

International Law Seminar

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

by order of presentation

Julius H. Hines

Hines & Gilsenan, LLC

North Charleston, SC

(Course Planner)

Julius “Sam” Hines practiced at regional and international law firms for more than two decades before opening his own practice, now known as Hines & Gilsenan LLC, in 2019. Based in Charleston, Hines, South Carolina, Hines practices in the areas of maritime and commercial law, including international trade. He advises a broad range of clients in the shipping, transportation, logistics, manufacturing and trading industries. He is also an adjunct professor at the Charleston School of Law, where he teaches in the areas of maritime and trade law. In 2017, Hines was a Fulbright visitor at the University of Kwazulu-Natal School of Law, where he lectured on maritime law topics. Hines is a 1992 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, where he served on the Virginia Law Review. He is admitted to practice in the courts of South Carolina as well as the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. courts for appeals for the Fourth, Fifth and Eleventh Circuits. He is a proctor member of the Maritime Law Association of the United States and the former chairman of the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute.

Melissa Drennan
Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer (US) LLP
New York, NY

Melissa B. Drennan is a senior attorney in Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer (US) LLP's internationally recognized Immigration practice with over a decade of experience in immigration. She advises clients on a variety of employment-based business immigration matters across a diverse range of industries, including financial services, advertising, technology, law, medical, scientific research, education, art, fashion, and management consulting. Melissa advises Fortune 500 multinational corporations, startups, nonprofits, and other organizations, as well as individuals, in seeking immigrant and nonimmigrant visas. She also defends companies facing Department of Justice (DOJ) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) investigations and Department of Labor (DOL) and Department of State (DOS) inquiries. She is a Member of the South Carolina Bar Association International Law Committee and Charleston County Bar Association. She has taught immigration law at the Charleston School of Law. She is also a Member of the Charleston Pro Bono Human Trafficking Legal Network. In addition, she is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)'s Carolinas, New York, and New Jersey Chapters, and is currently serving as a Co-chair of the CBP Liaison Committee for the AILA New York Chapter. She has spoken on a variety of CLEs and panels on immigration, and has served as a pro bono speaker on Immigration Law for the SC Bar Association's Law School for Non-Lawyers. She also serves as member of the International Medical Graduate (IMG) Taskforce. She is a graduate of Lafayette College and Seton Hall University of Law and is licensed in South Carolina, New York, and New Jersey.

Alison Razet

*Parker Poe
Charleston, SC*

Alison Epting Razet focuses her practice on immigration law. She is part of an experienced team of attorneys who represent both domestic and foreign companies of all sizes on virtually every type of employment and labor issue. Her counsel encompasses non-immigrant categories (L-1, H-1B, O-1, TN, E1/E2, and others), employment-based green-card sponsorship, and consular processing. Alison is fluent in French and proficient in Spanish. Earlier in her career, Alison served as assistant general counsel of Bucknell University. Her role included coordinating immigration services for the university's faculty and staff. She is also a former law clerk to Senior Judge Paul C. Huck of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Brad Banias

*Banias Law, LLC
Charleston, SC*

Brad Banias (College of Charleston, BA; Charleston School of Law, JD; Columbia Law School LLM) focuses his practice on federal court litigation for noncitizens and their employers. After clerking for the Honorable G. Ross Anderson (Dec.) and the Honorable Dennis W. Shedd (Ret.), Brad worked as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Immigration Litigation for the first few years of his career. After returning to Charleston, he focused on federal court remedies for noncitizens against public and private entities. He has been an adjunct at the Charleston School of Law since 2014, where he teaches immigration and administrative law.

W. Ford Graham

*McGuire Woods Consulting, LLC
Columbia, SC*

W. Ford Graham, IMBA, Esq. is a senior vice president on McGuireWoods Consulting's national infrastructure & economic development team and a partner with McGuireWoods LLP.

