

Inspiring Professionalism and Service to the Bar
Western States Bar Conference 2025
Wigwam Resort, Litchfield Park, Arizona

----- Conference Agenda -----

Wednesday, April 2

7:00 – 8:45 a.m.

Palo Verde Foyer

Chief Executives Breakfast

By invite only

9:00 a.m. – Noon

Palo Verde Room

Western States Bar Conference Executive Director Retreat

Facilitator: Elizabeth Wright, Executive Director, Utah State Bar

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Sachem Foyer

Registration

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Sachem Terrace

Welcome Reception

Sponsored by Clio

Thursday, April 3

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Sachem Terrace

Breakfast

7:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Sachem Foyer

Registration/Sponsors

8:15 – 8:30 a.m.

Sachem East

Welcome to the Conference

Matt Thiel, WSBC President 2024-2025

Joel England, WSBC Secretary/Treasurer

Doreen McPaul, Vice President, State Bar of Arizona

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Sachem East

Opening Remarks and Welcome to Arizona

Ann A. Scott Timmer, Chief Justice, Arizona Supreme Court

9:00 – 9:15 a.m.

Sachem East

ABA Update

Bill Bay, President, American Bar Association

9:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Sachem East

Session 1 – What You Do Matters

Elizabeth Burton Ortiz, Executive Director of the Arizona
Prosecuting Attorney's Advisory Council

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10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Sachem East Foyer

Sponsor Break

11:00 – 12:15 p.m.

Sachem East

Session 2 – Role of Lawyers in Society

Michelle Behnke, President-Elect, American Bar Association
Daniel Cotter, President, National Conference of Bar Presidents
Toni Tease, President, Montana State Bar
Ted Schmidt, President, State Bar of Arizona
Facilitator: *Matt Thiel*, WSBC President

12:15 – 12:30 p.m.

Sachem East

Roll Call of States

Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii

1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Meet in the lobby at 1 p.m.

Heard Museum Trip (Optional Event)

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Friday, April 4

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Sachem Terrace

Breakfast

7:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Sachem East Foyer

Sponsors

8:00 – 8:10 a.m.

Sachem East

Sponsor Recognition

8:10 – 8:30 a.m.

Sachem East

Clio Demonstration

Miquela Anzulovich, Affinity Partnerships Manager, Clio

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Sachem East

Roll Call of States

Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Sachem East

Session 3 – Reset. Recharge. Reignite.

David Rosen, Past President, Oregon State Bar

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10:00 – 10:20 a.m.
Sachem East Foyer

Sponsor Break

10:20 – 11:45 a.m.
Sachem East

Session 4 – Update on Pathways to Licensure

Helen Hirschbiel, Executive Director, Oregon State Bar
Emily Lee, Deputy Counsel, Utah State Bar Admissions
Sydney Lisy, Admissions Director, State Bar of Nevada
Facilitator: *Tony Weiler*, Executive Director, State Bar Association of North Dakota

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Sachem East

Roll Call of States

California, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
Afternoon Free

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Trellis Garden

Reception/Dinner
Sponsored by Vlex Fastcase

Saturday, April 5

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.
Sachem Terrace

Breakfast

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Breakout Sessions for Bar Leaders

Kiva West/Sabuaru

Large Bar (AZ, CA, NV, OR, TX, UT, WA)
Facilitator: *Helen Hirschbiel*, Executive Director, Oregon State Bar

Kiva West/Sabuaru

Small Bar (AK, HI, ID, MT, ND, NM, SD, WY)
Facilitator: *Danielle Bailey*, Executive Director, Alaska Bar Association

9:05 – 9:15 a.m.

Sponsor Recognition

9:15 – 10:15 a.m.
Sachem East

Session 5 – LawOS: Rebooting the Legal Industry with AI

Whitney Stefko, Associate Director and Senior Counsel, Ford Motor Company

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Sachem East Foyer

Sponsor Break

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.
Sachem East

Roll Call of States

Utah, Washington, Wyoming

10:45 a.m. – Noon
Sachem East

Session 6 – Access to Justice Trends and Experimentation

Sam Thumma, Judge, Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One

Leah Wilson, Executive Director, California State Bar

Rebecca Sandefur, ASU Director and Professor, the Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics

Facilitator: *Terra Nevitt*, Executive Director, Washington State Bar Association

Noon – 12:15 p.m.
Sachem East

Announcement of New Leadership

Ben Hofmeister, 2025-2026 WSBC President

12:15 – 12:30 p.m.

Annual Business Meeting (for WSBC Leadership)