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Minnesota Continuing Legal Education

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DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE EXPEDITE!



The 2026
New Lawyer Experience



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FREE
FOR LAWYERS
ADMITTED IN
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The 2026
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A Survival Guide for
Thriving as a New Lawyer



LIVE AND IN PERSON
THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

Minnesota CLE Conference Center
600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 370, Minneapolis

MORNING PLENARY SESSIONS		1:25 – 2:25 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION A	2:35 – 3:35 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION B	3:45 – 4:45 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION C
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	CHECK-IN & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	DEVELOPMENT	201 7 Document Review Concepts New Lawyers Need to Know Learn the seven key concepts new attorneys should understand to make the most of a document review platform – whether managing a production, reviewing documents or preparing for depositions. – <i>Ann E. Motl</i>	301 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>
9:00 – 9:05 a.m.	WELCOME & INTRODUCTION		202 What I Would Do Again, Differently, or Not At All – Running a Successful Solo or Small Firm Learn the basics of launching a law practice, attracting and servicing clients, managing cash flow and practicing ethically and effectively. – <i>Steven K. Budke & Emily K. Cooper</i>	302 Be Indispensable as a New Associate – Strategies for Increasing Your Value and Leveraging Opportunities Success as an associate starts with sharpening your fundamental skills: clear communication, effective workload management, navigating feedback with confidence, and project ownership. Get guidance on how to improve your skills, make an impact, and connect to resources. – <i>Roxanna V. Gonzalez, Krista M. Larson & Elissa R. Meyer</i>
9:05 – 10:05 a.m.	Your Day in Court: What to Expect and What Judges Expect of You Judges discuss the rules of their courts and give advice on scheduling matters, working with clerks, proper communication with the courts, and etiquette in the courtroom and chambers. – <i>Magistrate Judge David T. Schultz, Judge Dominick D. Mathews, Judge Jon Schmidt & Judge Nicole J. Starr</i> – <i>Kevin D. Hofman, moderator</i>		203 What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do – Managing Stress, Trauma, Mental Health & Substance Use as a New Lawyer <i>1.0 mental health/substance use credit applied for</i> Lawyers face high rates of stress, trauma, and mental health challenges that require awareness of the problem and practical strategies for wellness. This session discusses: signs, symptoms, risk factors, and resources; reducing stress through daily practice habits and effective deadline management; using yoga, meditation, and mindfulness; and responding to a crisis in the workplace – <i>Matthew J. Foli, Andrea Lovett, PhD & Dyan Williams</i> – <i>Jon Tynjala, moderator</i>	303 Avoiding and Addressing Mistakes – Practice Foundations and Professional Liability for New Lawyers Managing risk and maximizing results requires thoughtful analysis and decision making. Get practical advice for avoiding common mistakes and creating practices that serve your clients and further your goals. – <i>Leanne E. Fuith & Todd C. Scott</i>
10:05 – 10:15 a.m.	BREAK	PRACTICE MANAGEMENT	204 An Open Forum on Family Law – Two Experienced Family Lawyers Answer Your Toughest Questions Join a round-table discussion led by two experienced family law attorneys for an enlightening look at questions newer lawyers have about family law. – <i>Nicole J. Tabbut & James J. Vedder</i>	304 An Open Forum on Estate Planning Law – Two Experienced Estate Planners Answer Your Toughest Questions Join a round-table discussion led by two experienced estate planning attorneys for an enlightening look at questions newer lawyers have about estate planning law. – <i>Heather M. Gilbert & Courtney Sebo Savica</i>
10:15 – 11:15 a.m.	How to Avoid Common Real-World Ethics Problems <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Learn how to work through the situations that commonly present ethics problems for lawyers and avoid conduct that would violate the Rules of Professional Responsibility. – <i>Eric T. Cooperstein</i>		205 How to Use AI to Stand Out as a New Lawyer and Take Your Practice to the Next Level Learn how AI and other tech platforms and tools can make you more efficient and effective and provide the tools you need to stand out as a new lawyer and take your practice to the next level. – <i>Daniel A. Tysver</i>	305 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>
11:05 – 11:20 a.m.	BREAK		206 What I Would Do Again, Differently, or Not At All – Running a Successful Solo or Small Firm Learn the basics of launching a law practice, attracting and servicing clients, managing cash flow and practicing ethically and effectively. – <i>Steven K. Budke & Emily K. Cooper</i>	306 Be Indispensable as a New Associate – Strategies for Increasing Your Value and Leveraging Opportunities Success as an associate starts with sharpening your fundamental skills: clear communication, effective workload management, navigating feedback with confidence, and project ownership. Get guidance on how to improve your skills, make an impact, and connect to resources. – <i>Roxanna V. Gonzalez, Krista M. Larson & Elissa R. Meyer</i>
11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	Find Your Strengths, Pursue Your Passion, and Innovate – Candid Advice for New Lawyers Attorneys from a variety of practice areas share advice. Hear what they like about their work, what they find challenging, and what it takes to succeed. – <i>Allison E. Cole, Jacob C. Harsen & Anisha J. Murphy</i> – <i>Jonathan J. Fogel, moderator</i>	SUPPORT	207 How to Use AI to Stand Out as a New Lawyer and Take Your Practice to the Next Level Learn how AI and other tech platforms and tools can make you more efficient and effective and provide the tools you need to stand out as a new lawyer and take your practice to the next level. – <i>Daniel A. Tysver</i>	307 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>
12:20 – 12:40 p.m.	NETWORKING BREAK & DISTRIBUTION OF LUNCH (provided by Minnesota CLE)		208 How to Use AI to Stand Out as a New Lawyer and Take Your Practice to the Next Level Learn how AI and other tech platforms and tools can make you more efficient and effective and provide the tools you need to stand out as a new lawyer and take your practice to the next level. – <i>Daniel A. Tysver</i>	308 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>
12:40 – 1:15 p.m.	A Practicing Attorney's Guide to Minnesota CLE Resources Learn about the most useful books, guides, and annotated documents for new attorneys. Discover why Season Passes are the best deal in CLE and how our online seminars help you meet your needs from wherever you are. – <i>Wesley J. Cornwell, Holly L. Garland & Adam F. Nelson</i>		209 How to Use AI to Stand Out as a New Lawyer and Take Your Practice to the Next Level Learn how AI and other tech platforms and tools can make you more efficient and effective and provide the tools you need to stand out as a new lawyer and take your practice to the next level. – <i>Daniel A. Tysver</i>	309 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>
1:15 – 1:25 p.m.	NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK	OPEN FORUM	210 How to Use AI to Stand Out as a New Lawyer and Take Your Practice to the Next Level Learn how AI and other tech platforms and tools can make you more efficient and effective and provide the tools you need to stand out as a new lawyer and take your practice to the next level. – <i>Daniel A. Tysver</i>	310 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>
2:25 – 2:35 p.m.	NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK		211 How to Use AI to Stand Out as a New Lawyer and Take Your Practice to the Next Level Learn how AI and other tech platforms and tools can make you more efficient and effective and provide the tools you need to stand out as a new lawyer and take your practice to the next level. – <i>Daniel A. Tysver</i>	311 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>
3:35 – 3:45 p.m.	NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK		212 How to Use AI to Stand Out as a New Lawyer and Take Your Practice to the Next Level Learn how AI and other tech platforms and tools can make you more efficient and effective and provide the tools you need to stand out as a new lawyer and take your practice to the next level. – <i>Daniel A. Tysver</i>	312 How to Deal with Difficult People – Don't Let the Jerks Get You Down <i>1.0 ethics credit applied for</i> Bad behavior is often part and parcel of legal disputes and processes. This session looks at behavior that negatively impacts our profession, discusses some reasons lawyers and others might resort to jerkish behavior, discusses the ethical rules around behaving badly and offers tips for addressing bad behavior. – <i>Chad A. Snyder</i>