Ford has a depth of experience working in the economic development sector where he has been one of the leading recruiters of international companies to the Southeastern United States. He has facilitated new industry and industrial expansion in over 132 projects, which have resulted in commitments of more than 13,000 new jobs and \$38.9 billion in new investment. Ford's practice focuses on companies opening or expanding operations in the U.S. In addition to economic incentives, Ford assists companies with the full spectrum of legal needs that arise when companies enter new markets.

Most recently, Ford was a partner at an international AmLaw 100 law firm, and he previously served as director of international strategy and trade for the South Carolina Department of Commerce. In that role, he directed all aspects of the agency's international efforts, including South Carolina's four international offices in Delhi, Munich, Shanghai, and Tokyo, uncovering foreign direct investment opportunities, and assisting South Carolina companies with exporting their products to the rest of the world. Before that, he worked as general counsel for a real estate development/investment firm and served as a judicial clerk in the 5th and 14th Judicial Circuits of South Carolina. Ford served as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala.

Ford is an avid runner and has completed more than 40 marathons/ ultramarathons in sixteen states including multiple 50-mile races and a 100-mile race in Georgia.

Jay Rogers
Nelson Mullins
Greenville, SC

Jay Rogers is a senior equity partner who works out of the Greenville, South Carolina and Washington, DC offices of Nelson Mullins. His practice focuses on international trade issues, particularly tariff and trade remedy work involving Antidumping and Countervailing Duty (AD/CVD) investigations. He handles compliance, planning and dispute resolution matters related to United States Customs and Tariff issues and has appeared multiple times in the United States Court of International Trade (“CIT”), successfully representing both U.S. and foreign clients.

For example, Jay recently won an appeal to the CIT overturning an adverse determination by the US Department of Commerce in its administrative review of an Antidumping Duty Order. Following an Order from the CIT, Commerce lowered the client’s Antidumping Duty rate from 66.7% to Zero Percent (0%). *Grupo Acerero S.A. de C.V. v. United States*, 48 CIT __, 698 F. Supp. 3d 1320 (2024).

Jay also successfully protested the liquidation by the United States Customs and Border Protection agency (CBP) in 2024 of duties levied on certain products imported from China, resulting in a \$2.9 million refund to the client.

Finally, Jay’s tariff team recently reversed an adverse Binding Letter Ruling by US Customs and Border Protection regarding a country of origin dispute, resulting in tariff savings worth high seven figures to the client.

Doug Fraser
Ingevity
North Charleston, SC

Doug Fraser is a legal professional with 15+ years of experience advising both large and small companies in highly regulated industries including chemicals, manufacturing, and healthcare. As Senior Corporate Counsel at Ingevity, he supports Ingevity’s global intellectual property activities across its Performance Materials, Performance Chemicals and Advanced Polymer Technologies business units as well as global data privacy. He supports the two largest business units (Performance Chemicals and Performance Materials) on global commercial transactions. Prior to Ingevity, Doug held senior legal and compliance roles at Smith/Packett Med-Com, LLC, serving as the senior legal representative of its Harmony Senior Services affiliate. He also spent 8+ years at Roper St. Francis Healthcare as a legal and compliance professional, where he oversaw commercial transactions across the health system, managed corporate compliance programs, served on the Institutional Review Board and supported day to day legal operations of the RSFH Clinical Biotechnology and Research Institute, which conducted human clinical trials across multiple clinical specialties and undertook IP technology transfer efforts. He began his legal career at two boutique litigation and transactional law firms in Charleston focusing on general business and real estate transactions as well as civil litigation matters in the areas of medical malpractice, personal injury, construction defect, and business litigation, among others. He is admitted to practice in South Carolina and the Federal Bar.

Usher Winlett

*ADR Office of Usher Winlett
Georgetown, SC*

Usher Winslett has been an ADR professional since 1996, handling more than 140 international and domestic disputes as arbitrator or mediator. He has experience as tribunal chair, wing arbitrator, sole arbitrator, and mediator on all sorts of commercial/financial, intellectual property, employment, corporate governance, insurance, and entertainment disputes.

He is currently based in New York City and South Carolina, but he works throughout the US, internationally, and remotely (i.e., via Zoom, etc.).

