

Our Speakers



Monica Barber

Monica Barber is the founder and managing partner of Barber International Law Group. Prior to founding her own firm in 2019, Monica served as Senior Compliance Counsel at NCR Corporation, where she was responsible all aspects of legal support in trade compliance, including management of a team of import and export compliance professionals. Prior to NCR, she was in-house counsel at John Deere for nine years, including as a Senior Attorney for Global Trade and Worldwide Logistics. Monica currently serves as Chair of the Georgia District Export Council, and is the Founder and CEO of the Diverse In-house Counsel Network. Monica earned her bachelors and law degrees from Southern University, as well an MBA from Emory University.



Jon Bricker

Jon Bricker is Director, Business Development with SAI Global, based in Chicago. A former practicing attorney, Jon entered the ethics and compliance space in 2000 and since that time has worked with dozens of organizations as they have sought to strengthen their ethics and compliance initiatives. Jon's specialty is working with global manufacturers to leverage technology to strengthen ethics and compliance, including through training and communication, building tone at the top and middle by empowering and equipping leaders to support ethics and compliance, and improving speak up culture. Jon is a frequent speaker and presenter to industry groups and associations across the country.



Naana Frimpong

Naana is counsel in King & Spalding's Special Matters and Government Investigations Practice. She has broad experience representing clients in white-collar criminal defense matters, internal corporate investigations and government enforcement actions (in particular with regard to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act), international arbitration and international disputes generally, with a particular focus on the African continent. Prior to her time at King & Spalding, she was an Assistant United States Attorney in Chicago where she was the lead attorney on dozens of federal felony investigations and successfully conducted multiple jury and bench trials and briefed and argued appellate briefs. Prior to her time as a federal prosecutor, Naana worked at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP where her key representations included the Audit Committee of Siemens AG (a Munich based multinational in the second largest ever global FCPA investigation), Toyota Motor Sales USA (in connection with state and federal investigations into the unintended acceleration of Toyota vehicles) and the Government of Ghana (in connection with a series of ICC arbitrations initiated by a Lichtenstein-based company).



Christopher Grippa

Chris Grippa is a Partner with EY in Atlanta in the firm's Forensic & Integrity Services practice. For more than 15 years, Chris has been working with attorneys and management to provide accounting and financial guidance to organizations across the globe. He specializes in advising clients on complex matters involving compliance, investigations and disputes. His clients span a variety of industries, including financial services, construction, manufacturing, government, automotive and transportation, healthcare, technology, telecommunications, retail and consumer products. Chris received his bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting from the Freeman School of Business at Tulane University. Chris is a licensed CPA in Georgia and Florida, Certified in Financial Forensics, a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist, and a Certified Fraud Examiner.



Ashley Hager

Ashley works with companies of all sizes – from public companies to startups – providing employment-related counseling, drafting the contracts they need to both retain their executives and protect their company's confidential information and customer relationships, and defending them in litigation.

With each client, Ashley helps members of management and human resources protect their company and minimize employment-related problems by providing general employment and human-resources consulting on issues such as compensation structures, leaves and discipline, disability and fitness-for-duty issues, outsourcing arrangements, employee and manager handbooks, federal contractor obligations, and employee privacy issues. Clients also call on Ashley when they are ready to audit their employment practices, need to investigate complaints of harassment, or just want to brainstorm solutions to knotty problems involving employees.

A significant portion of Ashley's practice involves the drafting and defense of agreements with executives and other employees. These agreements range from employment agreements with executives to noncompete, nondisclosure and nonsolicitation agreements with other employees. Ashley also drafts expatriate, retention and separation agreements for clients, as well as commission plans and severance plans.



Tracy Harris

Tracy Harris is Senior Manager, Learning Strategy, overseeing Enterprise Learning for over 400,000 associates at The Home Depot. In this role, Tracy is responsible for non-leadership learning across the Company. This includes content such as New Hire Orientation, Compliance, and Customers FIRST Service and Selling. Tracy has been with The Home Depot for over 16 years, starting her career on the Finance team and has been creating learning solutions for associates for 13 years.



Julia Houston

Julia Houston is the Chief Transformation Officer at Equifax with responsibility for overseeing the company's response to the cybersecurity incident and coordinating its efforts to build a new future. Houston joined Equifax in October 2013 and previously served as the Senior Vice President, U.S. Legal, where she led the legal team supporting the three U.S. businesses. Before joining Equifax, she was Senior Vice President, general counsel and corporate secretary at Convergys Corporation, as well as Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and corporate secretary at Mirant Corporation. Houston holds a juris doctor degree summa cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law and a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia.



