

Palm Springs

SEMINAR SCHEDULE OUTLINE

2024-25 Palm Springs Planning Committee Members

Co-Chairs: Megan Demshki, Greg Rizio
Vice Chairs: Aaron Hicks, Lauren Vogt
Committee: Michael Jeandron, Abbas Kazerounian, Clare Lucich,
Paul Matiasic, Kenny Ramirez
Committee Staff: Jennifer Lopez, Jessulyn Morgan, Katie Pebler

Thursday, May 1

- 1:30 PM** **CAOIE Golf Tournament Registration**
Omni Rancho Las Palmas Golf Course
Separately ticked event. 10 spots still open! Email jmorgan.caoie@caoc.org
- 2:30 - 5:00 PM** **CAOIE Golf Tournament**
Omni Rancho Las Palmas Golf Course
- 5:00 - 6:00 PM** **CAOIE Golf Tournament Awards**
Omni Rancho Las Palmas Golf Clubhouse
Enjoy an open bar, refreshments, and celebrate the colleagues who won!
Open to all.
- 6:00 PM** **Evening on Your Own**

Friday, May 2

- 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM** **Registration and Check In**
Las Palmas Ballroom, Omni Rancho Las Palmas
- 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM** **Visit with Exhibitors**
Las Palmas Ballroom, Omni Rancho Las Palmas
- 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM** **Morning Refreshments**
- 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM** **MCLE Sessions**
Las Palmas Ballroom, Omni Rancho Las Palmas

MAY 1 GOLF MAY 2 - 3 SEMINAR

Palm Springs

SEMINAR SCHEDULE OUTLINE

Friday, May 2

8:45 AM - 9:45 AM

Room: A-C

MCLE Sessions

Discovery Essentials: Practical Tips to Obtain Meaningful Written Discovery

1 General Credit

Moderator: Nolan Kistler, Law Offices of Harlan B. Kistler

Speakers: Benjamin Berkley, Carpenter & Zuckerman - *Premises Liability Cases*
Scott Saunders, Walter Clark - *Opposing Motions for Summary Judgement Starts with Written Discovery*
Puneet Toor, Toor Law

Room: F-H

Up Your Game with AI Technology in Your Legal Practice

1 Technology Specialty Credit

Moderator: Brynna Popka, McCune Law Group

Speakers: Sharon Ramirez, Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez
Edie Mermelstein, FEM Law Group
Kelsie Russell, The Simon Law Group

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Room: A-C

MCLE Sessions

A Noble Profession: Preserving Civility in a Virtual World

1 Civility Specialty Credit

Moderator: Geoff Wells, Greene Broillet & Wheeler

Speakers: Deborah Tropp-Thompson, McNeil, Tropp & Braun LLP
Anne Marie Murphy, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy
Scott Hengesbach, Murchison & Cumming
Judge Chad Firetag, Riverside County

Room: F-H

Balancing Accountability and Immunity: The Complex World of Government Liabilities

1 General Credit

Moderator: Jon Lewis, J. Lewis & Associates, APLC

Speaker: Megan Demshki, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn
Allegra Rineer, Herman Law
Tracy Hughes, Robinson Calcagnie, Inc.

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

Room: A-C

MCLE Sessions

1 General Credit

Unlocking Deposition Power: Tactics for Attorneys in the Trenches

Moderator: Michael Johnson, The Law Office of Michael S. Johnson

Speakers: Keith More, Bentley & More - *The Jib and Jab of Depositions*
Kristy Arevalo, McCune Law Group - *Disarming the Defense Expert During Deposition*
Kelly Weil, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP - *Deposition VIPs - PMKs and Apex Witnesses*

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Friday, May 2

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

Room: F-H

MCLE Sessions (cont.)

