

WOMEN IN M&A SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Application for Women in M&A Scholars Program to attend the
ABA M&A Committee Meeting in Laguna Beach, CA from Jan. 28-30, 2027
DEADLINE: November 13, 2026 at 5 pm EST

Applications are due November 13, 2026 at 5 pm EST. All NYU law students are eligible to apply. No business law background or pre-existing interest in M&A is required to apply. The ABA Women in M&A Sub-Committee will review the applications and select the finalists. Each finalist will be contacted for a 20-minute telephone interview with one of the members of the ABA Women in M&A Sub-Committee.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Class Year: _____

Have you lined up a position for the coming summer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, please provide employer name and location:

In what electives will you be enrolled in next semester?

Interest in litigation? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Willing to explore

Interest in business law? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Willing to explore

Interest in M&A? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Willing to explore

If selected for the scholarship, I am available to attend the meeting in full from January 28 – 30, 2027.

☐ Yes ☐ No

If No, I'm available on the following dates only: _____

Please attach a current resume and a one-paragraph statement of interest. No cover letter is required. The statement should discuss your reasons for applying to law school, and how this M&A conference will enrich your law school experience. (We would like to know whether you are interested in learning about M&A and in meeting and interacting with experienced M&A practitioners.)

Please email the application, your current resume and your statement of interest to Amanda Pooler (amanda.pooler@akerman.com) by November 13, 2026 at 5 pm EST.

If you are selected as a scholar, your name and photographs of you which are taken at the meeting may be used by the Women in M&A Sub-Committee in items such as press releases and social media related to the M&A Committee, the Women in M&A Sub-Committee, and their events and activities.

Please check the following box to confirm your consent to the use of your name and image for such purposes ☐

ABOUT THE M&A COMMITTEE & ANNUAL MEETING

The American Bar Association Mergers and Acquisitions Committee, part of the ABA Business Law Section, is a leading professional community for lawyers and other deal professionals focused on mergers and acquisitions. The Committee is the Business Law Section's "home for M&A," with a mission to establish, discuss, debate and educate its worldwide membership on best practices across the M&A field, including negotiation, transaction documentation, technology and market trends.

The Committee has a substantial worldwide membership of thousands of members domestically and internationally and encourages members to become actively involved through writing, programming, webinars and other Committee activities. Its work includes substantive programming, publications and resources such as its highly regarded M&A Deal Points Studies, as well as numerous specialized subcommittees and task forces.

Each January, the Committee holds its annual Mergers and Acquisitions Committee Meeting in Laguna Beach, California. The 2027 meeting is scheduled for January 28–30 at the Montage Laguna Beach and will be offered both in person and virtually.

The meeting brings the Committee's M&A community together around its substantive work and professional programming. One particularly distinctive feature is the championship round of the Committee's national law-school M&A negotiation competition, the MAC Cup, whose "Final Four" teams travel to Laguna Beach to compete during the annual meeting.

ABOUT THE WOMEN IN M&A SUBCOMMITTEE

The Women in M&A Subcommittee is part of Mergers & Acquisitions Committee. The Subcommittee was established in 2013 with a particular focus on increasing the participation and retention of women in the field of mergers and acquisitions and enhancing opportunities for women to advance to leadership roles on deal teams and within the M&A profession.

The Subcommittee brings together women M&A practitioners and other members of the M&A community interested in advancing these objectives. A central part of the Subcommittee's work is understanding and addressing the underrepresentation of women in M&A. Since 2014, it has conducted biennial studies examining gender representation among lawyers at different seniority levels in leading North American law firms, both in corporate practices generally and in M&A specifically.

The Subcommittee also seeks to create opportunities for professional development, visibility, leadership, mentorship and engagement for women in M&A. Visible leadership is a core focus of the Subcommittee and through the broader M&A Committee, women lawyers can participate in thought leadership, programs, publications and Committee meetings.

LAW STUDENT OUTREACH AND THE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

An important part of the Women in M&A Subcommittee's mission is introducing women law students to the M&A field early in their careers. After its research identified lower participation by women in M&A even at relatively junior levels, the Subcommittee created a Law School Initiative through which senior women M&A practitioners visit law schools to discuss their careers and experiences, expose students to the practice of M&A, and encourage women to consider transactional careers.

