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THE 2026

CIVIL LITIGATION INSTITUTE

Attend In Person
Thursday & Friday, November 5-6, 2026
Minnesota CLE Conference Center
600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 370, Minneapolis

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Thursday & Friday, December 10-11, 2026
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\$445 MSBA member rate
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INSTITUTE INFORMATION

LIVE IN PERSON
Thursday & Friday
November 5-6, 2026
Minnesota CLE Conference Center
600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 370
Third Floor City Center, Minneapolis

ONLINE REPLAY
Thursday & Friday
December 10-11, 2026
View online at www.minncle.org
The online replay will include all plenary and breakout sessions. A moderator will be available to answer questions by e-mail.

INSTITUTE MATERIALS
Institute materials will be available to attendees electronically through their Minnesota CLE website account. In-person attendees also will receive materials in hard copy. PowerPoint presentations are available electronically only.

CREDITS
Minnesota CLE is applying to the Minnesota State Board of CLE for **8.25 CLE credits**. Minnesota CLE also is applying to the Minnesota State Bar Association for **8.25 civil trial specialist credits**. The maximum number of total credits attendees may claim is 8.25 credits.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
Minnesota CLE maintains a scholarship program for those with a financial need. For further details or to obtain an application, please contact customerservice@minncle.org.

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

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.

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Co-sponsored by Minnesota CLE and
the MSBA Civil Litigation Section

ALL
NEW!

THE 2026

CIVIL LITIGATION INSTITUTE

Advanced Strategies, Practical Insights, and
Emerging Issues for Civil Litigators

KEYNOTE
SPEAKER



David J.F. Gross
Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Minneapolis | Scottsdale, AZ
A nationally recognized trial lawyer and leading voice on using AI in litigation, David J.F. Gross, shows you how to **use AI to strengthen case strategy, prepare more effectively, and gain an edge** in your case.

SPECIAL
GUEST
SPEAKER



Michelle M. Greene
The Lanier Law Firm | New York, NY
The Lanier Law Firm took on Meta and YouTube in the **first successful social media addiction trial**. Michelle M. Greene provides **an inside look at the case** and how her firm prevailed.

OTHER
HIGHLIGHTS
INCLUDE

- Hear from **Minnesota's new Chief Justice Theodora Gaïtas**
- Some of Minnesota's **most experienced trial lawyers** share **lessons learned** through decades of practice
- A great **panel of Judges** will provide practical advice about **what works, and what does not, in the courtroom**
- **15 breakout sessions** covering a range of topics including **case strategy, trial advocacy, and AI skills for litigators**

NOVEMBER 5-6, 2026 | ATTEND IN PERSON
Minnesota CLE Conference Center | Minneapolis

