

Diversity Conference - 2023



Dates

Diversity Conference

Wednesday,

December 6, 2023

In Person at BASF and via Zoom

MCLE Sign-in: 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Hybrid Program: 5:00 - 6:15 p.m.

MCLE: 1 Hour in Elimination of Bias

Diversity Conference

Thursday,

December 7, 2023

Virtual only

MCLE Sign-in: 8:45 - 9:15 a.m.

Virtual Program: 9:15 a.m. - 4:10 p.m.

MCLE: 5 Hours in Elimination of Bias

Diversity Conference - 2023 | December 6, 2023 | 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.

BASF Conference Center, 201 Mission Street,
4th Floor, San Francisco CA 94105

Schedule

Registration: 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Keynote Speech: 5:00 - 6:15 p.m., MCLE 1 Hour in
Elimination of Bias

Presentation of Outstanding Diversity Advocate Awards:
6:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Networking Reception: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

2023 Outstanding Diversity Advocate Award Recipients



Sydney Allen
Benesch



Michael Nguyen
(aka Juicy Liu)
Patent Law Works

To receive MCLE credit, you must sign in during the designated MCLE registration period. This activity is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California.

BASF is a certified provider. Provider #103

Viewing Options



Live Webcast available, register at
www.sfbar.org



Webcast Recording will be available. Register separately on our online platform.

Special Requests:

People with disabilities should contact BASF regarding reasonable accommodations at events@sfbar.org.

The Supreme Court's Ban on Affirmative Action Implications for Diversity in Law School Admissions

December 6 | 5:00-6:15 p.m.

MCLE 1 Hour in Elimination of Bias

Hybrid

Join Dean of Berkeley Law, Erwin Chemerinsky for his in-person keynote address at this year's conference, which will discuss the Supreme Court's two recent decisions striking down affirmative action (*Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. Harvard* and *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. University of North Carolina*). While space is limited at this in-person event, Dean Chemerinsky's keynote, which also qualifies for CLE credit, will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person. Dean Chemerinsky will not only analyze the Supreme Court's decisions, but also offer a path forward. California banned affirmative action prior to the Supreme Court's rulings, and Dean Chemerinsky will elucidate how Berkeley Law has learned to build a diverse class without considering race as a factor in its admissions.

Keynote Speaker



Erwin Chemerinsky
Dean; Berkeley Law

2023 Diversity Conference: Defending Diversity

December 7, 2023 | 9:15 a.m. - 4:10 p.m.
Virtual/Online Only

Defending Reproductive Rights Post *Roe*

December 7 | 9:15-10:30 a.m.

1 Hour in Elimination of Bias

Virtual/Online Only

Join Prof. Mariah Lindsay of UCI Law, Adam Laughton of Greenberg Traurig as well as representatives from Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California and the Black Women for Wellness Action Project for a discussion of both the practical and policy implications of the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. This panel will also focus specifically on the impact of the Supreme Court's overturning of *Roe v. Wade* on women of color. Additionally, moderator, Mary McNamara, brings her unique perspective as a member of the Bar Association of San Francisco's Legal Alliance for Reproductive Rights.

Speakers



Prof. Mariah Lindsay
Senior Executive Policy Fellow,
Center for Biotech and Global Health
Policy, University of California Irvine
School of Law



Lisa Matsubara
Chief Legal & Advocacy Officer,
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of
California



Adam H. Laughton
Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig



Onyemma Obiekea
Policy Director, Black Women for
Wellness Action Project

Moderator



Mary McNamara
Member, Bar Association of San
Francisco, Legal Alliance for
Reproductive Rights, Former President,
The Bar Association of San Francisco

Defending and Ensuring Equitable Access to Courts

December 7 | 10:40-11:55 a.m.

MCLE 1 Hour in Elimination of Bias

Virtual/Online Only

Ensuring equitable and fair access to courts is an ongoing challenge for our system, and is key to living up to the promise of equal justice under law. Join Judge Suzanne Bolanos, who chairs the San Francisco Superior Court Committee on Elimination of Bias, and Betsy Wolkin, administrator for Indigent Defense Administration at the Bar Association of San Francisco to learn about various approaches and strategies being taken to ensure equitable access to courts. Topics discussed will include elimination of bias, training and education, as well as the San Francisco pilot program Be the Jury, which increased juror pay in an attempt to produce more representative and diverse juries. Moderated by Barristers Board member Kevin Benedicto, who also serves on the San Francisco Court Committee on Elimination of Bias.

Speakers



Honorable Suzanne Bolanos
San Francisco Superior Court



Betsy Wolkin
Indigent Defense Administration, The
Bar Association of San Francisco

Moderator



Kevin Benedicto
Morgan Lewis & Bockius

Equitable Frameworks

How Cannabis & Psychedelics Became a Model for Equitable Legislation

December 7 | 12:05-1:20 p.m.

MCLE 1 Hour in Elimination of Bias

Virtual/Online Only

The panel will explore how legislation in this space has and can help redress failed legislative policies (e.g., war on drugs, etc) disproportionately impacting underrepresented communities (e.g., communities of color, native communities, the neurodivergent) and how this can provide a model for similar or even improved equitable legislation in other areas. Some examples: including communities in rule making processes, requiring regulators consider social / cultural impacts in administration, and designing licensing and tax regimes that help rebuild impacted communities.

Speakers



Ismail Ali
Director of Policy & Advocacy,
Multidisciplinary Association for
Psychedelic Studies



Sam Chapman
Executive Director,
Healing Advocacy Fund



Robert Haferd
Restorative Justice Coordinator, Office
of the D.C. Attorney General



Christine De La Rosa
CEO & Co-Founder, People's Ecosystem

Moderator



Anthony Guzman
Greenberg Traurig

 [Click here to learn more](#)

Don't Say Hate

Inclusive & Educational Responses to a National Conversation on LGBTQ+ Rights

December 7 | 1:30-2:45 p.m.

MCLE 1 Hour in Elimination of Bias

Virtual/Online Only

This panel will explore the national conversation on LGBTQ+ rights in education, its impacts on students and LGBTQ+ members, and how certain legislatures have responded through inclusive legislation, like CA's recent suite of LGBTQ+ bills touching on everything from book bans, to cultural competency trainings, inclusive restrooms, name / gender affirmation, and anti-outing protections.

Speakers



Amanda Goad

Director of LGBTQ+, Gender, and Reproductive Justice Project, ACLU SoCal



Alice Kessler

Head of Government Law & Policy Group, Greenberg Traurig



Dr. Corey Jackson

Assemblymember, 60th District, California State Assembly

Moderator



Paton Moody

Legal Fellow, Equality California

Defending Diversity in a Downturn

December 7 | 2:55-4:10 p.m.

MCLE 1 Hour in Elimination of Bias

Virtual/Online Only

Insert descriptilt seems that every organization says DEI is important to them, yet many scale back investments in this area when economic uncertainty looms. That seemed to happen this year as the economy soured. Join Tiseme Zegeye, Partner at Lief Cabraser, John Palmer, Partner-in-Charge of Inclusion & Belonging at Orrick, and Oyango A. Snell, immediate past Executive Director of the California Lawyers Foundation, for a discussion on why and how organizations can push through even in economic downturns.on

Speakers



Tiseme Zegeye

Partner, Lief Cabraser



John Palmer

Partner-in-Charge of Inclusion & Belonging, Orrick

Moderator



Oyango A. Snell

Former CEO & Executive Director, California Lawyers Association