Meredith Jones Kingsley

Meredith is a partner in Alston & Bird's Litigation and Trial Practice Group. Meredith focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation and representing corporations and individuals in government investigations and enforcement matters. Meredith has extensive experience defending companies in a variety of industries against qui tam litigation and associated government investigations, and representing domestic and foreign companies in investigations by the Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's offices, State Attorneys General, and foreign competition authorities. Before joining Alston & Bird, Meredith served as a law clerk to the Honorable Jennifer B. Coffman of the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.



Randy Klatt

Randy serves as the Vice President of Ethisphere Services and is responsible for client engagement here on the East Coast and in the EMEA regions. He joined Ethisphere in the fall of 2016 after a successful career in the legal services industry, including having served in both sales and sales management roles over 19 years at Thomson Reuters. Having spent over 9 years in the governance, risk and compliance industry, his focus is partnering with our customers to guide them through the complex, regulatory and compliance environment. He received his B.S. in Economics & Business Administration from Illinois College.



Blair Marks

Blair Marks is Vice President, Ethics and Business Conduct. In this capacity, she is responsible for ensuring the application of Lockheed Martin's values in all aspects of operations. She leads a team of ethics professionals who support the enterprise by providing education and guidance; promoting open communication; assisting in the prevention, identification and resolution of issues; and investigating allegations of misconduct. Blair represents Lockheed Martin on the Working Group of the Defense Industry Initiative on Business Ethics and Conduct and the Steering Committee of the International Forum on Business Ethical Conduct in the Aerospace and Defense Industry.



Stephen H. McClain

Steve McClain is an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia in Atlanta. He is the Chief of the Complex Frauds Section, responsible for supervising other fraud prosecutors and white-collar matters in the U.S. Attorney's Office. Steve serves as the point of contact for the FBI, SEC, United States Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Internal Revenue Service, Social Security Administration, and other federal and state agencies on fraud matters. As a federal prosecutor, Steve investigates and prosecutes all types of fraud offenses, including corporate and securities fraud, bank fraud, government program fraud, investment fraud, health care fraud, immigration fraud, tax fraud, public corruption, computer crimes, counterfeiting, environmental crimes, and identity theft. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the Department of Justice Director's Award for the prosecution of a defendant who was convicted by a jury for running a Ponzi scheme and sentenced to 27 years in prison. Before his government service, Steve was a partner in the Los Angeles office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where he focused on complex commercial litigation. He began his career as a law clerk for Judge Kenneth F. Ripple on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Steve graduated summa cum laude from Notre Dame Law School, where he was the Managing Editor of the Notre Dame Law Review, and obtained his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Clemson University.



John Montaña

John Montaña is a principal of Montaña & Associates, an information governance consulting firm based in Denver Colorado. In this capacity he advises corporations, law firms and non-profit organizations on best practices and legal compliance in information systems of all types, including paper-based systems, unstructured document and data repositories and structured data systems. His work has included analysis and advice on a wide variety of governance, compliance and management issues, including records retention scheduling, advice on the legality of various information storage media, regulatory compliance, litigation and discovery, risk mitigation and other matters likely to impact information governance and management considerations; as well as analysis, critique and modification of practices, policies and procedures, and retention schedules developed by others and start-to-finish development of records retention schedules and records management policies and procedures. He is widely recognized as one of the foremost records management experts in the country. Mr. Montaña has published four books on records management issues, as well as dozens of articles for magazines and professional journals, and is an active seminar speaker on records management topics. He holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Denver.



Brad Nesmith

Brad Nesmith is Senior Director, Internal Audit, Compliance & Ethics, responsible for driving enterprise-wide compliance initiatives including management of the Business Code of Conduct and Ethics, Enterprise Risk Management, records management and the Company's Standard Operating Procedures. In his audit role, Brad has responsibility for controllership and continuous monitoring audits, including Sarbanes-Oxley testing and fraud detection, as well as process improvement projects utilizing Six Sigma methodologies. Brad has been with The Home Depot for 14 years and is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Fraud Examiner.



