywall claim accepted for defense by one of the largest insurance companies in the United States. She has also served as national trial counsel for Fortune 500 companies and has worked with the foremost nationally and internationally known experts in their various fields of specialty and continues to develop new experts for her clients.

Actively involved in leading legal defense organizations, Kay is a regular presenter at national conferences in her practice specialties. She is also active in her community by serving on various local boards and volunteering to assist the Louisiana State Bar Association.

James DiGiulio, Esq., Partner, O'Toole Scrivo Fernandez Weiner Van Lieu, LLC, Cedar Grove, NJ

James DiGiulio is a Partner in and General Counsel of O'Toole Scrivo.

Mr. DiGiulio represents corporations and individuals in high stakes matters in federal and state court, focusing on complex commercial, health care, corporate governance, and cannabis related matters.

As General Counsel, Mr. DiGiulio provides risk management and ethics guidance to the Firm's attorneys and oversees general liability issues. He also utilizes this experience to defend attorneys and law firms against all manner of claims.

Mr. DiGiulio most recently served as Chief Counsel to Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey. As Chief Counsel, Mr. DiGiulio was responsible for leading the Governor's legislative initiatives, supervising gubernatorial appointments, and managing all of New Jersey's authorities.

Mr. DiGiulio previously served as Senior Counsel to Governor Christie. In that capacity, he advised the Governor on various legal, legislative, and regulatory issues, most prominently in the areas of health care, economic development, taxation, banking and insurance.

Prior to joining the Office of the Governor, Mr. DiGiulio was a litigation attorney at McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP, an Am Law200 firm.

Mr. DiGiulio received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Loyola University in Maryland, earned his Juris Doctorate degree, *high honors*, from Rutgers Law School, and received his Masters of Law (LL.M.) in Corporate and Securities Law, *with merit*, from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Jason Lang, CIH, Manager, RHP Risk Management Inc., Chicago, IL

Jason Lang has worked in the field of EHS consulting as an industrial hygienist for over 10 years. Mr. Lang is certified by the American Board of Industrial hygiene in the comprehensive practice of industrial hygiene (CIH) and is also certified by the Board of Certified Safety

Professionals as a Certified Safety Professional (CSP). He was trained as an industrial hygienist at Purdue University. Mr. Lang is an asbestos project manager and asbestos air sampling professional (Illinois).

In his previous career Mr. Lang worked in the construction industry as an electrician and carpenter. Through this experience he provides a unique perspective in worker risk based behaviors, work practices, and specific product and equipment knowledge which has aided in the performance of exposure assessments, exposure reconstructions, statistical analyzes, and modeling. Mr. Lang has performed investigations and audits into occupational and environmental noise issues, laboratory chemical hygiene compliance, asbestos sourcing in a product supply chain, and asbestos abatement work practices in large refineries. He has provided support in litigation involving toxic tort, premises liability, chemical release, occupational safety and health, and product liability actions. Mr. Lang also leads RHP's site safety consulting practice and specializes in the development of safety programs and safety auditing for regulatory compliance.

Cicely Simpson, President & CEO, Summit Public Affairs, LLC, Washington, D.C.

Cicely Simpson is the Founder, President and CEO of Summit Public Affairs, a bi-partisan public affairs firm. Leveraging almost 20 years of leadership experience in public affairs, public policy, communications, political, and legal affairs, she brings a wealth of business and public affairs knowledge to help clients proactively manage the intersection of business and politics at all levels government: federal, state, and local.

Prior to launching Summit Public Affairs, Cicely served as the Executive Vice President of Public Affairs at the National Restaurant Association leading the restaurant industry's public affairs strategy at all levels of government to achieve the industry's public policy and political goals.

Prior to joining the Association, Cicely served as Vice President of Government Affairs at Dunkin' Brands, Inc., the franchisor and corporate parent of Dunkin' Donuts and Baskin-Robbins restaurants. During her tenure at Dunkin' Brands, she led the company's legislative, regulatory, and political strategy with federal, state, local, and international governments. Prior to her service at Dunkin' Brands, Cicely served as the Legislative Director for two Tennessee Congressmen on Capitol Hill.

She began her career in the Tennessee Attorney General's Criminal Division, before joining the law firm of Lewis, King, Krieg & Waldrop in Nashville.

Cicely received a Juris Doctor from Pepperdine University's School of Law, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Lipscomb University in Nashville.