

Faculty Bios

Chris Stiegemeyer

Christian A. Stiegemeyer is the Director of Risk Management for The Bar Plan Mutual Insurance Company and Executive Vice President of The Bar Plan Foundation. He annually conducts more than seventy Risk Management seminars, on a wide variety of ethical and legal malpractice issues, covering current issues concerning professionalism and providing practical solutions for dealing with malpractice and ethical concerns. Mr. Stiegemeyer also directs The Bar Plan's Practice Management Program, providing on-site, personalized reviews of lawyers' law firm practices to help improve risk management and case handling procedures. In addition, Mr. Stiegemeyer responds to The Bar Plan's ethics and malpractice telephone "Hotline" to timely assist its insureds with issues that arise in their daily practice and has written numerous articles appearing in a variety of national, state and local bar association publications. He received his B.A. from Southeast Missouri State University and J.D. from The Saint Louis University School of Law in 1992.

Timothy Takacs

Timothy L. Takacs is in private practice in Hendersonville, Tennessee, limiting his practice exclusively to elder law. A Certified Elder Law Attorney, Tim was one of the first elder law attorneys in the nation to assemble an inter-disciplinary team of experts to provide integrated client care. His innovations have transformed the practice of elder law in the United States and have set a new standard of excellence in the field. Tim began concentrating his practice in the area of elder law in 1990. In the mid-nineties he began adding non-lawyer health care professionals to his staff, including registered nurses and a licensed master social worker, to address quality of life and care issues that the challenge of old age and disability presents to his clients. Tim refers to his firm as a "life care planning law firm" and the goal of his practice as "elder-centered." This means that, while a traditional elder law firm may focus on saving assets for the older client's children, Tim's practice centers on maximizing the older client's quality of life and independence. Tim and other members of his firm have taught the fundamentals of life care planning practice to hundreds of lawyers throughout the United States. He is a founding member of the Life Care Planning Law Firms Association (LCPLFA) and was the Association's first president. Tim Takacs is also a founding member of the Special Needs Alliance, an organization of the nation's leading lawyers on issues pertaining to persons with disabilities and special needs. He is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) and was a member of NAELA's Board of Directors from 2004-2008. He organized the Tennessee Bar Association's Elder Law section and was the section's first chairperson. Tim Takacs has been certified by the National Elder Law Foundation as a Certified Elder Law Attorney and by the State of Tennessee as an Elder Law Specialist. Tim Takacs is the founder of The NAELA eBulletin, an e-mail newsletter for elder law attorneys published by NAELA. He is also the author of *Elder Law Practice in Tennessee* (Lexis/Nexis, 1998; supplemented annually) and *A Guide to Elder Law Practice* (Lexis, 2007).

Stuart Teicher

Stuart I. Teicher, Esq. is a professional legal educator who focuses on ethics law and writing instruction. A practicing attorney for over two decades, Stuart's career is now dedicated to helping fellow attorneys survive the practice of law and thrive in the profession. Mr. Teicher teaches seminars, provides in-house training to law firms and legal departments, provides CLE instruction at law firm client events, and also gives keynote speeches at conventions and association meetings. Stuart helps attorneys get better at what they do (and enjoy the process) through his entertaining and educational CLE Performances. His focus is on the ethical issues in social networking and other technology. Recently, Thomson Reuters published a book he wrote on the topic entitled, *Navigating the Legal Ethics of Social Media and Technology*. Stuart also speaks about "Practical Ethics"-- those lessons hidden in the ethics rules that enhance a lawyer's practice. Mr. Teicher is a Supreme Court appointee to the New Jersey District Ethics Committee where he investigates and prosecutes grievances filed against attorneys. Mr. Teicher is an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown Law where he teaches Professional Responsibility, and he is an adjunct professor at Rutgers University in New Brunswick where he teaches undergraduate writing courses.

A.J. Bahou is a mediator and registered patent attorney who practices in the area of data privacy, security, healthcare, and intellectual property law, including litigation management of patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets. He has extensive experience in all aspects of patent infringement litigation, from pre-complaint investigation through trial and appeal. Mr. Bahou has worked on cases involving varying technologies such as medical devices, computer hardware, software, and Internet security systems. He has represented clients in electronic discovery disputes, motion practice, claim construction ("Markman") hearings, trials and several appeals before the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Larry Bridgesmith Larry Bridgesmith J.D., is Co-founder/CEO of LegalAlignment LLC and a practicing lawyer in Nashville, Tennessee. He is listed as one of America's Best Lawyers, among the Leading Lawyers for American Businesses and SuperLawyer. He is a member of the International Academy of Mediators and a member of the Dispute Resolution Section Council of the American Bar Association. Larry has practiced in the fields of labor, employment and dispute resolution for over 30 years and served in management roles for boutique and mid-sized law firms throughout his career. He founded Lipscomb University's Institute for Conflict Management and served as its inaugural Executive Director. He holds a Six Sigma Green Belt certificate. Larry is an adjunct professor in legal project management, conflict management and mediation at Vanderbilt University School of Law, Belmont University Massey Graduate School of Business, The Nashville School of Law and the Albany Medical School Alden March Institute for Biomedical Ethics. He coordinates the Program on Law and Innovation at Vanderbilt School of Law. In 2013, Larry was awarded the Grayfred Gray Award for Public Service in Mediation by the Coalition for Mediation Awareness in Tennessee. His practice in facilitation and training in organizational change management has taken him across the country and around the world.