

35th Annual Entertainment Law Institute
September 11-12, 2025 • AT&T Conference Center • Austin, TX
September 11-12, 2025 • Live Webcast

Thursday Morning, Sep. 11, 2025

	<i>This agenda is still in development. Updates to topics and speakers will be posted as available.</i>
7:30 am In Austin Only	Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:20 am	Welcoming Remarks
8:30 am 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Recent Developments in Collegiate Athlete NIL Deals Moderator: Daniel Hare, Varsity Search and Baylor University - Waco, TX Panelist: Mit Winter, Kenny Hertz Perry, Attorneys at Law - Kansas City, MO
9:30 am 0.75 hr	Is That Fair Use? Trademarks, Creativity, and the Law Post <i>Grimaldi v. Rogers</i> A case law review and practical application of balancing trademark rights and artistic expression in today's media landscape. Tamera H. Bennett, Harper & Bates LLP - Dallas, TX Jordyn E. Hendrix, Harper & Bates LLP - Dallas, TX
10:15 am	15-Minute Break Thank You to our Sponsor Jackson Walker LLP
10:30 am 1.00 hr	Annual Case Law "Roundup" An annual roundup of notable court rulings, including Texas judicial decisions, that impact the practice of entertainment law. Stan Soocher, Entertainment Law & Finance - Denver, CO
11:30 am 1.00 hr	The Trouble with Ticketing Moderator: Chris Castle, Christian L. Castle, Attorneys - Austin, TX Panelist: Heather VanDyke, Javelina Legal - Austin, TX

12:30 pm In Austin Only	NETWORKING LUNCH AND MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITY (In Austin Only) Network with colleagues and converse with conference faculty and other entertainment law experts in multiple practice areas and firm sizes. Lunch is included in registration.
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Thursday Afternoon, Sep. 11, 2025

1:45 pm 0.75 hr ethics	Incorporating AI into your Entertainment Law Practice: Ethical Considerations Grant Atkinson, ActionResponder - Los Angeles, CA Alex Shahrestani, Promise Legal - Austin, TX
2:30 pm 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Independent Finance Options for the Novice Filmmaker Discuss the various means available to the novice filmmaker for raising the budget for a film including private equity and associated Securities Law issues, pre-sales, incentives, loans how they can be combined to raise the total amount needed. Explore the need for early involvement of production counsel so as to legally attach actors to make the financing easier to obtain. Duncan C. Montgomery, High Frequency Entertainment, LLC - Austin, TX Michael Norman Saleman, Austin, TX
3:15 pm	15-Minute Break
3:30 pm 0.75 hr	A Recording Agreement Walkthrough: Key Provisions and Considerations Tom Dean, LaPolt Law, P.C. - West Hollywood, CA
4:15 pm 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Lyrics and Litigation: A Case Study on Drake's Legal Claims Against UMG Recordings, Inc. From the recording studio to the courtroom, discuss the legal claims arising from feuds between well-known recording artists. Megan Dunn, Megan Dunn Law, PLLC - Dallas, TX
5:00 pm In Austin Only	Adjourn to Networking Reception Join us for drinks and hors d'oeuvres with program faculty and attendees.

Friday Morning, Sep. 12, 2025

8:00 am In Austin Only	Conference Room Opens Includes continental breakfast.
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8:45 am 0.50 hr	Incentives and Rebates: Saving Your Clients Money through the Texas Film Commission Moderator: Stephanie K. Hay, The Hay Law Group, PLLC - Houston, TX Panelist: Will Zech, Texas Film Commission - Austin, TX
9:15 am 0.75 hr	The Rise of Immersive Sports and Entertainment Experiences: Unique Legal Issues Breanna Contreras, Meow Wolf - Santa Fe, NM
10:00 am	15-Minute Break
10:15 am 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	How to Best Advocate for Your Entertainment Law Clients: A Conversation with Dina LaPolt Moderator: Gwendolyn Seale, Mike Tolleson and Associates - Austin, TX Panelist: Dina LaPolt, LaPolt Law, P.C. - West Hollywood, CA
11:00 am 0.75 hr	Public Art: A Case Study Moderator: Alissa McCain, Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts - Austin, TX Panelist: Andrea N. Perez, Carrington, Coleman, Sloman & Blumenthal L.L.P. - Dallas, TX
11:45 am 0.75 hr ethics	Lawyers Behaving Badly: AI Edition Karen Delaney, Delaney Legal PLLC - Minneapolis, MN Jennifer Judge, Destination Pet, LLC - Plano, TX
12:30 pm In Austin Only	Pick Up Lunch (in Austin) Included in registration.

Friday Afternoon, Sep. 12, 2025

TEXAS STAR AWARD AND LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:50 pm	Texas Star Award Presentation Presented by: Stan Soocher, Entertainment Law & Finance, Denver, CO
1:00 pm 0.50 hr	Pivoting from Lawyer to Producer: The Launch of LaPolt Media Dina LaPolt, LaPolt Law, P.C. - West Hollywood, CA
1:30 pm	15-Minute Break

1:45 pm 0.75 hr	The Path to Publication An overview on the legal pathways to publication focusing on the contractual differences between traditional publishing, self-publishing, and hybrid publishing. Stevie M. Fitzgerald, SXSW, LLC - Austin, TX
2:30 pm 0.75 hr	Legal Issues for Content Creators and Influencers Stephen Starks, Live Nation Entertainment - Dallas, TX
3:15 pm 0.75 hr	Reality TV Tristan Robinson, Weaver Robinson Law Firm, PLLC - Arlington, TX
4:00 pm	Adjourn