Safe Roads Ahead: Legal Insights on Product Defects and Collision Avoidance

Moderator: Justin King, Law Offices of Justin H King

Speakers: Craig Peters, Altair Law - *Off the Road, Off the Rails: The Hidden Dangers of Side-by-Sides*

Brian Chase, Bisnar | Chase Personal Injury Attorneys - *Emerging Technologies on Collision Avoidance & Automatic Emergency Braking Systems*
Chris Spagnoli, Greene Broillet & Wheeler -

12:15 PM - 12:45 PM

Grab and Go Lunch

Las Palmas Ballroom, Omni Rancho Las Palmas

12:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Room: A-C

MCLE Sessions

1.25 General Credit

Mastering the Motion: Effective Strategies For Motion in Limine Oral Arguments

Moderator: Anthony Modarelli, DiMarco | Araujo | Montevideo

Speakers: Siannah Collado, Stalwart Law Group

Danica Crittenden, Shernoff Bidart Echeverria

Ben Ikuta, Ikuta Hemesath, LLP

Hon. Khymberli S. Apaloo, San Bernardino Justice Center

Room: F-H

Mediation Mastery: The Latest Strategies for Successful Negotiations

Moderator: Casey Johnson, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

Speakers: Marina Pacheco Kabateck LLP

Abbas Kazerounian, Kazerouni Law Group

Bryan McNally, McNally Law Firm

Michelle West, Robinson Calcagnie

2:15 PM - 3:30 PM

Room: A-C

MCLE Sessions

1.25 General Credit

Mini Openings, Major Impact: A Live Interactive Session

Moderator: Jason Argos, Argos Law, APC

Speakers: Greyson Goody, Goody Law Group

Michael Jeandron, Roberts Jeandron

Patricia Law, Law Offices of Patricia A. Law

Jason Sanchez, The Simon Law Group

MAY 1 GOLF MAY 2 - 3 SEMINAR

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SEMINAR SCHEDULE OUTLINE

Friday, May 2

2:15 PM - 3:30 PM

MCLE Session (cont.)

1.25 General Credit

Room: F-H

Laying the Foundation: Prelitigation Strategies for Building a Strong Case

Moderator: Kate Doherty, Esq.

Speakers: Cynthia Craig, Kubota Craig - *Building the Case: Pre Litigation Case Development in Catastrophic Injury Cases*

Neil Gehlawat, Taylor & Ring - *Pre-Litigation Strategies in Sexual Abuse Cases*

Farnaz Salessi, Callahan & Blaine - *Setting Up the Punitive Damages Punch*

Brian Shapiro, William D. Shapiro Law, Inc. - *Pre-Lit Strategies in Wrongful Death Cases*

3:45 PM - 4:45 PM

MCLE Session

1 General Credit

Room: A-C

From Evidence to Impact: Building Damages with Trial Expertise

Moderator: Aaron Hicks, Hicks Law Firm PC

Speakers: Ricardo Echeverria, Shernoff Bidart Echeverria - *Arguing Non-Economic Damages*
Molly McKibben, Greene Broillet & Wheeler - *Persuasive Visuals and Compelling Demonstratives*

Cory Weck, McCune Law Group - *The Role of AI in Enhancing Damages and Demonstrative Aids*

Room: F-H

Winning with Experts: Strategic Approaches to Expert Witness Testimony

Moderator: Geraldine Ly, Law Offices of Geraldine Ly

Speakers: Eric Traut, Traut Injury Law

Deborah Dixon, The Dixon Firm, APC

Rich Cohn, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Welcome Reception

Sunset Terrace, located outside by BlueEmber

9:00 PM - 12:00 AM

New Lawyers Division Party

R-Bar, Near the lobby at Omni Las Palmas

All are welcome to attend.

Thank you to our sponsor!


