Hit the BEACH with MATA

64th Annual Convention
June 23-26, 2022
Registration will be located in the Lodge Lobby, open from 1 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday and 7 a.m.-Noon on Friday and Saturday. This is where you pick up name tags, your program/notes booklet and the Annual Update on the Law. *Once materials are in hand, registrants can access them at www.matanet.org/CLE22.*

**Quick look**

**Thursday**

- 1-5:30 p.m. Registration/Information Desk **Lodge Lobby**
- 3 p.m. Board of Governors Meeting **Marbella**
- 4 p.m. Member Meeting/Elections **Marbella**
- 5 p.m. Women’s Caucus Wine & Cheese Reception **Seachase**
- 6-8 p.m. Welcome Reception **Fire & Ice Patio**
- 6-9 p.m. Carnival/Beach BBQ **Granada**

**Friday**

- 7 a.m.-Noon Registration/Information Desk **Lodge Lobby**
- 7 a.m. Continental Breakfast **Campana Exhibit Hall**
- 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Welcome & CLEs **Campana Exhibit Hall**
- 1 p.m. MO Republican Attorneys for Civil Justice Luncheon **TBD**
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. Champions Club/Hall of Fame Reception **Fire & Ice Patio - ALL WELCOME!**

**Saturday**

- 7 a.m.-Noon Registration/Information Desk **Lodge Lobby**
- 7 a.m. Continental Breakfast **Campana Exhibit Hall**
- 7 a.m. Walk/Run **Lodge Portico**
- 8 a.m.-1 p.m. CLEs **Campana Exhibit Hall**
- 5 p.m. Meet Your Missouri Judges Reception **Granada Atrium**
- 6 p.m. Cocktails & Wine Toss **Granada**
- 7 p.m. 64th Annual Banquet & Awards **Granada**
- 9 p.m. President’s Reception **Marbella**

**Sunday**

- 8 a.m. Hot Breakfast Buffet **Campana Exhibit Hall**
- 8:30-9:55 CLE **Campana Exhibit Hall**
FRIDAY
8:10-9 a.m. Friday
Missouri v. The Tobacco Industry ETHICS

Thomas G. Strong, Strong-Garner-Bauer, Springfield

MATA Past President Thomas G. Strong is more than the inspiration for MATA's highest honor – the Thomas G. Strong Trial Attorney Award. As a member of The Inner Circle of Advocates, an organization consisting of 100 of the leading trial lawyers in the nation, Strong has battled in the courtroom for decades. He graduated with honors from the University of Missouri- Columbia School of Law with honors and began has practice in Springfield in 1957, where he founded Strong-Garner-Bauer in 1976. He is admitted to practice before The Supreme Court of the United States and all courts in the state of Missouri. He has traveled extensively, is an author (“Strong Advocate”) and when complimented on his sartorial habits, often responds, “if you've got it, flaunt it.”

9:10-10 a.m. Friday
Annual Update on the Law - Part 1

The Annual Update on the Law, presented at convention since 1962, when MATA was still known as the Missouri Association of Claimants Attorneys, is one of MATA’s most popular CLE programs. Seasoned attorneys share their insights and experiences as they discuss recent updates and developments in Missouri law on civil procedure, civil trial and appellate issues.

Joan M. Lockwood, Gray Ritter Graham, St. Louis

Joan M. Lockwood is a director at Gray Ritter Graham where she handles a broad range of litigation, including personal injury, automobile and trucking accidents, products liability, medical negligence, wrongful death and complex business and commercial litigation cases. She has been appointed to the Missouri Supreme Court Committee on Civil Jury Instructions (MAI) and has served on this Committee since 2003. She served as reporter from 2009-2020 and in 2020 she was appointed chair to the MAI Committee. A MATA Governor since 1993, she now holds the distinction of “distinguished service.” She serves as co-editor and writes the semi-annual Appellate Case Note for The Missouri Trial Attorney magazine. In 2021 Joan was honored with MATA's Thomas G. Strong Trial Attorney Award. She serves on the BAMSL John C. Shepherd Professionalism Committee, the Hon. Richard B. Teitelman Memorial St. Louis Pro Bono Challenge Committee, The Missouri Bar’s Covid-19 Task Force as Chair of the Civil Practice Committee and is a Fellow of the BAMSL Foundation and International Academy of Trial Lawyers.