Ling-Ling Nie

Ling-Ling Nie serves as General Counsel and Vice President for Ethics and Compliance at Georgia Tech, where she provides leadership, oversight, and direction in the areas of ethics, compliance, legal affairs, affiliated organizations, and risk management for the Institute. She joined Georgia Tech from Panasonic Corporation of North America, where she served as chief compliance officer and assistant general counsel. Nie has practiced in both the private and public sectors in multiple areas. Her experience includes five years at the U.S. Department of Treasury, serving as senior advisor to the general counsel at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. She also served as United States Mint's legal counsel and deputy agency ethics official. Nie is a graduate of the University of Georgia and Washington and Lee University's School of Law.



David O'Neal

David O'Neal is an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia. He currently serves as a criminal prosecutor and is the office's Opioid Coordinator. Until 2018, David was a member of the office's Civil Division, where he focused on affirmative civil investigations and litigation on behalf of the United States against individuals and corporations who defraud federal programs. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, David practiced at Alston & Bird. He also served as a law clerk for Judge Rhesa Hawkins Barksdale on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.



Christine Savage

Christine Savage specializes in international trade regulation and compliance, leading King & Spalding's International Trade team's practice in export controls and sanctions law and in national security investigations of inbound U.S. investment before the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. Christine advises clients in a broad range of industries, including aerospace and defense, energy, financial technology, electronics, and biotechnology, to ensure compliance with U.S. export controls and sanctions laws. She also has experience in anti-boycott regulations and national security reviews of foreign direct investments in the U.S., as well as trade-remedy proceedings and administrative law. Christine is experienced in representing clients' interests before regulatory agencies, including the Bureau of Industry and Security, the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the Defense Technology and Security Administration, and the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. Previously, Christine served in the Office of Chief Counsel for Import Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce. Christine is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University.



Ron Shepherd

Ron Shepherd is the Director of Customs and Trade Compliance with UPS Customs Brokerage. Since starting with UPS in 1985, Ron has an extensive operational background in international transportation and logistics as well as Industrial Engineering, Sales, and Compliance Management. In 2007, Ron joined UPS Customs Brokerage in the Trade Compliance group and went on to serve in leadership roles with UPS Customs Brokerage operations. In 2015 Ron joined and subsequently led the UPS Trade Management Services business unit. In 2019, Ron was asked to take on the position of Director of Customs and Trade Compliance for UPS. Ron served on the board of directors for the Mid Atlantic District Export Council, the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Aiken United Way. He holds a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Cabrini College. Ron is a Customs Broker License holder.



Elizabeth Simon

Elizabeth Simon is the Director of Ethics & Compliance and the company's Records Coordinator for Cox Communications, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia. She was appointed to her current role in December 2016, but has been on the compliance team for six years. She is responsible for managing the Ethics Hotline and overseeing ethics-related investigations, conducting compliance risk assessments and ensuring that Cox is complying with the laws and regulations that are relevant to the company. She also oversees the Records & Information Management program, ensuring that all 18,000 employees have the tools and knowledge to maintain the records required by laws and regulations. Ms. Simon leads compliance-related projects, such as revising the Code of Conduct and implementing compliance and policy-related tools. Ms. Simon previously served as the Senior Internal Auditor for Kimberly-Clark in Roswell, GA, with responsibility for developing data analytics around Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and for other internal audits. She led special audit and compliance projects on the Internal Audit team, including creating metrics for decentralized compliance functions to measure the effectiveness of the corporate-wide compliance program and developing the compliance website. Prior to that, Ms. Simon was in Kimberly-Clark's Global Security department where she ran the antifraud program. Prior to joining Kimberly-Clark, Ms. Simon worked at both PwC and Ernst & Young, two of the Big Four accounting firms. She conducted external audits and worked on forensic accounting investigations with these firms. She also worked at Global Payments, a payment processing company, and built out their Sarbanes-Oxley compliance program. Ms. Simon currently serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Atlanta Compliance and Ethics (ACE) Roundtable and is on the Board of Regents for the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). She is also a member of Women in Cable Telecommunications (WICT). Ms. Simon holds Bachelor of Science and Masters of Science Degrees in Accountancy from East Carolina University. She is a Certified Public Accountant in the states of Georgia (active) and North Carolina (inactive) and a Certified Fraud Examiner.