Usher is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb), a Fellow of the College of Commercial Arbitrators, and currently in his second term as Co-Chair of the ABA Dispute Resolution Section International Committee. He was Chair or Co-Chair of the ABA Arbitration Institute in 2023, 2024, and 2025; Co-Chair of the Atlanta International Arbitration Society (AtlAS) Annual Conference in 2024; a two-term Co-Chair of the ABA Dispute Resolution Section Arbitration Committee in 2023 and 2024; and an ABA Dispute Resolution Section Fellow in 2021 and 2022. He serves on the arbitration and mediation panels of the AAA, ICDR, ICC, CPR, FINRA, and the United States District Courts for the Southern District of New York, Eastern District of New York, and the District of South Carolina. He is a member of the International Arbitration Club of New York, the New York International Arbitration Center (NYIAC), AtlAS, the New York City Bar International Commercial Disputes Committee, and other professional groups and organizations focused on international and domestic dispute resolution. He formerly served on the Eastern District of New York's ADR Advisory Council, which is responsible for overseeing the court's ADR program, including recruiting and training arbitrators and mediators.

In his thirty-plus-year legal career, Usher has handled dispute resolution from virtually every angle. He has worked in both big and small law firms and as a corporate general counsel. He has represented both plaintiffs and defendants ranging from huge multinational corporations to individuals. In addition, he has held non-legal, senior-management positions in a number of businesses, so he has seen dispute resolution from the client's perspective.

In addition to the above, Usher's diverse career has also included starting a company that imported and distributed shoes from Argentina, serving a deputy campaign manager for a United States Congressperson, and serving as executive producer on multiple critically acclaimed albums, music videos, and a film.

Usher graduated with honors from Washington & Lee University in 1982 and from NYU Law School in 1986. Currently, in addition to his ADR work, Usher is managing partner at Winslett Studnický McCormick & Bomser LLP.

Kathleen Paisley

Ambos Lawyers

Brussels, Belgium

Kathleen is an American lawyer who has been practicing in Belgium and England for more than 25 years. She combines a degree from the Yale Law School with an MBA in Finance and has passed the Certified Public Accountancy exam. Kathleen specializes in representing clients in international dispute resolution matters, including arbitration, mediation and litigation; (commercial and contract matters related to IP/IT/internet/e-commerce/data protection; contentious and non-contentious matters before the EU institutions, including competition, trade, and other regulatory matters related to IP/internet/e-commerce/data protection; and EU and Belgian regulatory compliance matters related to data protection, e-commerce, health care, pharmaceuticals, IP, ICT, foreign corrupt practices and money laundering. Kathleen's sector specific experience focuses primarily on four key economic sectors: ICT, internet, e-commerce, and multi-media; health care, biotech and pharmaceuticals; energy; and construction and issues related thereto.

Henry L. Parr

Wyche, P.A.

Greenville, SC

Henry leads Wyche's Arbitration and Antitrust practice groups. In addition to serving as an advocate in arbitration and litigation in state and federal courts, he sits as a neutral in arbitrations. Henry is a member of the American Arbitration Association's Complex Case, International Dispute Resolution and appellate panels. In addition, he is a Fellow of the CIArb, a member of the CPR Panel of Distinguished Neutrals and the HKIAC panels.

Henry's work as an arbitrator has included class action arbitration, as well as individual party arbitrations in numerous jurisdictions involving disputes concerning agricultural chemicals, licensing of medical devices, distribution of heavy equipment, payor-provider disputes, medical record data disputes, FIFRA disputes, manufacturer/dealer disputes, consumer disputes, intellectual property disputes, real estate development joint ventures, and other matters including claims ranging from \$200,000 to claims in excess of \$50,000,000. He is currently serving as the sole arbitrator or panel member in thirteen pending arbitrations involving claims from \$300,000 to \$100,000,000.

Henry has also served as lead counsel for claimants and respondents in arbitrations, including matters involving real estate investor dispute, license disputes, professional testing, physician disassociation, contractual disputes, insurance disputes, third party logistics, product distribution, and wage disputes, with claims ranging from \$100,000 to \$80,000,000, including class action arbitration.

