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SLA 44th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MAY 17–19, 2018

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SLA 44th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WELCOME!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please take a moment to review the important conference information listed below.

- Name badges are required to be worn to attend all meetings and social functions.
- If you are unable to attend the entire conference, a listing of credits per session is available at the registration desk. A Tulane CLE Department representative will be present at the SLA registration desk for specific questions relating to CLE.
- Be sure to attend Friday's luncheon as the SLA will present the **Michael S. Weiner SLA Award of Excellence** to **George Cohen** and the SLA will also make a philanthropic contribution to Fort Dupont Ice Hockey Club. The winners of the SLA 2018 Law Student Writing Competition will also be announced at the luncheon.
- Cell phones are disruptive to attendees and to the session speakers — *please* refrain from cell phone conversations during the sessions and please mute your cell phone from ringing while in sessions. *Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.*
- When addressing questions to speakers, please utilize one of the aisle microphones so that speakers and attendees can hear your question.
- Your feedback is important to us as we plan for the 2019 Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ. You may complete your evaluation via the conference mobile app.
- If you signed up to attend the Breakout sessions being held on Friday afternoon, your tickets are in your badge holder.
- You have two drink tickets that can be used at either the Thursday Opening Reception or the Friday President's Reception. Additional beverages will be available on a cash basis. You can find these tickets in your badge holder.
- For **First-time Attendees and New Members**, there will be an informal orientation breakfast at 7:30 am on Friday morning in Woodrow Wilson BCD. Take this opportunity to learn more about the SLA and its leadership.
- There will be a **"Women in the SLA"** breakfast on Saturday morning at 8:00 am in Baltimore 3-5 for those wishing to attend and network.
- There will be an **"International Attendee"** breakfast in Baltimore 1-2 on Saturday morning at 8:30 am.
- Attendees are responsible for their own handouts, available on-site via the SLA Mobile App and on-line at the SLA conference website. Attendee list is posted on the SLA Conference website as well as the mobile app.

SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE MOBILE APP

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The SLA Annual Conference Mobile App is ready to download on your iPhone, iPad, or Android!

Scan the QR code below or click **<https://crowd.cc/s/1wCLI>** from your device. Apple and Android users can also search for the app in the iTunes store or Google Play store. Search stores for Sports Lawyers Association 44th Annual Conference, SLA or SLA Annual Conference 2018. Open the app and tap on Sports Lawyers Association 44th Annual Conference.

Once installed, you'll have instant access to:

- The full event schedule
- Contact info for other attendees
- Social sharing on: **#SLAC18**   
- Detailed info about speakers and sponsors
- Notifications of important updates



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AGENDA

The views expressed by speakers are not necessarily the views of the Sports Lawyers Association. Speakers, times, and topics are subject to change.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

1:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Arbitrators & Mediators Seminar <i>Azalea 3</i> This Wednesday CAS session is open to CAS Arbitrators and Mediators only and registration for this Seminar should be handled directly through CAS.
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	REGISTRATION <i>Woodrow Wilson Registration Desk</i>

THURSDAY, MAY 17




9:00 am – 6:15 pm	REGISTRATION <i>Woodrow Wilson Registration Desk</i>
9:30 am – 11:00 am	Breaking Into the Sports Law Industry <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i> Moderator: Samuel Renaut , Associate Director, Sports Law & Business Program, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ Panelists: Buffy Filippel , TeamWork Online, Cleveland, OH Stephanie N. Galvin , Associate Counsel, Miami Marlins, Miami, FL David J. Lisko , Associate, Holland and Knight, Tampa, FL Stacey R. Preston , Director of Strategic Initiatives, NCAA, Indianapolis, IN
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	NETWORKING & NEW MEMBERS RECEPTION <i>Cherry Blossom Lobby</i> Sponsored By: jackson lewis.
12:15 pm – 12:25 pm	SLA 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE WELCOME <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i> Nona Lee , Sports Lawyers Association President Senior Vice President & Chief Legal Officer, Arizona Diamondbacks, Phoenix, AZ

THURSDAY, MAY 17 (CONTINUED)