LUNCH SESSION & PRIZE DRAWING!

Don't Miss the Chance to Win a Minnesota CLE Season Pass or Student Loan Payment (up to \$750). Visit minncle.org for terms and conditions.

4:45 – 5:15 p.m.
Annual New Lawyer Mixer
Join your friends and colleagues for tasty refreshments, plus in-person conversation and networking!

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Thursday, January 29, 2026
Minnesota CLE Conference Center
600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 370
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COURSE MATERIALS
In-person attendees will receive hard copies of any course materials submitted. All attendees will have access to all course materials via their Minnesota CLE online accounts.

CREDITS
Minnesota CLE is applying to the Minnesota State Board of CLE for a total of 6.0 CLE credits, including 1.0 ethics credit for the 10:15 a.m. plenary, 1.0 ethics credit for session #301, and 1.0 mental health/substance use credit for session #203. The maximum number of total credits attendees may claim for this course is 6.0 credits.

CANCELLATION POLICY / NO-SHOW POLICY
Paid registrants who cancel before the seminar will receive a refund. Paid registrants who do not cancel and are unable to attend will retain access to all seminar materials through their Minnesota CLE website account.

ACCOMMODATION
If you have a disability and need an accommodation in order to attend this seminar, please contact Minnesota CLE as soon as possible at 800-759-8840 or customerservice@minncle.org.

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- **FREE** to attorneys first licensed in 2023, 2024 or 2025

- \$295 MSBA member / paralegal
- \$345 standard rate

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