The Subcommittee's law-student outreach also includes opportunities for selected law students, often referred to as Women in M&A Scholars, to experience the M&A Committee and its community firsthand, including attendance at a Committee meeting. For a law student interested in transactional practice, participation in a Committee meeting offers unusual exposure to experienced M&A lawyers and to the substantive issues, professional relationships and thought leadership that shape the practice.

FORMAT OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference takes place at the Montage resort in Laguna Beach, California. The conference typically begins on Thursday afternoon with registration, the M&A Committee National Invitational Semifinals, and a welcome reception. Programming then continues all day Friday, including meetings, panel discussions, lunch, a sunset reception, and informal "dine-around" dinners on Friday evening. The conference continues on Saturday with additional programming beginning after breakfast and continuing throughout the day. Lunch and the M&A Committee Reception and Dinner is Saturday evening. There are also optional events and informal opportunities to meet practitioners such as a "Fun Run."

Sample Agendas from the last two years are attached.

TESTIMONIALS

"I am incredibly grateful to have been selected as a Women in M&A Scholar and to have had the opportunity to attend this year's ABA Business Law Section M&A conference. As a first-year law student, this program provided rare early access to leading practitioners and made what can often feel like an abstract career path feel tangible, accessible, and exciting. The combination of substantive programming, candid conversations, and even the opportunity to present questions to panelists provided meaningful exposure and valuable public speaking experience early in my legal career.

Equally impactful was the opportunity to share this experience alongside three other exceptional scholars and to be paired with incredible mentors who were generous with their time, perspective, and encouragement. The relationships formed over the course of the weekend made clear just how small and interconnected the M&A community is, and how meaningful it is to have familiar, supportive faces within it. The Women in M&A Scholars program not only provides access, but fosters lasting connections and a true sense of belonging. I left the experience deeply optimistic about the future of the profession and inspired by the women who are already leading it, and I am excited to remain engaged with this community as I continue to pursue a career in M&A."

--Sarah Wang, NYU Law Student

"My experience at the conference was incredibly helpful in discovering where my practice area interests lie. Having worked in-house at a large asset manager, it was illuminating to learn about deal-level work. I also got the chance to speak candidly with senior women in the M&A space, and I've created mentorship relationships from the program. I'm so grateful to have had the chance to attend.

(And not to mention it was hosted in sunny Laguna Beach, a wonderful break from the New York weather!)"

--Morgan Duffield, NYU Law Student

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information about:

- ABA Mergers and Acquisitions Committee Meeting 2027 can be found at:
[Welcome - Mergers and Acquisitions Committee Meeting 2027](#)
- Women in M&A Sub-Committee can be found at:
https://www.americanbar.org/groups/business_law/committees/ma/subcommittees/
- Mergers & Acquisitions Committee can be found at:
https://www.americanbar.org/groups/business_law/committees/ma/

WOMEN IN M&A COMMITTEE CONTACT

Questions? Please direct any questions to **Amanda Pooler**, at amanda.pooler@akerman.com.