12:25 pm – 12:30 pm	OPENING REMARKS <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
	<p>Allison Rich, 2018 SLA Annual Conference Chair Senior Associate Director of Athletics, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ</p> <p>David Bokman, Managing Director, Head of Family Office Resources, Morgan Stanley, New York, NY</p>
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm	An Overview of Recent Legal Developments in Sports <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
	<p>Gabe A. Feldman, Paul and Abram B. Barron Professor of Law, Tulane Law School; Director, Tulane Sports Law Program; Associate Provost for NCAA Compliance, Tulane University; Mediator/Arbitrator, MAPS, New Orleans, LA</p> <p>Matthew J. Mitten, Professor of Law and Executive Director, National Sports Law Institute, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, WI; Member, Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland, SLA Past President</p>
2:00 pm – 3:15 pm	The Quantified Athlete: Legal Perspectives on Wearable Technology and Data in Professional and Collegiate Sports <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
	<p>Moderator: Brian R. Socolow, Co-Chair, Sports Practice, Loeb & Loeb LLP, New York, NY</p> <p>Panelists: Jodi S. Balsam, Associate Professor of Clinical Law and Director of Externship Programs, Brooklyn, NY Oliver Luck, Executive Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, NCAA, Indianapolis, IN Mark A. Merolli, Senior Counsel, Connected Fitness, Under Armour, Boston, MA</p>
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK <i>Cherry Blossom Lobby</i>
	<p>Sponsored by: </p>
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Since When are Potential Violations of NCAA Rules Considered a Criminal Offense? <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
	<p>Moderator: Naima Stevenson Starks, Deputy General Counsel, NCAA, Indianapolis, IN</p> <p>Panelists: John D. Buretta, Partner, Cravath, Swaine & Moore, LLP, New York, NY Christopher P. Conniff, Partner, Ropes & Gray LLP, New York, NY Gary R. Roberts, President, Bradley University, Peoria, IL John Thompson III, Board of Directors, National Association of Basketball Coaches, Kansas City, MO</p>

5:00 pm – 6:15 pm	Challenges and Changes in Delivery of Sports Content: Legal Challenges and Business Realities <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
Moderator: Panelists:	Bobby Hacker , Attorney at Law, Marina del Rey, CA Adam Brezine , Associate Director (Legal) Business Development, Twitter, San Francisco, CA Woodie H. Dixon, Jr. , General Counsel and Senior Vice President of Business Affairs, Pac-12 Conference, San Francisco, CA Brett Goodman , Senior Vice President, Business & Legal Affairs, NBC Sports Group, Stamford, CT Thomas Knapp , Vice President of Business & Legal Affairs, CBS Sports Digital, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
6:15 pm – 7:15 pm	OPENING RECEPTION <i>Cherry Blossom Lobby</i>
Sponsored by:	

FRIDAY, MAY 18

7:30 am – 5:00 pm	REGISTRATION <i>Woodrow Wilson Registration Desk</i>
7:30 am – 8:30 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST <i>Cherry Blossom Lobby</i> <i>All Attendees</i>
Sponsored by:	 
7:30 am – 8:30 am	NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST <i>Woodrow Wilson BCD</i>
Sponsored by:	
7:30 am – 8:30 am	OUTREACH CAPTAINS BREAKFAST <i>(By invitation only)</i> <i>Annapolis 4</i>

8:30 am – 10:30 am	Ethical and Counseling Dilemmas Faced by Corporate Counsel in the #MeTooEra: Counselor or Whistleblower? <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
Moderators: Panelists:	Mary Kay Braza , Chair, Sports Industry Team, Foley & Lardner LLP, Milwaukee, WI Robert A. DuPuy , Partner, Foley & Lardner, LLP, New York, NY Jeremy M. Evans , Managing Attorney, California Sports Lawyer, Los Angeles, CA Stephanie A. Jarvis , Principal, SJarvis Consulting; Lecturer, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Scottsdale, AZ Norman Wain , General Counsel and Chief of Business Affairs, USA Track & Field, Indianapolis, IN Robert E. Wallace, Jr. , Partner and Chairman of the Sports Law Group, Thompson Coburn LLP, St Louis, MO Maureen A. Weston , Professor, Pepperdine School of Law, Malibu, CA
10:30 am – 10:45 am	REFRESHMENT BREAK <i>Cherry Blossom Lobby</i>
Sponsored in part by:	 
10:45 am – Noon	You Want to Play for Someone Else?! The High Stakes Game of Moving Players Across Borders in Soccer and Baseball <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
Moderator: Panelists:	Jeffrey G. Benz , JAMS and 4 New Square Barristers (CAS Arbitrator and Mediator), Los Angeles, CA Ian Penny , General Counsel, MLBPA, New York, NY Marcos Motta , Partner, Bichara & Motta Advogados, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Alasdair Bell , Legal Director and General Counsel, UEFA, Nyon, Switzerland
12:10 pm – 1:30 pm	SLA LUNCHEON <i>Woodrow Wilson Ballroom</i>
Sponsored by:	Morgan Stanley <small>GLOBAL SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT</small>
Moderator:	Nona Lee , SLA President — SLA 2018 Philanthropy Initiative — SLA 2018 Michael Weiner Sports Lawyers Association Award of Excellence — SLA 2018 Sixth Annual Law Student Writing Competition Awards <i>Winners will be announced.</i>