Jeff Bauer, Strong-Garner-Bauer, Springfield

Jeff Bauer joined Strong-Garner-Bauer in 2000 and has been a shareholder since 2004. Since joining the firm, he has prepared and tried personal injury/product liability suits in several states in addition to Missouri. A longtime MATA member, he joined the board of governors in 2006 and serves as co-chair of the Amicus Curiae Committee. An honors graduate of both Southwest Missouri State University and University of Notre Dame Law School, he is admitted to practice in all Missouri state Courts, the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri and United State Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He has spoken and written on Evidence, Appellate Practice, Trial Advocacy and Insurance Law. He has also served on the Supreme Court Special Committee on electronic discovery.

Ronald Holliger, Holliger Law Group, Kansas City

The Hon. Ron Holliger is a 1973 graduate of UMKC School of Law and was in private practice until his appointment. He was appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District on January 4, 2000, by Governor Mel Carnahan. He served as a circuit judge of the Jackson County Circuit Court, Division 9 from March 1, 1995. He served as chairman of the Supreme Court Judicial Education Committee and chairman of the Missouri Commission on Alternative Dispute Resolution in Domestic Relations Cases. Judge Holliger is a member of the Missouri Bar Association, American Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association and the American Judges Association. He is a member of the American Inns of Court and served as President of the Ross T. Roberts Inn of Court in Kansas City.
Elizabeth S. Lenivy, The Simon Law Firm, St. Louis

Liz Lenivy has been an attorney with the Simon Law Firm since 2016. After graduating from St. Louis University School of Law in 2015, she briefly worked for a mid-sized defense firm before returning to the Simon Law Firm, where she had previously clerked. Her practice at Simon focuses solely on representing individuals who have been injured due to medical malpractice, defective products and trucking collisions. She is also a member of several organizations, including the Women Lawyers Association, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and the Missouri Asian American Bar Association. She was also selected to work with the Missouri Bar’s Special Committee on Lawyers of Color. Additionally, she serves on multiple boards, including the Young Friends of Legal Services of Eastern Missouri and The Gateway Korea Foundation.

Paul L. Redfearn III, The Redfearn Law Firm, Lee’s Summit

MATA Past President Paul Redfearn is the owner and president of The Redfearn Law Firm, founded in 1984. Graduating from Missouri State University in 1973, he earned his law degree from Oklahoma City University in 1976 and was admitted to the Missouri Bar in 1977. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and a certified Civil Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. He is an Advocate of ABOTA and is past president of its Western Missouri/Eastern Kansas Chapter. He is a sustaining member of AAJ, a Fellow of KCMBBA and the Public Justice Foundation, and a member of the ABA and The Missouri Bar. From 1994-2014, he served as treasurer for Lawyers Encouraging Academic Performance (L.E.A.P.) and is now a proud Life Member.

Stephen H. Ringkamp, The Hullverson Law Firm, St. Louis

MATA Past President Stephen H. Ringkamp graduated from St. Louis University School of Law after earning a bachelor of science in electrical engineering. His MATA membership began when he joined the Hullverson Law Firm in 1976. He joined the Update on the Law team in 1978, when the update was given (and meetings were held) every other year. He became the team’s “captain” when the update became an annual feature in the early ’80s. He stepped down as team lead in 2020 but graciously agreed to remain in the lineup. Among his many honors are the Lawyers Association of St. Louis’ Award of Honor, The Missourian award (also given to Harry Truman, Samuel Clemens and Walt Disney), a MATA President’s Award and the Missouri Bar Foundation’s Lon O. Hocker Award for professionalism and high ethical conduct.

10:10-11 a.m. Friday
Annual Update on the Law - Part 2

Breaks

MATA is scheduling 10-minute breaks after each CLE segment.
This includes a 10-minute intermission at the halfway point of Update on the Law.
MATA is conducting a mock-mock-trial on Friday and Saturday. That is, participants will see faculty conduct the segments of a trial, but each faculty member will be using a fact pattern of their own choosing. Instructors will demonstrate their techniques, then discuss their methods.

11:10 a.m.-Noon Friday  
**TRIAL PART 1 - Voir Dire**  
Christopher J. Finney, Finney Injury Law, St. Louis  

Chris Finney received his law degree from St. Louis University, where he was awarded the David J. Hensler academic award for excellence in trial advocacy. After graduation he accepted a position as an assistant circuit attorney in the Circuit Attorney’s Office in St. Louis where he handled various issues, including grand jury indictments and felony gun and drug crimes. After the CAO, he worked for a large insurance defense firm where he handled cases ranging from dog bites to premises liability to auto collisions to wrongful death. In 2012 he began his journey as a plaintiff’s attorney, joining his father and brother in practice and becoming a member of MATA. Now a Board of Governors member, he went solo in 2018. Because of his former experience as a football player and coach, he is particularly interested in head injury cases, including concussions and traumatic brain injuries.