AMERICANBARASSOCIATION

Business Law Section

M&A Committee Meeting Meeting Agenda

January 29 – 31, 2026

The Montage, Laguna Beach, California + Online remote access

All times Pacific Time Zone

Subject to Change

Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026	
2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Registration -- Grand Ballroom Foyer
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	M&A Committee National Invitational Semifinals -- Gallery Ballroom
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception – Grand Ballroom Foyer and Courtyard Sponsored by Computershare
Friday, Jan. 30, 2026	
7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Registration -- Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast -- Gallery Ballroom Newcomer corner 7:30 am – 8:00 am, hosted by Caitlin Rose (Fasken) of our Membership Subcommittee <i>*Included in registration fee for registered attendees. Guest passes available for purchase</i>
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Introductions – Grand Ballroom
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	M&A Jurisprudence Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chairs: Nate Cartmell (Pillsbury), Nick Mozal (Potter Anderson) - Discussion of recent M&A cases, utilizing MAC Briefs published by the Subcommittee: - A California decision awarding misappropriation of trade secrets damages against a potential acquirer who accessed materials pursuant to a non-disclosure agreement (<i>Propel Fuels, Inc. v. Phillips 66 Company</i>); - A Delaware decision applying enhanced scrutiny to a merger as well as analyzing statutory compliance related to post-signing negotiations (<i>Sjunde AP-Fonden v. Activision Blizzard, Inc.</i>); - Guidance from the Delaware Court of Chancery on removals of officers (<i>Ghatty v. Mudili</i>) and advance notice bylaws (<i>Stoke Therapeutics</i> and <i>Better Home</i>); and - Recent Delaware decisions at the intersection of restrictive covenants and forfeitures
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	International M&A Subcommittee – Grand Ballroom Co-Chairs: Jorge Yanez (Ramos, Ripoll & Schuster), Gary McSharry (McCann FitzGerald) Vice Chair: Luciana Griebel (Morgan Lewis) - Update from Jennifer Muller (Houlihan Lokey) on the state of international M&A markets - Discussion on M&A trends in critical sectors, featuring Scott Gibson (Thomson Geer) covering the Australian critical minerals sector and Andrew Stotts (Textron) looking at the defense sector
11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch -- Pacific Lawn Sponsored by US Bank <i>*Included in registration fee for registered attendees. Guest passes available for purchase</i>
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Third Annual M&A Committee National Invitational Final Round! – Grand Ballroom
2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Technology in M&A Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: Daniel Rosenberg (Charles Russell Speechlys); Vice Chair: Tom Romer (Dexterity) Will Norton (SimplyAgree), Ian Palm (Fasken) and Steve Obenski (Unison Strategy) will give an update on the Subcommittee's Technology in M&A Directory project and our soon-to-be-relaunched related Survey

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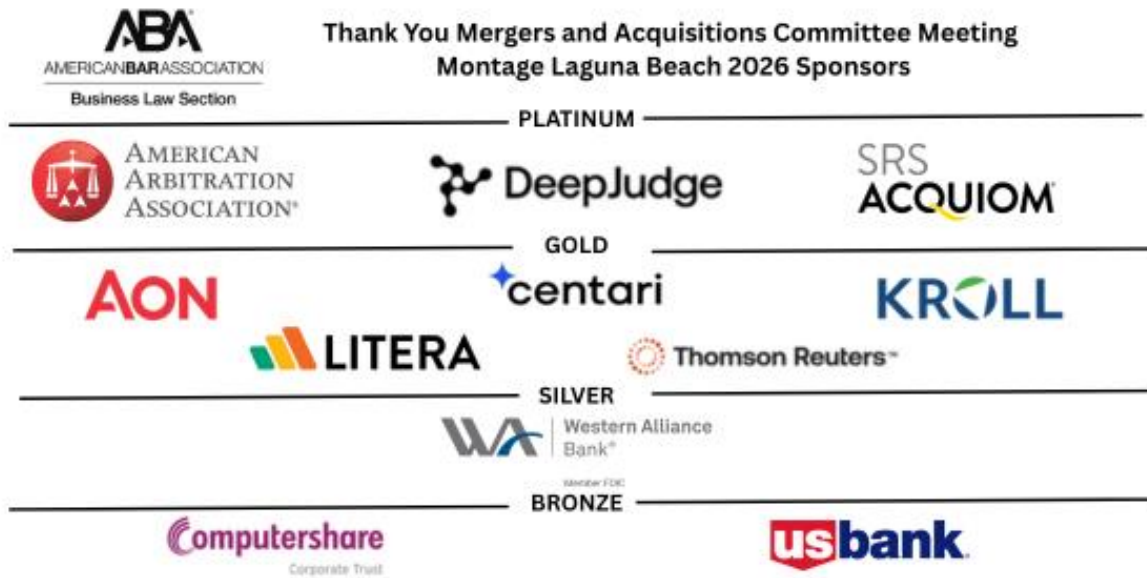
	• Ian Nelson (Hotshot) and Jonathan Dolgin (Fox Rothschild) will present on how supervising M&A attorneys are ultimately responsible for how their team uses GenAI on deals • Ryan Groff (DeepJudge) will demonstrate how DeepJudge instantly surfaces a firm's accumulated deal knowledge to inform future work. • Mike Trusca (Litera) will present on the broadening accessibility of legal technology, what happens when clients decline the use of GenAI, and share key takeaways from their prompt guide • Emily Colbert and Erica Kitaev of Thomson Reuters will describe how CoCounsel's new Tabular Analysis capability allows deal teams to query thousands of documents simultaneously
3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Acquisitions of Public Companies Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Co-Chairs: Jenny Hochenberg (Freshfields), Ann Beth Stebbins (Skadden), Vice Chair: Suni Sreepada (Ropes & Gray) • Panel discussion addressing key considerations for in-house counsel in public M&A transactions, with a focus on the biotech and pharma sectors featuring: ○ Jeffrey Salinger (Edwards Lifesciences), ○ Leo E. Strine, Jr. (Wachtell), ○ Mary Grendell (Protara Therapeutics); and ○ Sebastian Fain (Gibson)
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Sunset Reception -- Pacific Lawn • M&A Committee National Invitational championship awards <i>*Included in registration fee for registered attendees. Guest tickets available for purchase</i>
6:30 p.m.	Friday Night Dine-Arounds Organizer: Tracy Washburn
<u>Saturday, Jan 31, 2026</u>	
7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Registration -- Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast -- Gallery Ballroom <i>*Included in registration fee for registered Meeting Attendees. Guest passes available for purchase</i>
7:00 a.m.	Fun Run
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Introductions – Grand Ballroom
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Private Equity M&A Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: David Albin (Finn Dixon); Vice Chair: Samantha Horn (Stikeman) • Panel discussion moderated by Samantha Horn (Stikeman) on issues and developments in the large cap private equity M&A space featuring: ○ Joel Greenberg (Arnold and Porter), ○ Ryan Taylor (Weil Gotshal), ○ Ahmed Sidik (Kirkland & Ellis); and ○ Agnieszka Rafalska (EQT Group) • Panel discussion on protections that an investor in a private equity fund might be able to utilize pursuant to the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, assuming a valid waiver of fiduciary duties featuring Vice Chancellor Will of the Delaware Court of Chancery and Rebecca Salko (Potter Anderson), and moderated by David Albin (Finn Dixon).
10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Market Trends Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: Lisa Hedrick (Hirschler); Vice Chairs: Ed Deibert (Arnold & Porter), Tatjana Paterno (Bass Berry) • Update on the state of M&A market: Jennifer Muller (Houlihan Lokey) and Chin Pandya (Houlihan Lokey) • Panel discussion on tax advantages structuring using Code Section 1202 featuring Ashley E. Velategui CFA (AllianceBernstein L.P.) and Carlyn Williams (Arnold & Porter) • Key findings from the recently released 2025 U.S. Private Target Deal Points Study: Jessica Pearlman (K&L Gates) and Tatjana Paterno (Bass Berry)
11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch -- Pacific Lawn <i>*Included in registration fee for registered Meeting Attendees. Guest passes available for</i>

