

NALSC® 2024 Fall Symposium - Speaker Bios

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27

- 9:00-9:15am ET **Welcome by NALSC President [Melissa Peters, Esq.](#), Founder of MP Legal Search and [Marques O. Peterson, Esq.](#), Managing Partner of Pillsbury’s Washington, DC Office**
- 9:15-10:15am ET **Opening Session: “AI Strategy: Avoid, Surrender or Befriend?”**
Opening Speakers: [Tricia Tamkin](#) and [Jason Thibeault](#) of Moore eSSentials
- 10:30-11:15am ET **“Recruiting for the Future: Unleashing the Power of Cultural IQ”**
Speaker: [Jami de Lou](#), Founder + Inclusive Leadership Coach + DEI Speaker at de Lou Strategies LLC
- 11:30am-1pm ET **Concurrent Breakout Sessions (two 40-min rotations of each, so you may attend two topics)**
- **“Moving the Group”**
Speaker: [Hilary P. Gerzhoy, Esq.](#), Partner at HWG LLP and Vice Chair of HWG's Legal Ethics and Malpractice Group
 - **“Pros and Cons of Portal Submission of Associate Candidates”**
Moderator: [Ethel Badawi, Esq.](#), Co-Founder & Principal of Pollack Badawi Group
Panelists:
[Kendall Lowery](#), Sr Director of Attorney Recruiting at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
[Kristy Schulman, Esq.](#), Owner at Advanced Legal Placement, LLC
[Vachelle D. Willis, Esq.](#), Director of Attorney Recruiting, Development, and Diversity Programs at Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP
 - **“How to Build an Effective Lateral Partner Recruiting Team (for law firm recruiting professionals)”**
Speakers:
[Terri Foland, Esq.](#), Senior Manager of Partner Recruiting at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
[Susan Schonfeld](#), Senior Director of Lateral Partner Recruiting and Integration at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
 - **“Crowdsourced Tech Ideas / Tools / Tips”**
Co-Moderators:
[Jordan Abshire, Esq.](#), Managing Member at Abshire Legal Search, LLC
[Rob Nutinsky](#), Managing Director - Legal Search at StevenDouglas
 - **“Organic LinkedIn Sourcing: 40 Minutes to Millions of Legal Profiles”**
Speakers: [Tricia Tamkin](#) and [Jason Thibeault](#) of Moore eSSentials
- 2:00-2:45pm ET **Balancing Mental Health and Elite Performance with Paralympian Medalist [Trevon Jenifer](#) ([Wikipedia Profile](#))**
- 3:00-3:45pm ET **Legal Industry Thought Leaders Speak: Career Transitions**
Moderator: [Kevin Bacon, Esq.](#), CEO of Bacon Legal Recruiting
Panelists:
[Ayesha Johnson](#), Senior Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Goulston & Storrs
[Benjamin Lieber, Esq.](#), Founder and Managing Partner at Potomac Law Group, PLLC
[Michelle N. Lipkowitz, Esq.](#), Managing Member of the DC Office of Mintz
[Mey Ly Ortiz, Esq.](#), Managing Counsel – Labor & Employment at Toyota Motor North America
- 4:00-4:45pm ET **“Legal Hiring Market: Trends and Forecasts”**
Speaker: [Nikia L. Gray, Esq.](#), Executive Director, National Association of Law Placement (NALP)
- 5:00-7:00pm ET **Networking Reception at the Washington, DC Offices of Pillsbury**
Welcome remarks by [Jeffrey J. Delaney, Esq.](#)
Partner and Chief Recruiting Officer of Pillsbury’s NY Office