Dave Stainback

Dave Stainback is PwC's U.S. Crisis leader and a Principal in PwC's Forensics Services practice. He has considerable expertise leading clients and teams through large, complicated crisis situations in addition to proactively identifying strategic threats to reduce the risk of future crises. His commercial experiences have spanned the financial services, healthcare, insurance, retail and consumer, aerospace and defense, information technology, and utilities industries. He has advised through a wide range of crisis situations including cyber attacks, regulatory inquiries and investigations, compliance failures, and operational and reputational issues that draw wide public attention. Stainback is regularly called upon to lead some of the largest, most complex corporate crisis responses for PwC clients. He intertwines strategic decision-making and exceptional project management capabilities with an ability to truly understand the critical issues and specialized subject matter. As such, he has substantial experience managing crises and investigations with multiple, diversified work streams and teams of 200+ members. In addition to his experience responding to crisis situations, Mr. Stainback routinely helps clients prepare before crisis hits. This support comes in many forms, including assessing the maturity of existing crisis management programs, developing or enhancing crisis management/incident response plans, and designing and facilitating table top exercises to help practice and enhance corporate response. Stainback earned an undergraduate degree in economics from Princeton and an MBA from Duke.



Brennan Stewart

Brennan M. Stewart – Senior Counsel – Compliance, Rheem Manufacturing Company (“Rheem”). Rheem is a manufacturer of heating, cooling, water heating, pool/spa heating and commercial refrigeration products and is the largest manufacturer of water heating products in North America. Charged with oversight of the entire corporate compliance program, Brennan provides counsel, guidance, and advice with respect to the development, implementation and maintenance of Rheem’s policies, procedures and training. She also provides legal guidance on privacy, data security and consumer protection laws and regulations. She directly collaborates with the Information Technology department with implementing preventative safeguards for compliance, and provides legal advice and counsel on implications and exposure resulting from privacy requirements.

Prior to joining Rheem, Brennan was Senior Legal Counsel, Director of Compliance & Privacy at Aaron’s, Inc. She provided legal guidance on privacy, data security and consumer protection laws and regulations, with a focus on technology, mobile and online practices. She provided counsel on compliance with COPPA, GLBA, HIPAA, FCRA, TCPA, CAN-SPAM Act, and state privacy and security laws.

Before her role at Aaron’s, Brennan was Senior Legal Counsel at Fiserv where she was responsible for providing legal advice and counsel regarding privacy and data security. In addition, Brennan was Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel for Reliance Trust Company from 2003 to 2011, where she was Reliance’s principal compliance officer, with responsibility for the administration of Reliance’s Anti-Money Laundering and Bank Secrecy Act policies, procedures and training programs.

Brennan received a bachelor’s degree in Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a Juris Doctor from the UNC School of Law. She is a member of the North Carolina Bar, State Bar of Georgia and the American Bar Association. Brennan is a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP) and a member of the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP). She served as Chair of the Better Business Bureau serving Metro Atlanta, Athens and NE Georgia (BBB) from 2017 to 2019 and currently sits on the Executive Committee of the BBB.



Kara Tucker

Ms. Tucker brings over 8 years of cross-industry ethics and compliance experience to her current role as Enterprise Ethics Manager at SunTrust Banks, Inc., responsible for strategy and governance of the Code of the Conduct, internal investigations, business practices, and internal event escalation. Ms. Tucker also serves as a Board member and faculty for the ABA Compliance Schools, frequently speaking and writing in industry on risk assessment, compliance governance, UDAAP, complaint management, sales practices, conduct risk, ethics, and exam and issue management. Prior to her current role, Ms. Tucker served as the Head of Consumer Fair and Responsible Banking at SunTrust, led strategic development of the regulatory compliance and privacy program at BankUnited in Miami, FL. At MDO Partners, she concentrated her legal practice on the areas of corporate governance and global compliance and ethics with a focus on anti-bribery, anti-corruption, and the FCPA. Ms. Tucker holds a B.A. in Philosophy from Elon University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Florida Levin College of Law. She is a licensed member of the Florida Bar.



Travis Waugh

Travis Waugh is the Instructional Technologist at the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he facilitates courses on ethical decision-making and crafts the university’s annual integrity and compliance campaign. In his more than a decade of L&D experience in corporate America and higher education, Travis has built courses and tutorials for dozens of compliance training subjects. He began speaking and writing on instructional design best practices in 2012, with special interest in psychology, technology, and the use of humor in adult learning.