BaldwinSettlements
STRUCTURE CONSULTANTS

MAY 1 GOLF 🌵 MAY 2 - 3 SEMINAR

Palm Springs

SEMINAR SCHEDULE OUTLINE

Saturday, May 3

8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Registration and Check In
Visit with Exhibitors

Las Palmas Ballroom, Omni Rancho Las Palmas

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Morning Refreshments

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

MCLE Sessions

Room: A-C

Navigating Ethical Considerations in Trial

1.25 Legal Ethics

Moderator: Kenny Ramirez, Kenny Ramirez Law

Speakers: Bill Shapiro, William D. Shapiro Law, Inc. - *Pretrial Motions & Stipulations, and Jury Selection*

Evan Garcia, The Simon Law Group - *Plaintiff's Case in Chief (openings, etc.)*

Yoshi Kubota, Kubota Craig - *Defendant's Case in Chief (cross examinations, etc.)*

Sarah Havens, Havens Injury Law - *Closing*

Room: F-H

Exploring New Opportunities to Enhance Recovery: Adapting to Changes in the Law

1.25 General Credit

Moderator: Tom Antunovich, Dominguez Firm

Speakers: Jennifer Johnson, Law Office of Jennifer R. Johnson, APLC.

Dan Hodes, Hodes Milman

Larry Eisenberg, Lawrence S. Eisenberg & Associates

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

MCLE Sessions

1.25 General Credit

Room: A-C

Voir Dire Live: Real-Time Tactics for Jury Selection

Moderator: James Perry, Atticus Injury Law

Speakers: Greg Bentley, Bentley & More, LLP

Kim Valentine, Valentine Law Group

Greg Rizio, Rizio Lipinsky Heiting

John Carpenter, Carpenter & Zuckerman

Room: F-H

Don't be Afraid of Arbitrations (UM/UIM, Employment, Kaiser)

Moderator: Whit Bertch, The Bertch Firm

Speakers: Brian Hannemann, Hannemann Law Firm

Michelle Hemesath, Ikuta • Hemesath

Rob Gibson, Gibson & Hughes

Darren Campell, Aitken Campbell Heikaus Weaver

MAY 1 GOLF MAY 2 - 3 SEMINAR

Palm Springs

SEMINAR SCHEDULE OUTLINE

Saturday, May 3

12:15 PM - 1:00 PM

Grab and Go Lunch

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

Closing Keynote

Las Palmas Ballroom, Omni Rancho Las Palmas

1.00 General Credit

Moderator: Lauren Vogt, Rizio Lipinsky Heiting

Speaker: Cynthia McGuinn, Rouda Feder Tietjen & McGuinn

Room: A-C

2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Poolside Cabana Mixer

Splash Pool, Omni Rancho Las Palmas

Bring your crew to the Cabana Mixer at the Splash Pool near Splashtopia to unwind after education.

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**CAOIE Awards Ceremony and
Seminar Farewell Reception**

Salon DE, Las Palmas Ballroom, Omni Rancho Las Palmas

Celebrate your CAOIE colleagues and join in honoring the exceptional accomplishments of attorneys and judges who have made a profound impact on the legal community and beyond. Then, take a moment to bid farewell to old friends and new ones you have united with at this year's seminar. Hosted bar and nibbles.

Save the Date!

**The 2026 Palm Springs Seminar by CAOIE/CAOC/OCTLA is
April 30 (Golf) * May 1-2 (Seminar)**

This activity is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California in the amount of 10.0 hours which includes 1.0 Technology credit, 1.0 Civility credit and 1.25 Legal Ethics credits. CAOC certifies that this activity will conform to the standards for approved education activities prescribed by the rules and regulation of the State Bar of California governing minimum continuing legal education. CAOC will maintain your records on this seminar. Provider No. 00324.