12:10-1 p.m. Friday  
**TRIAL PART 2 - The Opening**  
Gary C. Robb, Robb & Robb, Kansas City  

Gary C. Robb is a founding partner of Robb & Robb LLC. He has obtained numerous record-breaking results nationwide on behalf of past clients, including the two highest jury verdicts in U.S. history for helicopter crash wrongful death, $350 million and $70 million. He also obtained the largest pre-trial settlement in U.S. history for one plaintiff in a personal injury case - $100 million. He is a past President of MATA and a recipient of the Thomas G. Strong Trial Attorney Award. He has handled many high-profile cases. He served as lead counsel for Vanessa Bryant, widow of NBA legend Kobe Bryant, in her helicopter crash lawsuit for the wrongful death of her husband and daughter Gianna, which was successfully resolved in 2021. He also represented Sen. Jean Carnahan in the lawsuit arising out of the airplane crash that killed her husband, Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan.
SATURDAY
8-10:9:25 a.m. Saturday
TRIAL PART 3 - Damages - Non-economic & Economic

Anne Schiavone, Holman Schiavone, Kansas City & Wes Shumate, Davis Bethune Jones, Kansas City

Anne Schiavone’s entire legal life has been spent in Kansas City. The first four years in the profession were spent working for defense firms, where she defended corporations in environmental disputes, product defect and personal injury cases. After four years she took her knowledge of the law and the defense perspective and opened a personal injury and employment firm where she handles claims involving injury from products such as medical devices or pharmaceuticals, as well as claims involving discrimination in employment or wrongful termination. She is a member of the National Employment Lawyers Association and serves as a mentor in the Association for Women Lawyers Foundation Connections program. A member of MATA’s Executive Committee, she will serve as Vice President for the 2022-23 year. She also serves on the board of the Humane Society of Greater Kansas City.

Growing up in Union City, Tennessee, and playing football at Murray State University, Wes Shumate is a southern boy. It was the opportunity to study law at the University of Missouri at Kansas City and work as a law clerk for Davis Bethune Jones that drew him to Kansas City. He has recently tried several cases to juries in rural Missouri, Kansas City, Independence and in Iowa. Although he has very diverse practice, he has particular expertise in Federal Employee Liability Action cases and railroad crossing injuries. A MATAs governor, he is active in the legal community as a member of the Kansas, Missouri and Tennessee bar associations, the Kansas Association for Justice and the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. A graduate of KCMBAs Leadership Academy, he holds leadership positions within multiple associations. He was honored by KCMBAs Foundation with the Thomas J. Conway Award and serves on the board for Lawyers Encouraging Academic Performance. When he isn’t working on a case, you can find him spending time with his wife and three kids or training for obstacle course races.

9:35-10:50 a.m. Saturday
TRIAL PART 4 - Liability - Direct Examination Chandler Gregg & Nick Smart, Strong-Garner-Bauer, Springfield

Chandler Gregg practices at Strong Garner Bauer in Springfield. Graduating in the top five percent of his class at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law, where he earned the International Academy of Trial Lawyers Student Advocacy Award, the Deacy Award in Advocacy and selection to the Regional Moot Court Team, Missouri Law Review and Order of the Coif. He is published at 70 Mo. L. Rev. 307, “The Medical Malpractice Crisis: A Problem with No Answer?” A native of Nixa, Gregg, who recently was elected to MATA’s Executive Committee, clerked with SGB during law school, then joined the firm where he’s now a shareholder. Gregg has tried a number of lawsuits to juries, and has received several honors since joining the firm, including The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Lawyers; the National Trial Lawyers Top 40 Under 40; Missouri Lawyers’ Weekly Up & Coming Lawyers; Super Lawyers’ Rising Star; and Super Lawyer. He has been listed in Who’s Who in America since 2012.

Nick Smart joined SGB in 2012 and became a shareholder in 2017. He received his law degree cum laude from the University of Missouri-KC, where he was an articles editor for The Urban Lawyer, interned for the Honorable Ortrie D. Smith for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri, was a member of the UMKC Law Review and was a Westlaw student representative. He worked as a CPA prior to law school. He is a member of the American Association for Justice and the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association. He is a member of MATA’s CLE Committee, past New Lawyers Chair and regularly volunteers with Missouri Trial Lawyers Care.