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	<i>purchase</i>
1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Women in M&A Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Co-Chairs: Joanna Lin (Dechart) and Charlotte May (Covington); Vice Chair: Emily Marco (Skadden) • Presentation on Culture as a Catalyst: Leveraging Organizational Alignment for M&A Success featuring Natalie Baumgartner (Contemporary Leadership Advisors) exploring the art of managing powerful personalities and complex human dynamics in high-stakes M&A environments • Discussion on Navigating the Intersection of M&A, Media, and Gender featuring Michelle F. Davis (Bloomberg News) discussing insights from the frontlines of financial journalism
2:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Mergers and Acquisitions Full Committee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: Rita-Anne O’Neill (Sullivan & Cromwell); Vice Chairs: Jessica Pearlman (K&L Gates), Jenny Hochenberg (Freshfields), Charlotte May (Covington) • Full M&A Committee meeting with presentations, including on: ○ RWI Sector Update: Discussion led by Wendy Knobel (Aon) on RWI updates in the Latin America market and the pharma/biopharma industry generally ○ Media Discussion on M&A Market: Discussion led by Jenny Hochenberg (Freshfields) and Michelle F. Davis (Bloomberg News) on observations on the M&A market ○ Top 10 for 2025: Lighting round on top 10 takeaways for 2025 ○ Moelis: Panel discussion on the Delaware Supreme Court reversal of Moelis governance ruling led by Nick Mozal (Potter Anderson), Melissa A. DiVincenzo (Morris Nichols) and John Mark Zeberkiewicz (Richards Layton & Finger) • M&A Full Committee Agenda to follow
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	M&A Committee Reception & Dinner -- Ocean and Pacific Lawn (Separate ticket required)