MAY 1 GOLF MAY 2 - 3 SEMINAR

THANK YOU SPONSORS

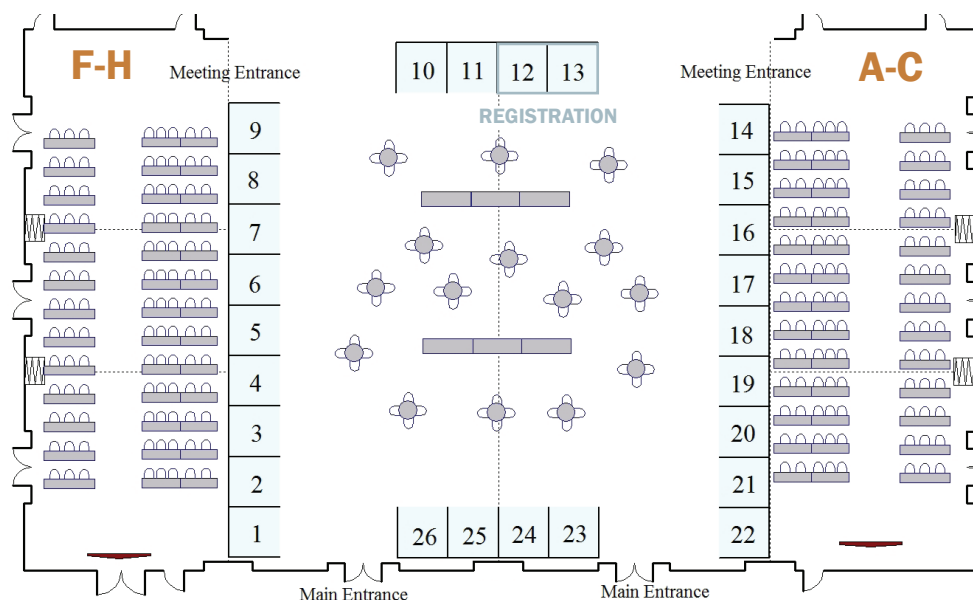


Palm Springs

MAY 1 GOLF • MAY 2 - 3 SEMINAR

EXHIBITORS

LAS PALMAS BALLROOM



Alphabetical List

AI Demand Pro	Booth 5
C. Jackson Investigations, Inc.	Booth 16
Calderon Settlements and Insurance Services.....	Booth 20
California Deposition Reporters	Booth 19
Case Status	Booth 14
ChartSquad	Booth 9
Compass LLC.....	Booth 17
Doctors on Liens	Booth 15
EB Medical Planning.....	Booth 2
EvenUp Law	Booth 21
Expert Institute	Booth 23
ExpertMRI	Booth 6
Gemini Legal.....	Booth 24
JAMS	Booth 3
Medivest	Booth 4
Rockpoint Legal Funding	Booth 1
Roughan & Associates.....	Booth 22
SEMINAR REGISTRATION	Booths 12-13
SmartAdvocate	Booth 18
STENO.....	Booth 10
Synergy.....	Booth 7
USA Express Legal & Investigative Services, Inc.....	Booth 8
Verdict Videos.....	Booth 11
Veritext Legal Solutions	Booth 26
Walker Advertising, LLC	Booth 25

By Booth Number

Rockpoint Legal Funding	Booth 1
EB Medical Planning.....	Booth 2
JAMS	Booth 3
Medivest	Booth 4
AI Demand Pro	Booth 5
ExpertMRI	Booth 6
Synergy.....	Booth 7
USA Express Legal & Investigative Services, Inc.....	Booth 8
ChartSquad	Booth 9
STENO	Booth 10
Verdict Videos.....	Booth 11
SEMINAR REGISTRATION	Booths 12-13
Case Status	Booth 14
Doctors on Liens	Booth 15
C. Jackson Investigations, Inc.	Booth 16
Compass LLC.....	Booth 17
SmartAdvocate	Booth 18
California Deposition Reporters.....	Booth 19
Calderon Settlements and Insurance Services.....	Booth 20
EvenUp Law	Booth 21
Roughan & Associates.....	Booth 22
Expert Institute	Booth 23
Gemini Legal.....	Booth 24
Walker Advertising, LLC	Booth 25
Veritext Legal Solutions	Booth 26