CAN'T ATTEND IN PERSON?
View the online replay December 10-11, 2026

DAY 1 –
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

9:00 – 11:15 a.m. PLENARY SESSIONS		11:25 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION A		1:15 – 2:00 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION B		2:15 – 3:00 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION C		3:15 – 4:00 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION D		4:15 – 5:00 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION E	
8:30 – 9:00 a.m. CHECK-IN & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST		CASE STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT	101 The First Moves Matter: 6 Strategic Decisions That Shape Business Litigation – Allison M. Lange Garrison	201 Discovery: It’s Not Just E-mail Anymore – Texts, Teams, Slack, Social Media, Cloud Data, and Other Sources Litigators Can’t Ignore – Courtney E. Ward-Reichard	301 Building the Social Media Addiction Case: From Discovery Management to Trial-Ready Strategy – Michelle M. Greene	401 Summary Judgment Strategy: What Actually Moves the Needle Whether You Are the Moving or Opposing Party – Amy E. Boyle – Paola K. Maldonado – Christopher J. Moreland – Andrew E. Tanick	501 Outgunned, Not Outmatched: How to Compete When the Other Side Has More Money, People, and Resources – Michael H. Frasier				
9:00 – 9:05 a.m. WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS			TRIAL ADVOCACY	102 Working with Jury Consultants: What They See That Trial Lawyers Miss – James H. Kaster – Diane Wiley	202 Bench or Jury Trial? 5 Key Differences When Trying a Case – Janel M. Dressen	302 Proving Damages: Building the Record from Discovery Through Trial – Bryan K. Washburn	402 When the Case Goes Sideways: What to Do with Difficult Clients, Bad Facts, Hostile Counsel, and Other Litigation Problems – Michael H. Frasier	502 Protect Your Record: Preserving Appeal Issues at Trial – Caitlinrose H. Fisher – Virginia R. McCalmont			
9:05 – 10:05 a.m. KEYNOTE PRESENTATION  5 AI Skills Every Trial Lawyer Needs Right Now – Work Faster, Think Smarter, and Build Stronger Cases – David J.F. Gross				AI SKILLS FOR LITIGATORS	103 From RAG to Riches: Building Better Case Strategy with AI – David J.F. Gross	203 AI as Your Consulting Expert: Stress-Testing Theories, Arguments, and Case Strategy – David J.F. Gross	303 AI in Civil Litigation: Tools, Tactics, and Risks – Prof. Tammy Pettinato Oltz	403 Privilege, Work Product, and AI: Where Experienced Litigators Can Get Into Trouble – Courtney E. Ward-Reichard	503 Expert Witnesses + AI: Developing Better Direct and Sharper Cross-Examination – Kate S. Razavi		
10:05 – 10:15 a.m. BREAK		12:10 – 1:15 p.m. LUNCH BREAK (provided) FUN! FOOD! FOGO! Join fellow attendees for a complimentary lunch at Fogo de Chão, conveniently located in the same building as the Conference Center. Enjoy Fogo’s Market Table which has over 40 different options, refreshing beverages, and casual conversation with colleagues in a relaxed setting. 			2:00 – 2:15 p.m. BREAK	3:00 – 3:15 p.m. BREAK	4:00– 4:15 p.m. BREAK	5:00 – 5:30 p.m. CONFERENCE RECEPTION Join your friends and colleagues for tasty refreshments, great conversation, and fun prize drawings! PRIZE DRAWINGS!			
10:15 – 11:15 a.m. SPECIAL PRESENTATION  Inside the Landmark Social Media Addiction Trial: How the Lanier Trial Team Won the First Case of Its Kind Against Meta and YouTube – Michelle M. Greene		11:15 – 11:25 a.m. BREAK									

INSTITUTE FACULTY

SAMANTHA H. BATES Maslon LLP Minneapolis	JUDGE AMY J. DOLL Grant County District Court Elbow Lake	MICHAEL H. FRASIER Rubric Legal LLC Minneapolis	DAVID J.F. GROSS Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP Minneapolis & Scottsdale, Arizona	PAOLA K. MALDONADO Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. Minneapolis	PROF. TAMMY PETTINATO OLTZ Mitchell Hamline School of Law Saint Paul	ANDREW E. TANICK Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. Minneapolis
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DAY 2 –
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026

9:00 – 11:55 a.m. PLENARY SESSIONS	
8:30 – 9:00 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	
9:00 – 9:05 a.m. DAY 2 WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS	
9:05 – 10:05 a.m. Trial by Fire: Hard-Earned Lessons from Some of Minnesota’s Most Experienced Trial Lawyers – Samantha H. Bates – B. Todd Jones – William Z. Pentelovitch – Steven Andrew Smith – Kyle R. Kroll (moderator) 	
10:05 – 10:15 a.m. BREAK	
10:15 – 11:15 a.m. From the Bench: What Works and What Does Not – Judge Thomas J. Conley – Judge Martin S. Fallon – Judge Douglas L. Micko – Janel M. Dressen (moderator) 	
11:15 – 11:25 a.m. BREAK	
11:25 – 11:55 a.m. Fireside Chat with the New Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court – Chief Justice Theodora Gaitas – Kyle R. Kroll (moderator) 	