**Signing up for the M&A Committee
and our
Subcommittees and Task Forces**

- Join the M&A Committee through the “Join – Now” button on our homepage [here](#)
 - You must also join the Subcommittees and Task Forces separately
- The “Join – Now” button takes you to your personal ABA Dashboard, where you need to click “Manage – Memberships” and then “Join Committees”. Expand the drop-down button next to “Mergers and Acquisitions” to see and join our individual Subcommittees and Task Forces.
- Joining will automatically add you to the listserves of the relevant groups, so you will receive their publications, meeting notices and other materials – but you **must join**



Projects and Activities

Recent Publications and Events

- In the Know Webinar on the Deal Points Study: Feb 10, 2026 | online - Details to come
- Private Company Deal Points Study – available [here](#), contact [Jessica Pearlman](#) (K&L Gates) or [Tatjana Paterno](#) (Bass Berry) if you'd like to participate in future studies.
- Annual Survey of Judicial Developments Pertaining to M&A – published in *The Business Lawyer*, [here](#) -- contact [Nick Mozal](#) (Potter Anderson) if you'd like to participate in (and get published in) future Surveys.

Upcoming Events

- Spring 2026 BLS Meeting: Apr. 16-18, 2026, Hilton Atlanta, Atlanta GA
- Fall 2026 BLS Meeting: Sept. 2-3, 2026, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago IL
- 2027 M&A Committee Standalone Meeting: January 28-30, The Montage, Laguna Beach CA
- Spring 2027 BLS Meeting: May 6-8, 2027, Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas NV
- Fall 2027 BLS Meeting: Sept. 9-11, 2027, Westin Washington, DC Downtown, Washington DC

Upcoming/Ongoing Publications and Opportunities (with contact info if you'd like to participate/contribute)

- MAC Cup – the M&A Committee's premier national (US and Canada) law school student M&A negotiation tournament. You can be a judge for a day or coach student teams. If interested, contact [Mike O'Bryan](#) or [Thaddeus Chase](#)
- MAC Briefs – summarizing recent key legal decisions, available [here](#) – contact [Nick Mozal](#) (Potter Anderson) to contribute
- Our *Deal Points* newsletter – current and back issues available [here](#) – contact [Luciana Griebel](#) (Morgan Lewis) or [Janine Labusch](#) (Donahue & Partners) if interested in contributing
- Annual Survey of Judicial Developments – contact [Nick Mozal](#) (Potter Anderson) if you'd like to participate
- Other *In the Know* and *Business Law Basics* webinars – to come; suggestions welcome – contact [Ashley Hess](#) (BakerHostetler) or other Committee leaders
- Public Company Deal Points Study – contact [Charlotte May](#) (Covington), [Suni Sreepada](#) (Ropes & Gray) or [Luciana Griebel](#) (Morgan Lewis) if you'd like to participate
- Canadian Private Company Deal Points Study – contact [André Perey](#) (Osler) or [Gesta Abols](#) (Fasken)
- European Private Company Deal Points Study – contact Reid Feldman, [Bob Calmes](#) (Arendt), [Yan Pecoraro](#) (Portolano Cavallo) or [Alexander Roth](#) (Taylor Wessing) if you'd like to participate
- Business Law Today articles and M&A blurbs (see examples on website, [here](#)) – contact [Lisa Stark](#) (Delaware Corporate Counsel), [Chauncey Lane](#) (Holland & Knight), or [Sachin Java](#) (Walter Haverfield) if you'd like to contribute
- Forms Project with Corporate Counsel Committee
- Hotshot / BLT collaboration – page available [here](#) – contact [Lisa Hedrick](#) if interested
- Revised Model Asset Purchase Agreement – publication coming soon!
- Revised Model Stock Purchase Agreement – issue groups forming soon – stay tuned!
- Updating “Ethical Implications of the Use of Legal Technologies by Innovative M&A Lawyers” from Jan. 13, 2025 Business Law Today, current version available [here](#) – contact [Tom Romer](#) (Dexterity) or [Daniel Rosenberg](#) (Charles Russell Speechlys)
- Maintaining the “Directory of M&A Technologies”, available [here](#), and the annual survey on the technologies being used in M&A – contact [Daniel Rosenberg](#) (Charles Russell Speechlys)
- “Training & Deploying M&A Lawyers in the Age of AI” project and developing the related list of AI use cases for M&A lawyers – contact [Daniel Rosenberg](#) (Charles Russell Speechlys)
- Short Form Model Acquisition Agreements – contact [Jason Balog](#) (Miles & Stockbridge) or [Eric Graben](#) (Wyche)
- All of our Committee and Subcommittee non-CLE presentation materials are available in our Committee Library, organized by meeting [here](#) and by Subcommittee [here](#)

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To share thoughts on topics or ideas for activities, you may also contact M&A Committee Chair, [Rita-Anne O'Neill](#) (Sullivan & Cromwell) or Vice-Chairs, [Jenny Hochenberg](#) (Freshfields), [Charlotte May](#) (Covington) and [Jessica Pearlman](#) (K&L Gates).