In addition to his work in arbitration, he has handled large and complex cases in courts in the United States involving a wide range of industries and products, including banking, insurance, intellectual property, paving, software, hardware, LCD panels, polyester fiber, battery powered busses, mergers, healthcare, logistics, and sales representation agreements.

Henry served as an advisor to the American Law Institute's Restatement of the Law of Liability Insurance. He received undergraduate degree from Furman University and his law degree from the University of Virginia, where he was Notes Editor of the *Virginia Law Review*. He joined the Wyche Law Firm, after clerking for Chief Judge Clement Haynsworth of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and Chief Justice Warren Burger of the United States Supreme Court.

Kate Gonzalez

*Airbus
Washington, D.C.*

Kate Gonzalez is Senior Legal Counsel at Airbus Americas. She also serves as Assistant Corporate Secretary to Airbus Americas.

Kate works closely with the General Counsel of Airbus Americas to provide legal support to business functions, including sales, contracts, customer services, procurement and engineering, with a particular focus on corporate governance, M&A, restructuring, and commercial disputes. Kate is a dual qualified lawyer admitted to practise as an Avocat at the Paris Bar and as a Solicitor in England & Wales. Kate is also a member of the Virginia Bar (Corporate Counsel, Pt II). Prior to joining the Airbus group legal team in 2019, Kate specialized in dispute resolution and practised with law firms for over a decade in London and Paris. Kate is a fluent French speaker and holds a Masters in Business Law from the Paris Sorbonne University (France), a Masters in Arbitration from the University of Montpellier (France) and an LLB English Law with French Degree from the University of Birmingham (United Kingdom).

Brent Clinkscale
Clinkscale Global ADR
Greenville, SC

Brent Clinkscale is an Independent Arbitrator, Mediator, Facilitator and Litigation Consultant. He is the Managing Member of Clinkscale Global ADR. He is a veteran advocate with experience in both trials and arbitrations. He worked for over 25 years as counsel and lead counsel in complex litigation trying numerous cases in both federal and state courts in the United States. Brent's concentration is in business litigation, including both domestic and international arbitrations, but he has experience across a broad spectrum of Civil Dispute Resolution. He also has significant experience in class action and multi district litigation. Brent is a member of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) Domestic Panel of Commercial, Consumer and Complex case Arbitrators and a member of the International Center for Dispute Resolution (ICDR) International Panel of Commercial and Complex case Arbitrators. Brent is also a Member of the AAA-ICDR Council and serves on the Arbitrator Committee. He is a Past President and Present Executive Committee Member of the Atlanta International Arbitration Society (AtLAS), Chair of the United States Council for International Business (USCIB) Southeastern Arbitration Subcommittee, Immediate Past Chair of the South Carolina Bar International Committee, a Delegate to the ICC Arbitration Commission on Arbitration and ADR, Co-Chair of the ABA Dispute Resolution Arbitration Committee and Co-Chair of the 2026 ABA Dispute Resolution Arbitration Institute. Brent is a Former Partner of Womble Bond Dickinson Law Firm and Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd Law Firm. He is also Past General Counsel for the Thurgood Marshall College Fund and Past Executive Committee Member of the Fund. Brent served as a member of the ABA ROLI Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (CEELI) Council. He is a Coach for the Charleston School of Law Vis Moot Team and the University of South Carolina Law School Vis Moot Team in the Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition in Vienna. He is a member of the Advisory Board of Bridge Philanthropic Consulting LLC and serves on the 2025 Inaugural Advisory Board for the Center on Law, Race & Policy (CLRP) at Duke University Law School.

Brent was a three-sport athlete at JL Mann High School, participating in Basketball, Football and Track before he went to Duke University where he was a quarterback on the Duke University Football Team. After graduating from Duke University undergrad, Brent attended Duke University Law School where he was the first African American President of the Duke Bar Association (The Duke University Law School Student Body)