

## Los Angeles County Bar Association Diversity and Inclusion Conference

Friday, September 27, 2019

### PROGRAM

8:30-9:30 a.m.

Registration

9:30-10:15 a.m.

**Welcome and Overview**

Keynote Speaker:

**Tim McNeal, Vice President, Creative Talent Development and Inclusion, Disney ABC Television**

[https://www.abctalentdevelopment.com/about\\_staff1.html](https://www.abctalentdevelopment.com/about_staff1.html)

10:15-10:30 a.m.

Transfer Break

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Morning Track Programs**

**The Business Case for Diversity**

- **Vernetta Walker**, President & CEO Vernetta Walker & Associates Consulting, Inc. **(Moderator)** <https://www.vernettawalker.com/about-us/>
- **Tim McNeal**, VP of Talent Development & Diversity, Disney ABC Television [https://www.abctalentdevelopment.com/about\\_staff1.html](https://www.abctalentdevelopment.com/about_staff1.html)
- **Susan Chun**, Executive Vice President of Business Affairs and Legal at Paramount Pictures <https://www.linkedin.com/in/susan-chun-1984a3148/>
- **Marisa Blackshire**, Senior General Attorney at BNSF Railway <https://www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-blackshire-67853710/>
- **Joel Richlin**, Vice President, Deputy General Counsel, & Chief Litigation Counsel at Prime Healthcare <https://www.linkedin.com/in/joel-richlin-37808387/>

**The Diversity Pipeline – Success in Improving Diversity in the Legal Profession**

- **Leslie Cunningham**, Executive Director, California LAW Inc. **(Moderator)** <http://californialawinc.com/About-Us/Leadership-and-Staff/Leslie-Cunningham>
- **Norma Nava Franklin**, Vice President, For People of Color <https://forpeopleofcolor.org/about/normanava/>
- **Juan Hernandez**, Paul Hastings LLP , graduate of LACBA's High School Mentoring Program <https://www.paulhastings.com/professionals/details/juanhernandez>
- **Nubia Valenzuela**, graduate of the California LAW Pathways Program and Loyola Marymount University.
- **Alfredo Fraijo, Jr.**, Partner, Sheppard Mullin LLP and California LAW Pathways [https://www.sheppardmullin.com/search.html?searchtext2=alfred+fraijo&do\\_site\\_search=1](https://www.sheppardmullin.com/search.html?searchtext2=alfred+fraijo&do_site_search=1)

**Retention and Promotion of Diverse Lawyers in Law Firms**

- **Ivy Kagan Bierman, Partner**, Loeb & Loeb **(Moderator)** <https://www.loeb.com/en/people/b/bierman-ivy-kagan>
- **Sylvia James, Director of Diversity & Inclusion, Winston Strawn LLP** <https://www.winston.com/en/who-we-are/professionals/james-sylvia.html>
- **Wesley T.L. Burrell**, Co-Leader of Munger Tolles & Olson's Minority Initiative <https://www.mto.com/lawyers/Wesley-T-L-Burrell>

- **Mary Ellen Connerty**, Leader, Diversity and Engagement, O’Melveny  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mary-ellen-connerty-9473367/>
- **Jay Srinivasan**, Partner, Gibson Dunn & Crutcher  
<https://www.gibsondunn.com/lawyer/srinivasan-jay-p/>

12:15-1:45 p.m.

**Luncheon (Burns Lounge)**

Keynote Speaker:

**Nerissa Coyle McGinn**, Chief Diversity Partner, Loeb & Loeb LLP

<https://www.loeb.com/en/people/m/mcginn-nerissa-coyle>

1:45-2:00 p.m.

Transfer break

2:00-3:45 p.m.

**Afternoon Track Programs**

**Compensation and Diversity: Why Lawyers of Color and Women Continue to Make Less in Law Firms, and What Can Be Done About It?**

- **Steven Velkei (Moderator)** <https://www.bautelaw.com/attorneys/steven-velkei/>
- **Margo Jackson-Bermudez**, Major Lindsey & Africa  
<https://www.mlaglobal.com/en/people/margot-jackson?byconsultantauthor=margot-jackson>
- **Swethaa Ballakrishnen**, Assistant Professor of Law at UC Irvine School of Law <https://www.law.uci.edu/faculty/full-time/ballakrishnen/> She
- **Maria Rodriguez**, Partner, McDermott, Will & Emery  
<https://www.mwe.com/people/rodriguez-maria-c/>
- **Felicia Gilbert**, San Francisco Managing Attorney, Sanford Heisler & Sharp LLP  
<https://sanfordheisler.com/team/felicia-gilbert/>

**Summit of Managing Partners and Diversity Partners : What Works and What Doesn’t?**

- **Nerissa Coyle McGinn**, Chief Diversity Partner, Loeb & Loeb LLP (Moderator)  
<https://www.loeb.com/en/people/m/mcginn-nerissa-coyle>
- **John S. Gibson**, Co-chair of the Diversity Council Steering Committee – Crowell & Moring LLP <https://www.crowell.com/Professionals/John-Gibson>
- **Keith Ameele**, Managing Partner, Foley & Mansfield PLLP  
<https://www.foleymansfield.com/professionals/kameele/>
- **Emily Burkhardt Vicente**, Partner - Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP  
<https://www.huntonak.com/en/people/emily-vicente.html>
- **Nick Pujji**, Partner – Dentons LLP <https://www.dentons.com/en/nick-pujji>
- **Michael Nunez**, Partner & Charge and Diversity Partner, Murchison & Cumming LLP  
<http://www.murchisonlaw.com/attorneys/michael-nunez>
- **Kim McKelvey**, Director of Strategic Focus & Director of Inclusiveness & Diversity - Kutak Rock LLP <https://www.kutakrock.com/people/m/mckelvey-kimberly-a>
- **Amy Quartarolo**, Of Counsel, Latham & Watkins, LLP  
<https://www.lw.com/people/amy-quartarolo>

**Diversity on the Bench:**

- **Hon. Rupa Goswami**, Los Angeles Superior Court (**Moderator**)
- **Hon. Kevin Brazile**, Presiding Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court
- **Hon. Carlos Moreno**, former Justice of the California Supreme Court, United States District Court Judge, Presiding Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court, and United States Ambassador to Belize
- **Hon. Andre Birotte Jr.**, United States District Court, Central District of California
- **Hon. Marguerite Downing**, Los Angeles Superior Court
- **Hon. Dean Hansell**, Los Angeles Superior Court

**3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**     **Roundtable Summary: Getting Real on Diversity: Solutions and Next Steps (Burns Lounge)**

**4:30 -5:30 p.m.**     **Reception with Keynote Speaker**

**L. Song Richardson, Dean and Chancellor’s Professor of Law,  
University of California Irvine School of Law**  
<https://www.law.uci.edu/faculty/full-time/richardson/>