1:45 pm – 3:45 pm	NFLPA CERTIFIED CONTRACT ADVISOR SESSION <i>(Only for certified contract advisors)</i> <i>Annapolis 1-2</i>
Panelists:	Chris Fawal , Associate General Counsel, Washington, DC Todd Flanagan , Staff Counsel, NFLPA, Washington, DC Mark Levin , Director of Salary Cap and Agent Administration, NFLPA, Washington, DC
OR	The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Update: Recent Developments in Procedure and Disputes Involving the Olympic Games, Soccer, Doping and Sport Governance <i>Annapolis 3-4</i>
	Matthieu Reeb , Secretary General, Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland Jeffrey G. Benz , JAMS and 4 New Square Barristers (CAS arbitrator and mediator), Los Angeles, CA Michael Lenard , Vice President, International Council of Arbitration for Sport, Los Angeles, CA Brent J. Nowicki , Legal Counsel, CAS Managing Counsel, Lausanne, Switzerland Martin Schimke , Counsel, Bird & Bird (CAS Arbitrator and Mediator) Dusseldorf, Germany
OR 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm	Shall We Play a Game? Evolving Legal Issues in eSports <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
Moderator:	Hal Biagas , President and Founder, Sideline Sports Management; Executive Director, LCS Payer Association, New York, NY
Panelists:	Bryce Blum , Founder, ESG Law; Executive Vice President, Catalyst Sports & Media, Seattle, WA Ari Segal , President & Chief Operating Officer, Immortals, Los Angeles, CA Bobby Sharma , President, Blue Devil Holdings LLC; Managing Partner, Electronic Sports Group, New York, NY
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm	Effective Sponsorship Negotiation: Preventing the Name Game from Becoming the Blame Game <i>Woodrow Wilson A</i>
Moderator:	Stokely G. Caldwell, Jr. , Partner, Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson, PA, Charlotte, NC
Panelists:	Richard L. Brand , Managing Partner, Sports Practice Group, Arent Fox LLP, San Francisco, CA Jeffrey B. Gewirtz , Executive Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Legal & Compliance Officer, Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment, Brooklyn, NY Amy Minniti , Deputy General Counsel, Comcast Spectacor, Philadelphia, PA
OR	Supreme Court Sports Betting Case: Issues and Future Directions <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
Moderator:	Ryan M. Rodenberg , Associate Professor, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
Panelists:	Kate C. Lowenhar-Fisher , U.S. Gaming & Hospitality Practice Group/Leader, Dickinson Wright PLLC, Las Vegas, NV John M. McManus , Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, MGM Resorts International, Las Vegas, NV Tom McMillen , Chief Executive Officer, LEAD1 Association; Former U.S. Congressman (Maryland), Washington, DC Tom Russell , General Counsel, Genius Sports Group, London, England

FRIDAY, MAY 18 (CONTINUED)