Liability - Cross Examination Shelly Dreyer & Keegan Tinney, Sticklen & Dreyer, Joplin

Born in Springfield, Missouri, Shelly Dreyer graduated from Missouri State University with a B.S. in political science and communications before obtaining her J.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law. She began her career in the St. Louis area and in 2003 established the municipal court in Dardenne Prairie. In addition to maintaining her practice, she served as Dardenne Prairie’s first judge, a position she held until 2008, when she relocated to Southwest Missouri. A member of MATA’s Board of Governors, she also serves on the board for the Missouri Bar Association. She earned the distinction of Top Litigation Practitioner at the Missouri Lawyer’s Weekly Women’s Justice Awards and was named an Up & Coming Lawyer by the paper. She volunteered countless hours for MATA’s Emergency Response Team since its inception, earning MATA’s Volunteer Service Award in 2012, the year after a tornado nearly leveled her hometown of Joplin.
A lifelong resident of Joplin, Keegan Tinney graduated from Missouri Southern State University before receiving his J.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. He completed two legislative internships with Missouri Senate Majority Leader Ron Richard as an undergraduate. In law school, he was awarded Top Advocate at the Stetson Law School Mock Trial competition, coached two UMKC Mock Trial teams, and was a semi-finalist in the American Bar Association National Criminal Justice competition. He was also a member of Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternity, MATA's student group and the American Association for Justice mock trial team. He began clerking for Sticklen & Dreyer in 2014 and has also clerked for the Jasper County Prosecutor’s office and the Cherokee County (Kansas) Prosecutor's office. He is an active member of Missouri Boys State, currently serving as a senior staff member. He is a member of the Order of the Barristers, a national honorary organization whose purpose is the encouragement of oral advocacy and brief writing skills through effective law school appellate moot court and mock trial programs.

11-11:50 a.m. Saturday
TRIAL PART 5 - The Closing Lynn Johnson, Shamberg Johnson & Bergman, Kansas City

Lynn R. Johnson is senior partner at Shamberg, Johnson & Bergman in Kansas City. He joined the firm as an associate in 1970 and became a partner in 1974. Raised on a family farm in western Kansas, his formal education began in a one-room country schoolhouse in Kanona, Kansas and includes an undergraduate degree from Kansas State University and a J.D. from Washburn University School of Law. A MATA Board of Governors member for 16 years, he is a member of The Inner Circle of Advocates, a past president of the Kansas Trial Lawyer Association, having earned that group’s Arthur C. Hodgson Award and long served as an officer for the Kansas Bar Association Board and the Washburn Law School Assocation. His pro bono activities include work for the Center for Justice & Democracy, the Midwest Innocence Project and Legal Aid of Western Missouri. He has also been a consistent supporter of Missouri Trial Lawyers Care.

Too often, attorneys find ourselves buried in the stress of everyday life and struggles, but either don’t know where to turn for help or even recognize the need for it. We are inundated with deadlines, difficult opposing counsel and concerns at home. This session will address those everyday struggles, but, more importantly, discuss practical strategies for finding the help we all need. Bill Carr and daughter Taylor Arri chat with professional counselor Elisabeth Chipps about their own experiences with seeking help, and how it changed their lives.

Noon-12:50 p.m. Saturday
The Four-Letter Word No One Wants to Talk About (HELP) ETHICS/Lawyer Well-Being
Taylor Michelle Arri & William L. Carr, White, Graham, Buckley & Carr, Independence
Elisabeth Chipps, LCPC, LPC, Resolve Counseling & Wellness, Prairie Village, Kansas

Taylor Arri graduated with a J.D. from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, where she served as vice president of Board of Barristers, was a member of the Mock Trial Team, a National Trial Competition Finalist and an Oliver Club Board Member. During her time on the mock trial team, she was selected to compete at Top Gun, an invitation-only competition for the top 16 advocates in the country, hosted by Baylor Law School. She was also a regional champion in the TYLA National Trial Competition and was placed in the top eight as the number one seed in the national finals. She has a bachelor’s degree in social work, magna cum laude, from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She interned with the Johnson County District Attorney’s Office in Olathe, Kansas, where she averaged 80 criminal cases at a time. Prior to attending law school, Taylor worked as a nonresidential and sexual violence Victim Advocate and as a Volunteer Coordinator at True North of Columbia, a nonprofit agency providing emergency shelter, counseling and advocacy service for victims and survivors of partner and sexual violence.

