



American College of Trial Lawyers

SECOND ANNUAL TRIAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM SEEKS APPLICANTS

Tuition Free Program Focusing on Diversity in the Courtroom

NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA (January 6, 2023) - The American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) invites diverse trial lawyers to participate in the second annual Diversity Trial Advocacy Program.

Diversity in the Courtroom Program

The College has long been committed to increasing its ranks of talented, accomplished and diverse trial lawyers by including more women and persons of color, varying ethnicities, disabilities, and sexual orientation. Through this program, the College expands its commitment by helping to develop the next generation of diverse and inclusive trial advocates.

“Our society is diverse. Our courtrooms are diverse. We believe the talented lawyers trying cases should better mirror the diversity in our courtrooms,” said ACTL **Teaching of Trial and Appellate Advocacy Committee Chair Thomas J. Heiden** of Latham & Watkins, LLC (Chicago, IL). “The emergence of a broader group of talented and diverse trial lawyers will benefit clients and our system of justice in general. ACTL’s Diversity in the Courtroom Trial Advocacy Program will work to bring even more talented advocates of excellence to our courtrooms.”

After being enthusiastically endorsed by prior participants, faculty, and legal media, there was a universal plea that this program be continued as an annual event. The College is thrilled to announce the second Diversity Trial Advocacy Program will take place in Chicago May 5-7, 2023. The program will again be organized by the ACTL Teaching of Trial and Appellate Advocacy Committee and ACTL Fellows will serve as faculty. The program will be held at the Chicago offices of Kirkland & Ellis.

This innovative program strives to build faith, trust, and belief in the civil justice system. Preserving and protecting the rule of law and the civil trial system depends in part on the commitment provided today. The College is committed to these goals and to nurturing the next generation of excellent courtroom trial advocates.



American College of Trial Lawyers

You can help ensure the continued success of this program by nominating diverse litigators that you believe would benefit from this opportunity. The program will be limited to 50 attendees and place will be reserved in the order of registration.

Please direct any questions or notes of interest to Thomas Heiden (tjh66@cornell.edu). To nominate a lawyer or for direct registration, please contact Jagoda Rachwal (jagoda.rachwal@kirkland.com).

About the [American College of Trial Lawyers](#)

The American College of Trial Lawyers is composed of preeminent members of the trial bar from the United States and Canada and is recognized as the leading trial lawyers organization in both countries. Founded in 1950, the College is an invitation only fellowship. The College thoroughly investigates each nominee for admission and selects only those who have demonstrated the very highest standards of trial advocacy, ethical conduct, integrity, professionalism and collegiality. The College is dedicated to maintaining and seeking to improve the standards of trial practice, professionalism, ethics, and the administration of justice through education and public statements on important legal issues relating to its mission. The College strongly supports the independence of the judiciary, trial by jury, respect for the rule of law, access to justice, and fair and just representation of all parties to legal proceedings. For more information about the College, visit its website at www.actl.com.

###

CONTACT:

Sarah Stokes
Senior Communications Manager
American College of Trial Lawyers
949-752-1801
[sstokes@actl.com](mailto:ssokes@actl.com)

Jenn Thies
Business Development Associate Director
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
312-862-2797
jen.thies@kirkland.com