

Cause and Movement Lawyering



ORIGINAL PROGRAM DATE

November 9, 2022

AVAILABLE MEDIA TYPES

Video & Audio MP3

*Presented in partnership with WSBA
World Peace Through Section*

REPORTING YOUR CREDIT

This on-demand seminar was originally presented as a live webcast on November 9, 2022, in Seattle, WA. If you attended the live webcast and reported CLE credits, you cannot also report credits from watching or listening to this recording if repeated within your three year reporting period.

DESCRIPTION

Cause, Movement, Social Justice, or Activist lawyering is burgeoning into its own practice in the legal realm. Lawyers who engage in this kind of lawyering generally work on social justice issues and help to bring about change through litigation or movements which raise awareness. We see this on many issues, whether they are within the United States or cases which are international but still brought into the US justice system.

This CLE provides a basic background for lawyers who are interested in social justice issues and want to find a way to diversify their legal practice, contribute pro bono services to their communities, or perhaps – try something entirely new from their current practice. This CLE will cover the basics of this type of lawyering with a ground up view of where movements start, how lawyers can help to mobilize and engage in social issues, and strategic tools necessary that should be considered.

AGENDA

1 Legal Ethics and Cause Lawyering

In this session, we will discuss the unique ethical challenges of cause lawyering. We will use a case study to discuss frequent ethical challenges faced by cause lawyers and will address how the relevant Rules of Professional Conduct apply in cause lawyering, in contrast with individual and entity representation. This session will include group discussion of these issues and of hypotheticals.

Hannah Demeritt – Duke University School of Law, Durham, NC

2 Movement Lawyering & The Fights for Systemic Change

Understand what movement lawyering is, what it looks like, who leads, and who is impacted.

Carlton Williams – Cornell Law School, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

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(agenda continued from previous page)

3 Community Lawyering with Pennsylvania Farmworkers

Professor Barry will discuss her work with the Farmworker Legal Advocacy Clinic at Villanova Law, where she and her students represent farmworkers and their families and provide legal support for community organizations working for racial and economic justice for immigrant workers across Pennsylvania.

Caitlin Barry – Farmworker Legal Aid Clinic, Villanova University, Villanova, PA

4 Ecocide and Corporate Accountability through Movement Lawyering

A major push is happening amongst jurists and communities to create a new crime of Ecocide. The Chevron Ecuador case is a glaring example of a corporation committing intentional acts of environmental destruction that has led Ecuadorians being damaged or killed by the effects of pollution. This panel will discuss how movement lawyering can take previously voiceless communities to venues for accountability while also addressing the weaknesses of litigation and certain legal systems in bringing positive outcomes for survivor communities.

Scott Badenoch Jr – Environmental Justice Attorney, Palo Alto, CA

Steven Donziger – Donziger and Associates, New York City, NY