

Friday, January 23, 2026

2– 5:15 p.m.

Diversity Committee/Technology/ Innovation and Intellectual Property Committee

3.0 MCLE Credit Hours, including up to 1.50 LEPR Credit Hours

Supreme Court Commission on CLE Course #: 260137

Room Location: 109-111

Bias, Ethics, and Accountability in Artificial Intelligence: Legal Impacts and IP Challenges

As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes deeply embedded in legal, corporate, and public-sector decision-making, legal professionals must grasp both its transformative potential and its emerging risks. This 3-hour Continuing Legal Education seminar offers a two-part panel discussion, examining AI from two critical angles: bias and ethical concerns, and intellectual property (IP) and ownership rights. Attendees will gain practical insights into how AI impacts legal practice today – from biased decision-making and false citations to unresolved questions of authorship and IP protection. Panel 1: Bias and Ethical AI: Understanding and Mitigating Harm in AI Systems the first panel will focus on bias and ethical considerations in AI systems, exploring how AI can unintentionally perpetuate discrimination due to flawed data, model design, or deployment. Participants will learn to identify bias in AI-powered tools used in hiring, criminal justice, and public services, and examine the risk posed by “hallucinations” – AI-generated false or misleading content, including fabricated legal citations. The panel will also address the evidentiary and legal challenges raised by deepfakes and synthetic media, and introduce the concepts of ethical AI and alignment, emphasizing transparency, fairness, and accountability in AI governance. Panel 2: Intellectual Property and AI: Ownership, Authorship, and Innovation in the AI Era as AI-generated content becomes more prevalent, this panel will explore the legal uncertainties surrounding ownership and protection of AI-created works and provide guidance on the unresolved legal questions about ownership, authorship, and protection of AI-generated content. Attendees will explore whether AI can be recognized as an inventor or author under U.S. law, how existing copyright and patent regimes apply to AI-generated outputs, and the implications of training AI models on copyrighted or proprietary data. As regulatory frameworks continue to evolve, this session will offer practical insights for advising clients, protecting innovation, and anticipating changes in the legal landscape. Participants will leave this CLE with a deeper understanding of how to identify and mitigate AI bias, apply ethical and legal standards to AI tools, assess intellectual property protections in the AI era, and prepare for emerging compliance and governance challenges.

Agenda

2 – 3:30 p.m.

Panel Discussion: Bias and Ethical AI: Understanding and Mitigating Harm in AI Systems

Justice (Ret) John G. Browning
Jones School of Law at Faulkner University
Montgomery, AL

Anthony D’Elia
University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law
Columbia, SC

Cat Moon
Vanderbilt School of Law
Nashville, TN

Moderator: Gary Moore
University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law
Columbia, SC

3:30– 3:45 p.m. **Break**

3:45 – 5:15 p.m. **Panel Discussion: Intellectual Property and AI: Ownership, Authorship, and Innovation in the AI Era**

Jessica J. Harrison, BSECE, MSECE, JD
Cope Collective
Washington, D.C.

Doug Kim
Kim, Lahey, & Killough Law Firm
Greenville, SC

Todd Serbin
MarynardNexsen
Columbia, SC

Brandon Huffman
Odin Law and Media
Raleigh, NC

Moderator: Jack Pringle, JD, CIPP, US
Nelson Mullins
Columbia, SC

Course Planner/Moderator: Cherlyn Borjes
South Carolina Procurement Review Panel
Columbia, SC

Susie Shannon
South Carolina Council on Competitiveness
Columbia, SC