



**AMERICAN COLLEGE
OF TRIAL LAWYERS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcing the 7th American College of Trial Lawyers Trial Advocacy Program
Tuition Free Program Focusing on Excellence in the Courtroom

NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA (January 12, 2026) – The American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) is proud to announce its 7th ACTL Trial Advocacy Program will be held May 29-31 in San Francisco, California. ACTL is pleased that Morrison Foerster has volunteered to host this important event.

For more than 75 years, ACTL has remained committed to the rule of law, our justice system, and excellence, equity, and ethics in trial practice.

Consistent with that commitment, ACTL hosts national trial advocacy programs, open to any lawyer seeking to develop or improve their courtroom skills. These programs help nurture the next generation of talented trial lawyers and play an important role in strengthening our justice system. The goals of the Trial Advocacy Programs are to:

- Foster excellence in advocacy
- Train the next generation of ethical trial lawyers
- Develop an increased trust, belief, and confidence in our civil justice system

This program emphasizes “learning by watching” and “learning by doing” in a simulated courtroom setting. Participants benefit from faculty demonstrations, guided discussion, and constructive, positive faculty critique. The program culminates with each participant, working in teams of two, trying the case contained in the case file.

There is no charge to attend and participate in the program.

All faculty members are Fellows of ACTL who volunteer their time and cover their own travel expenses because of their shared belief in the importance of our justice system. A detailed segment schedule and the case file will be distributed to attendees in advance of the event.

Attorneys who believe they would benefit from this opportunity are encouraged to contact either of the people listed below. If you know another attorney who may be interested, please share their name and contact information with us.

Participation is offered on a first-come basis, with enrollment capped at fifty (50) lawyers. A wait list will be established once capacity is reached.



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To register for the program or to ask questions, please contact either of the two individuals listed below:

Program Chair Tom Heiden
Thomas.heiden@retiredpartner.lw.com
(616-560-4446)

Laurie Blackiston
Blackiston@mofo.com
(415-268-7510)



About The American College of Trial Lawyers

The American College of Trial Lawyers comprises the best of the trial bar from the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico and is widely considered to be the premier professional trial organization in North America. 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 maintains and seeks 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.

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