3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK <i>Cherry Blossom Lobby</i>
Sponsored by:	 Arent Fox
4:00 pm – 4:55 pm	BREAKOUT SESSION #1
	SESSION A: Lawyers in the Front Office <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
Moderator:	Gabe A. Feldman , Paul and Abram B. Barron Professor of Law, Tulane Law School; Director, Tulane Sports Law Program; Associate Provost for NCAA Compliance, Tulane University; Mediator/Arbitrator, MAPS, New Orleans, LA
Panelists:	Jean Afterman , Senior Vice President, Assistant General Manager, New York Yankees, New York, NY Michael B. Tannenbaum , Executive Vice President, Football Operations, Miami Dolphins, Miami FL
	SESSION B: Gender Equity: Pay, Sponsorships and Media Coverage <i>Camellia 1</i>
Moderator:	Jayma M. Meyer , Counsel, Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett, LLP, Visiting Clinical Professor, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Panelists:	Lisa Baird , Chief Marketing Officer, United States Olympic Committee, Colorado Springs, CO Cheryl Cooky , Associate Professor, American Studies, Purdue University and Author of <i>Slam Dunk: Gender Sport and Unevenness of Social Change</i> , West Lafayette, Indiana Fatima Goss Graves , Chief Executive Officer and President, National Women's Law Center, Washington, DC
	SESSION C: Teaching Sports Law <i>Baltimore 1</i>
Moderator:	Ilhyung Lee , Edward W. Hinton Professor of Law, Senior Fellow, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO
Panelists:	Caleb Jay , General Counsel, Arizona Diamondbacks; Adjunct Professor, Arizona State University; Phoenix, AZ Dionne L. Koller , Professor of Law Director, Center for Sports and the Law, University of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD
	SESSION D: Current Landscape & Considerations for Transgender Inclusion in Sport <i>Camellia 3</i>
Moderators:	Chris Mosier , Vice President, You Can Play; Founder, TransAthlete.com, Chicago, IL
Panelists:	Andrew Haywood , Partner, Penningtons & Manches, London, England Ashland Johnson , Director of Public Education and Research, Human Rights Campaign, Washington, DC Shannon P. Minter , Legal Director, NCLR, San Francisco, CA



	SESSION E: Building an Athlete Brand in the #21stCentury <i>Baltimore 3</i>
Moderator: Panelists:	Brandon Leopoldus , Founder, Brandon Leopoldus, Esq., Los Angeles, CA Melanie Schnoll Begun , Managing Director, Head of Philanthropy Management, Morgan Stanley, New York, NY Tony Mulrain , Co-Chair, Sports Law Practice, Mintz Levin, New York, NY Rand Sacks , Attorney, The Sacks Group, PLLC, Washington, DC
	SESSION F: Fair or Foul? Competition and Antitrust Issues in Sanctioning International Sporting Events <i>Woodrow Wilson A</i>
Moderator: Panelists:	Michele Bernasconi , Partner, Bär & Karrer (UEFA outside counsel), Zurich, Switzerland Massimo Coccia , Partner, Coccia Deangelis Vecchio, Rome, Italy Benoît Keane , Founder, Keane Legal, Brussels, Belgium
	SESSION G: Mock Sports Doping Arbitration Hearing & Debrief <i>Baltimore 4</i>
	Part I Hearing: 4:00 pm – 5:15 pm Part II Debrief: 5:20 pm – 6:00 pm
Moderator: Panelists:	Maureen Weston , Professor of Law, Pepperdine School of Law, Malibu, CA Ricardo de Buen , Founding and Managing Partner, de Buen Rodriguez, Mexico City, Mexico Paul J. Greene , Attorney, Founder, Global Sports Advocates LLP, Portland, ME Matthew J. Mitten , Professor of Law and Executive Director, National Sports Law Institute, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, WI; Member, Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland, SLA Past President Cameron A. Myler , Clinical Assistant Professor, New York University Tisch Institute for Sport, New York, NY Obadele Thompson , Associate, King & Spading LLP, Houston, TX Ross Wenzel , Attorney at Law, Solicitor, Partner, Kellerhals Carrard, Lausanne, Switzerland
	SESSION H: Moving Athletes in and out of the United States: New Policy, Anecdotes and Pointers from Attorneys, Agents and Team Officials from MLB, NBA, NHL and NFL and Other Sports <i>Azalea 3</i>
Moderator: Panelists:	Jon Velie , Sports Immigration Attorney, Velie Law Firm, Norman, OK Nicholas Benson , Deputy Commissioner, Major League Rugby, Salt Lake City, Utah Shawn Marette , Senior Manager, Player Development, Arizona Diamondbacks, Phoenix, AZ Andrew Maloney , Agent, Maloney & Thompson, Toronto, Canada Daniel F. Van Woerkom , Agent, Van Woerkom Law, Provo, UT