MATA Governor Bill Carr’s J.D. is from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, where he received a National Trial Competition Award and was part of the National Trial Team, the National Moot Court Team and the Order of the Barristers. He also holds a bachelor of arts in biology from William Jewell College. Recognized by the Kansas City Business Journal as among the “Best of the Bar,” he has successfully tried personal injury cases in state and federal courts in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and New York. A recipient of the Thomas J. Conway Award by the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, he has been honored by his peers for demonstrating superior skill in the courtroom while still maintaining respectful relationships with opposing counsel. When he is not working, Bill is dedicated to serving his community, especially mentoring children. He coaches youth basketball, volunteers with the youth group at his church and has devoted hundreds of hours to the volunteer attorney project through the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program in Jackson County.
Elisabeth Chipps is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor in Kansas and Missouri. She graduated with a master of arts in Counseling and Guidance from The University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2009 with a specialty in couples and family therapy. She has worked in a variety of clinical settings including providing on-site counseling services to chronically mentally ill residents of long-term care facilities and in private practice providing services to teens, adults and couples in the Kansas City area. She joined the counseling team at Resolve Counseling and Wellness in Prairie Village, Kansas in 2021.

1-1:50 p.m. Saturday
Workers’ Compensation Update on the Law
John R. Boyd, Boyd, Kenter, Thomas & Parrish, Independence
Sarah Webb Elfrink, The Webb Law Firm, Perryville

The oldest son of Boyd Kenter Thomas & Parrish founding member, John B. Boyd, J.R. Boyd has been practicing law since 1995. He earned his Juris Doctor degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law, and holds a bachelor of arts in history from the University of Missouri-Columbia. A Fellow in the 2016 class of the College Of Worker’s Compensation Lawyers, he has been a member of the Workers’ Injury Law and Advocacy Group (WILG) since its creation in 1995 and served as president from 2011–2012. He served on the MATA Board of Governors for 10 years. He is also a member of the national AFL-CIO Lawyers Coordinating Committee, and in 2012, joined the panel of attorneys for the National Football League Players Association representing professional athletes in various legal matters. The Blue Springs native is a regular on the workers’ compensation speaking circuit.

Sarah Webb Elfrink founded the Webb Law Firm with her father, Joseph Webb. She has a bachelor of science degree and a master’s in business administration. She graduated cum laude from St. Louis University’s School of Law night program with a J.D. with a concentration in Employment Law. She was inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu, SLU’s Jesuit Honor Society, which requires a lifetime commitment to public service. Her legal practice is focused entirely on workers’ compensation law. She is also a graduate of the Dave Ramsey Financial Counselor Training Program based in Nashville, Tennessee. She regularly coaches individuals, families and small businesses struggling with budgeting and other financial issues. She also teaches a variety of classes ranging from general legal education to small business best practices. Her classes have been offered at the Cape Girardeau Career and Technology Center.

SUNDAY
8:30-9:45 a.m. Sunday
Starting the Conversation: Understanding Implicit Bias ETHICS
Pastor Edward L. Palmer Sr., The Messenger, Radcliff, Ky.

Pastor Edward L. Palmer Sr. is senior pastor and co-pastor with his wife Elizabeth Palmer for The Sign of The Dove Church International in Radcliff, Kentucky. A Certified Diversity Trainer, he works to eliminate disproportionate minority contact within the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, in 2017, Pastor Palmer was the recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award winner presented by Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin. He has also been awarded the Courage for Kids Award from Kentucky Youth Advocates and the Thurgood Marshall Social Justice Impact Award present by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. He is a certified Racial and Ethnic Disparities Capstone Project Fellow through the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University and co-author of the article “Don’t Hate the Player, Hate the Game: The Importance of Systemic Change to Address Racial and Ethnic Disparities.”
MATA’s ever-popular Snack Shack is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the LaSalita Suite off the main pool area, providing attendees and their families access to all kinds of snacks and drinks.

Meetings kick off Thursday afternoon with the Board of Governors meeting at 3 p.m. followed by a General Membership meeting with a legislative update and elections at 4 p.m. Both take place in the Marbella Ballroom.

Join us Saturday night after the Annual Banquet to dance to the musical stylings of Kansas City 1980s band RetroActive at the President’s Party.

NOTE: If you plan to request credit from another state for these CLEs, please contact Jeannie Brandstetter.