INFORMATION



MCCUNE LAW GROUP

MCCUNE • WRIGHT • AREVALO • VERCOSKI
KUSEL • WECK • BRANDT APC

Wi-Fi

NETWORK: Omni Meeting

PASSWORD: MCCUNE



SYLLABUS ACCESS

GO TO: WWW.CAOC.ORG

Click: MEMBER LOGIN and then scroll down

Enter: USERNAME and PASSWORD

Next: Hover over the EDUCATION TAB

Next: Click on SEMINAR MATERIALS

Next: Click on the Event

Next: Click on the SEMINAR MATERIALS LINK



MCLE CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

Scan the QR Code to access the certificate of attendance.
YOU MAY SUBMIT THIS FORM ONLY ONCE! To comply with CA State Bar regulations you must submit this form at the completion of the event. Failure to do so may interfere with your credits being reported to the CA State Bar.

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CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF INLAND EMPIRE
CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA • ORANGE COUNTY TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Palm Springs

NEW LAWYERS DIVISION

PARTY

FRIDAY, MAY 2
9:00 PM - 12:00AM

R-BAR, OMNI RANCHO LAS PALMAS



BaldwinSettlements

STRUCTURE CONSULTANTS

CAOC-PALMSPRINGS.COM

CABANA MIXER

SATURDAY / 2:00 - 4:30 PM / SPLASH POOL

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!



BaldwinSettlements
STRUCTURE CONSULTANTS



ESQUIRE
BANK

TANIS L. KELLY, ESQ.