	SESSION I: Sports Law Considerations for University Counsel <i>Baltimore 2</i>
Moderator:	Glenn Wong , Executive Director, Sports Law & Business Program Distinguished Professor of Practice—Sports Law, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ
Panelists:	Michael W. Ford , Senior University Counsel for Tax, Corporations & Athletics, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL Kevin S. Reed , Vice President & General Counsel, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR Laura Warren , Senior Associate General Counsel, DePaul University, Chicago, IL
	SESSION J: Hot Issues for In-House Counsel <i>Annapolis 3-4</i>
Moderator:	Richard M. Thigpen , General Counsel, Carolina Panthers, Charlotte, NC
Panelists:	Michelle Kennedy , Chief Operating Officer, Nashville Predators, Nashville, TN Ashwin Krishnan , Vice President & General Counsel, Marlins, Miami, FL Vicky Neumeyer , Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the New Orleans Saints and the New Orleans Pelicans, Metairie, LA Myles C. Pistorius , Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Miami Dolphins, Miami, FL
	SESSION K: Sweepstakes, Promotions, Contests and Legal Challenges <i>Annapolis 1-2</i>
Moderator:	Nyea Sturman , General Counsel, Orlando Magic, Orlando, FL
Panelists:	Meredith Hillman , Vice President, Managing Director, HelloWorld Inc. Nerissa Coyle McGinn , Partner, Partner and Chief Diversity Partner, Chicago, IL
	SESSION L: An Attorney's Role in Youth Sports Governance <i>Camellia 2</i>
Panelists:	Casey Jorgensen , General Counsel, USA Hockey, Colorado Springs, CO Sonja S. Keating , General Counsel, U.S. Equestrian Federation, Lexington, KY
	SESSION M: NCAA Infractions Process: How Are Decisions About NCAA Rules Violations Made? <i>Baltimore 5</i>
Moderator:	Naima Stevenson Starks , Deputy General Counsel, NCAA, Indianapolis, IN
Panelists:	Christopher L. Griffin , Federal & Circuit Court Mediator, Griffin Mediation, Tampa, FL Patricia C. Ohlendorf , Vice President, Legal Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
	SESSION N: Class Action Considerations for Attorneys <i>Camellia 4</i>
Panelists:	Elise M. Bloom , Member of the Firm, Proskauer Rose LLP, New York, NY Daniel L. Nash , Partner, Akin Gump, Washington, DC

5:00 pm – 5:55 pm	BREAKOUT SESSION #2 <i>Same Topics and Rooms as Previous Sessions</i>
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	SLA PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION <i>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</i>
<i>Sponsored by:</i>	Akin Gump STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

SATURDAY, MAY 19

8:00 am – 1:00 pm	REGISTRATION <i>Woodrow Wilson Registration Desk</i>
8:00 am – 9:30 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST <i>Woodrow Wilson Lobby</i> <i>All Attendees</i>
<i>Sponsored by:</i>	TURNKEY
8:00 am – 9:00 am	WOMEN IN THE SLA BREAKFAST <i>Baltimore 3-5</i>
<i>Sponsored by:</i>	
8:30 am – 9:30 am	INTERNATIONAL ATTENDEE BREAKFAST <i>Baltimore 1-2</i>
<i>Sponsored by:</i>	
9:30 am – 11:00 am	EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS FORUM <i>Woodrow Wilson Ballroom</i> <i>(Invited to Speak)</i> <i>Moderator:</i> Abraham D. Madkour , Executive Editor, <i>SportsBusiness Journal/SportsBusiness Daily</i> <i>Panelists:</i> Bob Foose , Executive Director, MLS Players Union Ron Klempner , Senior Counsel, NBPA Ian Penny , General Counsel, MLBPA DeMaurice F. Smith , Executive Director, NFLPA

11:00 am – 11:15 am	REFRESHMENT BREAK <i>Woodrow Wilson Lobby</i>
<i>Sponsored in part by:</i>	 

SATURDAY, MAY 19 (CONTINUED)

11:15 am – 12:45 pm	GENERAL COUNSELS FORUM <i>Woodrow Wilson Ballroom</i> <i>(Invited to Speak)</i> Moderator: Abraham D. Madkour , Executive Editor, <i>SportsBusiness Journal/SportsBusiness Daily</i> Panelists: Adolpho A. Birch III , Senior Vice President of Labor Policy and Government Affairs, NFL William Daly , Deputy Commissioner, NHL Jamin Dershowitz , General Counsel, WNBA Daniel Halem , General Counsel, MLB William Z. Ordower , Executive Vice President and General Counsel, MLS Daniel Rube , Executive Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, NBA
12:45 pm	CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2018 SPONSORS

We would like to give special thanks to our 2018 Annual Conference Sponsors. Our sponsor commitment and support of the Sports Lawyers Association and this conference are greatly appreciated. Sponsors will have an information table in the SLA registration area and we encourage you to meet the sponsor representatives over the course of the conference.

Morgan Stanley Global Sports & Entertainment
Presenting Sponsor
& Friday Luncheon

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Friday President's Reception

Arent Fox
Friday Afternoon Refreshment Break

American Arbitration Association®
Friday Morning Breakfast

Genius Sports
Saturday International Breakfast

Ropes & Gray
Opening Reception

Turnkey
Friday Refreshment Breakfast

Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC
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Hogan Lovells
Friday New Member Breakfast

Jackson Lewis
Networking and
New Member Reception

Foley & Lardner LLP
Friday Morning Refreshment Break

JAMS
Saturday Women in the
SLA Breakfast

McGowan PAE
Saturday Morning Refreshment
Break

Proskauer Rose LLP
Thursday Afternoon Refreshment
Break

Velie Law
Thursday Morning Refreshment
Break

Bryan Cave Liegton Paisner
Saturday Morning Refreshment
Break

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SLA MICHAEL S. WEINER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2018 RECIPIENT

GEORGE COHEN



George Cohen's extensive and distinguished career spanned six decades of private- and public-sector labor-management activities. During his tenure at the Washington, DC law firm Bredhoff & Kaiser (1966-2005), his clients included the Major League Baseball Players Association, National Basketball Players Association, National Hockey League Players

Association, AFL-CIO, United Steelworkers of America, Director's Guild of America, and the American Federation of Musicians (for which he served as General Counsel from 1987-2005).

Perhaps the most notable achievement of his sports law representation was Cohen's amicus argument on behalf of the MLBPA in the landmark 1995 case of *Silverman v Major League Baseball Player Relations Committee*. There, then-district judge Sotomayor held that the League's unilateral implementation of a radically new system of player compensation violated its duty to bargain in good faith and enjoined the League to restore the *status quo*. The all-important reality was that the decision saved the 1995 baseball season. Cohen also served as counsel to the NBPA's Committee on Agent Registration and Regulation. Based upon input received from numerous players detailing the egregious abuses they had suffered at the hands of some agents, he drafted the union's first comprehensive regulation of the relationship between players and their agents. The regulations were challenged in court by an agent whose application for certification was denied based upon his conduct in connection with his representation of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and other players. Cohen successfully argued that an agent's fiduciary duty to his client applies not only when negotiating and enforcing a players compensation agreement, but also when providing services

involving financial and business management and investment and tax advice. (*Collins v NBPA*, 850 F.Supp. 1468 (D. Col.1991)). That significant precedent remains the touchstone for players' protection against agent abuses.

Other noteworthy aspects of Cohen's sports-related activities include his participation in NBPA and NHLPA collective bargaining; his *pro bono* role as consultant to the US Olympic Committee's Governance and Ethics Task Force (2003); his service as Union Co-Chair of the first ABA Committee on Sports Law; and teaching Labor Law in Professional Sports as an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center. Upon "retirement" from B&K in 2005 he launched a public career as a mediator. After serving as a *pro bono* member of the mediation panel of the prestigious U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, in 2009 President Obama nominated Cohen to be Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, where he personally mediated several high-profile sports related labor disputes (Major League Soccer and the National Football League) as well as some involving other major industries (Verizon and CWA/IBEW, US Maritime Alliance and the ILA, and BART and the SEIU and CWA). His awards and recognitions have included "Legends of the DC Bar" (2007); Cornell Law School "Exemplary Public Service" (2014); "Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award" (2014); and American Lawyer's "The Best Lawyers in America" for 25 consecutive years.