SAGE
SETTLEMENT CONSULTING

JOHN DUDEK



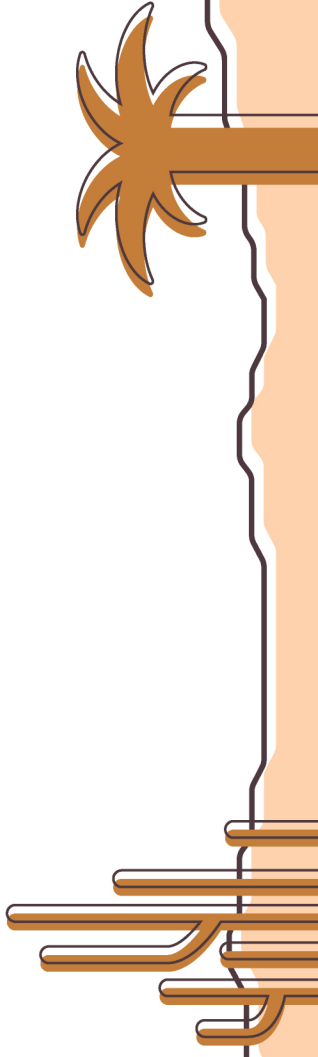
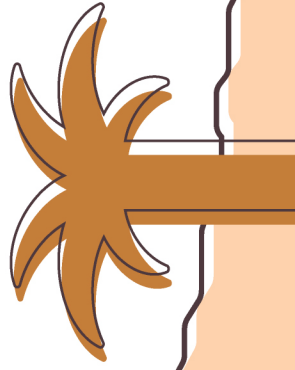
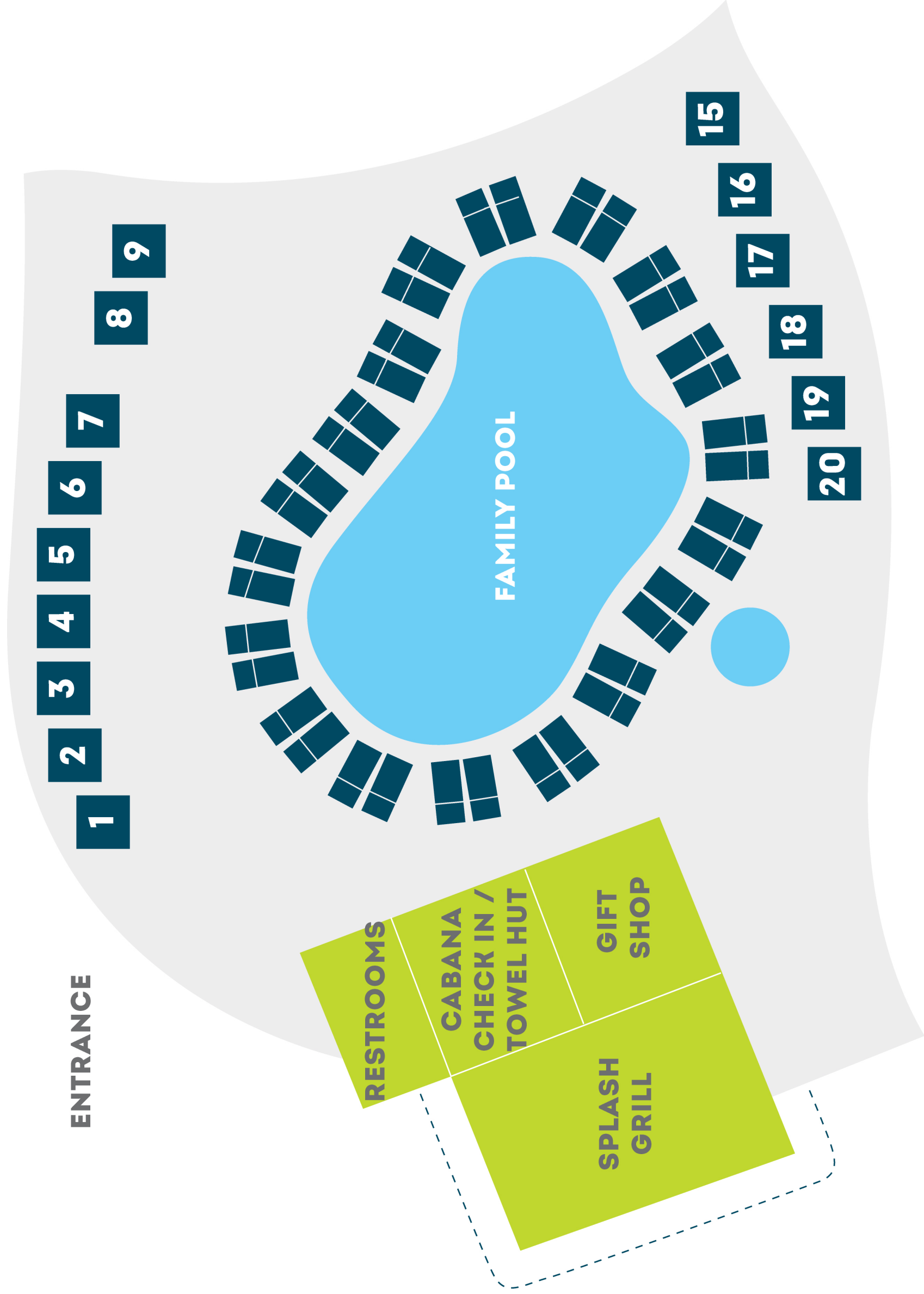
CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF INLAND EMPIRE



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA



ORANGE COUNTY TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
— STRONGER TOGETHER 2025 —



CAOIE

CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF INLAND EMPIRE



AWARDS RECEPTION

Palm Springs
SEMINAR

MAY 3 • 5 - 6 PM

Celebrate your CAOIE colleagues, and join in honoring the exceptional accomplishments of attorneys and judges who have made a profound impact on the legal community and beyond. **All are welcome.**



Judge of the Year

JUDGE JOSEPH ORTIZ



Trial Lawyers of the Year

ERIC RYANEN

RIZIO LIPINSKY HEITING



Trial Lawyers of the Year

GREG RIZIO

RIZIO LIPINSKY HEITING



Street Fighter of the Year

BRIAN SHAPIRO

WILLIAM D. SHAPIRO, INC.

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