George is married to Phyllis the love of his life and an accomplished woodblock printmaker. Their two adult children are stars in their own fields: son Bruce is an Academy Award-winning film producer ("American Beauty"), and daughter Julie is an Emmy Award-winning television documentary film producer (go see "RBG"). Each is married to an outstanding individual Gabe Catone and Paul Barrett respectively. *And let's not forget grand-daughter Ilaria, just 7 but also destined for stardom!*

PREVIOUS WINNERS

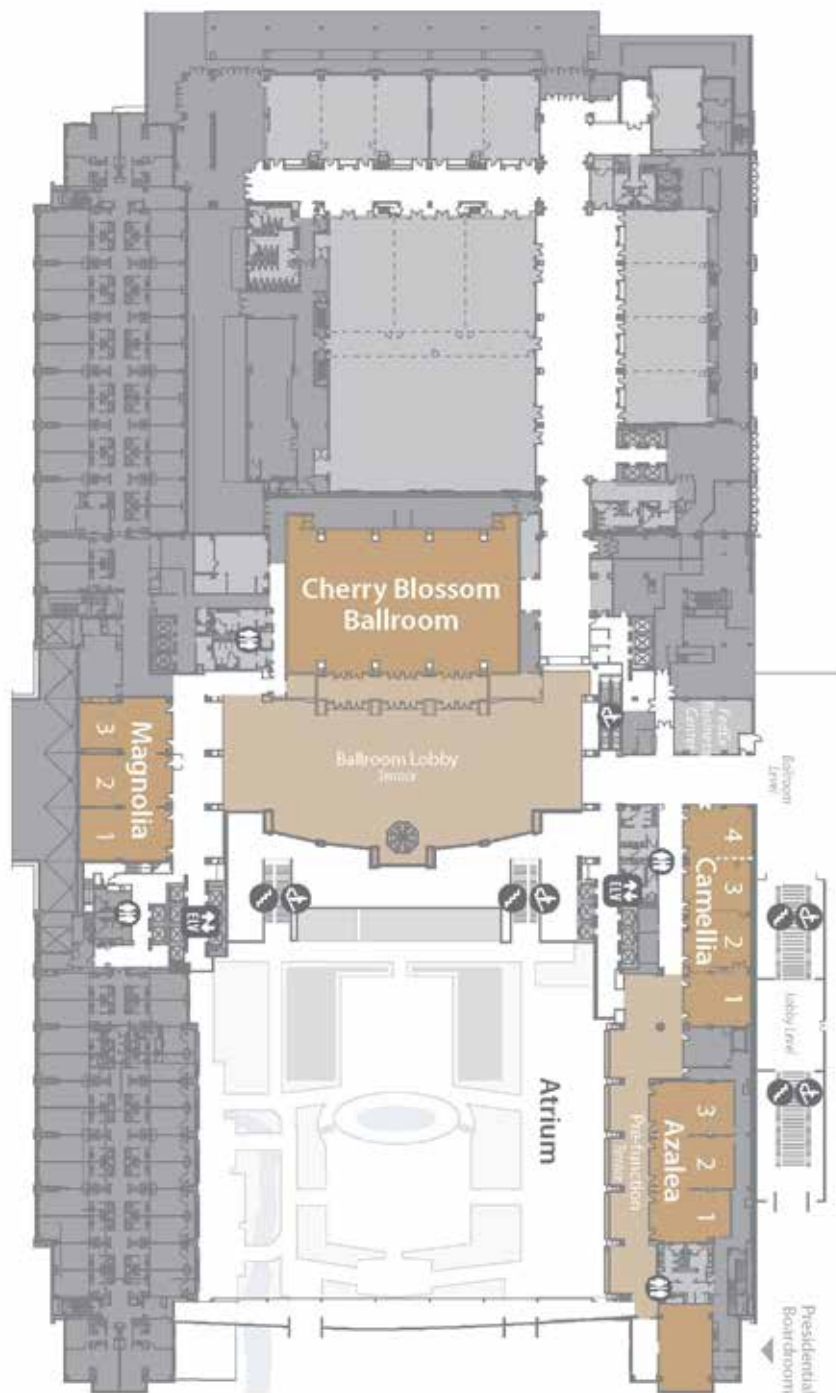
SLA MICHAEL S. WEINER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

1991 Alan I. Rothenberg	2000 Stanley H. Kasten	2011 Gene Upshaw
1992 Anita L. DeFrantz	2004 Marvin J. Miller	2012 Dick Moss
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1997 Reuven J. Katz	2008 Donna A. Lopiano	2016 Donald Fehr
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SLA 2018 HOTEL FLOOR PLAN

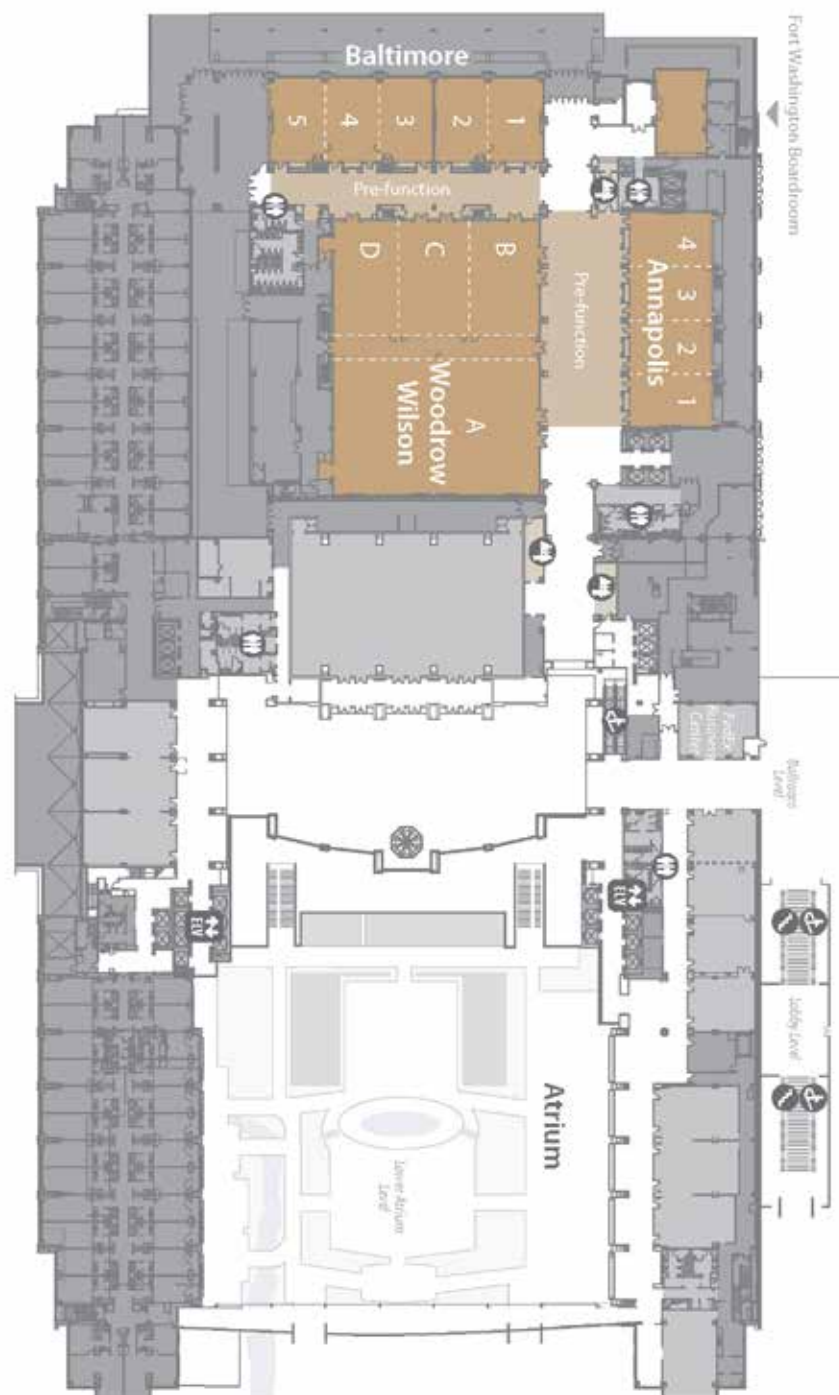
CONFERENCE MEETING ROOMS

Azalea, Camellia, Cherry Blossom Ballroom, Cherry Blossom Lobby, and Magnolia



CONFERENCE MEETING ROOMS

Annapolis, Baltimore, and Woodrow Wilson



SLA FUTURE ANNUAL CONFERENCES



MAY 16-18
2019

JW Marriott Desert Ridge
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2020

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