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M&A Committee Meeting

Meeting Agenda

Fri. Jan. 31 – Sat. Feb 1, 2025
The Montage, Laguna Beach, California (+ Online remote access)
All times Pacific Time Zone
Subject to Change

Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025	
2:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Registration – Grand Ballroom Foyer
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	M&A Committee National Invitational Semifinals – Gallery Ballroom
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Welcome Reception – Grand Ballroom Foyer and Courtyard Sponsored by Computershare
Friday, Jan. 31, 2025	
7:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration – Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast – Gallery Ballroom • Newcomer corner 7:30–8 am, hosted by Caitlin Rose (Fasken), Membership Subcommittee <i>Included in registration fee for registered attendees (guest passes available for purchase)</i>
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Introductions – Grand Ballroom
9:00 am – 10:30 am	M&A Jurisprudence Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Co-Chairs: Nate Cartmell (Pillsbury), Nick Mozal (Potter Anderson) • Discussion of recent M&A cases, utilizing MAC Briefs published by the Subcommittee: - English court's analysis of a Material Adverse Effect clause (<i>BM Brazil I Fundo v. Sibanye Bm Brazil</i>) and how English law compares to American law; - Delaware cases on earnouts (<i>Fortis Advisors LLC v. Johnson & Johnson</i>) and third-party aiding and abetting liability (<i>In re Mindbody, Inc. Stockholder Litigation</i>); - New York cases on claims for violating confidentiality obligations in target's material contract during sales process (<i>AriZona Beverages USA, LLC v. Evercore, Inc.</i>); and - Cases discussing California public policy as it relates to waiver of jury trials.
10:30 am – 11:45 am	International M&A Subcommittee – Grand Ballroom Co-Chairs: Jorge Yanez (Ramos, Ripoll & Schuster), Gary McSharry (McCann FitzGerald) Vice Chair: Luciana Griebel (Morgan Lewis) • Update on state of international M&A markets (Jennifer Muller (Houlihan Lokey)) • Panel on Eastern European M&A markets (Silviu Stratulat (Stratulat Albuлесcu), Lukasz Berak (Sołtysiński Kawecki & Szlęzak) and Jan Juroška (Kinstellar)) • Segment on wellness / work-life-balance (Gary McSharry (McCann FitzGerald) and Luciana Griebel (Morgan Lewis))
11:45 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch – Pacific Lawn Sponsored by US Bank <i>Included in registration fee for registered attendees (guest passes available for purchase)</i>
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Second Annual M&A Committee National Invitational Final Round – Grand Ballroom
2:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Technology in M&A Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: Daniel Rosenberg (Charles Russell Speechlys); Vice Chair: Tom Romer (Dexterity) • Recently reissued guidance on <i>Ethical Implications of the Use of Legal Technologies by Innovative M&A Lawyers, including Special Considerations for use of AI in M&A Transactions</i> (Matt Kittay (Fox Rothschild)) • Sneak preview of Litera survey on tech in M&A, produced with the Subcommittee (Jen Tsai and Josie Kenny (Litera)) • Survey results of most used products/tools in the Technology in M&A Subcommittee Directory (Steve Obenski (Unison Strategy), SJ Jablonski (Husch Blackwell), Evy Marque (Felsberg Advogados) and Ian Palm (Fasken)) • Side-by-side demos on same sample agreement of three technologies:

	▪ Thomson Reuters' Casetext CoCounsel (formerly Drafting Assistant) – Rawia Ashraf ▪ Litera's Contract Companion (being wrapped into Litera Check) – Randy Agate ▪ Definely – Nathan Killick & Alistair Fatheazam • Cameo by Glenn West (Weil) on his Business Law today article “<i>The Perils of the Busted Cross-Reference</i>” (DE court declined to resolve broken cross-reference on motion to dismiss). • Update on training and deploying M&A lawyers in GenAI (Ian Nelson (Hotshot) and Jonathan Dolgin (Fox Rothschild))
3:15 pm – 4:30 pm	Women in M&A Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Co-Chairs: Joanna Lin (McDermott), Charlotte May (Covington) • Most recent Women in M&A Survey results (Jennifer Muller (Houlihan Lokey)) • Panel on Forbes article “<i>Women Possess a Secret Weapon for Merger and Acquisition Success</i>” featuring examples of “superpowers” that contribute to dealmaking by women (Joanna Lin (McDermott), Sandra Zhao (McMillan), Emily Marco (Potter Anderson) and four <i>Women in M&A</i> student scholars from NYU and Harvard)
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Sunset Reception – Pacific Lawn • M&A Committee National Invitational championship awards <i>Included in registration fee for registered attendees (guest tickets available for purchase)</i>
6:30 pm	Friday Night Dine-Arounds Organizer: Tracy Washburn
Saturday, Feb 1, 2025	
7:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration – Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast – Gallery Ballroom <i>Included in registration fee for registered attendees (guest passes available for purchase)</i>
7:00 am	Fun Run
9:00 am – 10:15 am	Private Equity M&A Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: David Albin (Finn Dixon); Vice Chair: Samantha Horn (Stikeman) • Panel on collaboration between investment bankers and PE lawyers to advance client objectives (David Albin (Finn Dixon), Warren H. Feder (Carl Marks Advisors), Jeff Jones (Stephens), Joanna Lin (McDermott) and Katherine Krause (Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett)) • Private equity fund defenses to claims of breaching fiduciary duties in <i>Firefighters' Pension System of Kansas City Trust v. Found. Bldg. Material, Inc.</i> (Lisa Stark (Delaware Corporate Counsel)) • Panel/mock negotiation on rollovers and share consideration received by sellers in PE M&A deals (Samantha Horn (Strikeman), Aly Love (Debevoise & Plimpton) and Brittany Sakowitz (Kirkland & Ellis))
10:15 am – 11:45 am	Market Trends Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: Lisa Hedrick (Hirschler); Vice Chairs: Ed Deibert (Arnold & Porter), Tatjana Paterno (Bass Berry) • M&A 2024 trends, with real-time polling and attendee insights/expectations for 2025 • M&A Activity in 2024 and What's Ahead for 2025 (Jennifer Muller (Houlihan Lokey)) • SRS Acquiom's 2024 M&A Claims Insight Report (Kip Wallen (SRS Acquiom)) • Canadian Private Target Deal Points Study (André Perey (Osler) and Gesta Abols (Fasken))
11:45 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch – Pacific Lawn <i>Included in registration fee for registered attendees (guest passes available for purchase)</i>
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Acquisitions of Public Companies Subcommittee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Co-Chairs: Jenny Hochenberg (Freshfields), Ann Beth Stebbins (Skadden) • Hot topics in tech M&A, including anticipated impact of new administration (Ian Nussbaum (Latham & Watkins), Jon Gegenheimer (Jefferies) and Kevin Yingling (Freshfields and former lead antitrust counsel for global M&A at Google))
2:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Mergers and Acquisitions Full Committee Meeting – Grand Ballroom Chair: Rita-Anne O'Neill (Sullivan & Cromwell); Vice Chairs: Jessica Pearlman (K&L Gates), Jenny Hochenberg (Freshfields), Charlotte May (Covington)
6:15 pm – 9:15 pm	M&A Committee Reception & Dinner -- Ocean and Pacific Lawn <i>Separate ticket required</i>

Projects and Activities

Recent Publications and Events

- Annual Survey of Judicial Developments Pertaining to M&A – published in *The Business Lawyer*, [here](#) -- contact [Nick Mozal](#) (Potter Anderson) if you'd like to participate in (and get published in) future Surveys.
- Ethical Implications of the Use of Legal Technologies by Innovative M&A Lawyers, including Special Considerations for use of AI in M&A Transactions – published in *Business Law Today*, available [here](#), authored by a group led by Steve Obenski (Union Strategy) and Will Norton (Simply Agree).
- Technology in M&A Practice: Helping Lawyers Distill the Signals from the Noise – published in *Business Law Today*, available [here](#), authored by a group led by Matt Kittay (Fox Rothschild).

Upcoming Events

- Spring 2025 BLS Meeting: Apr. 24-26, 2025, Sheraton New Orleans, New Orleans LA
- Fall 2025 BLS Meeting: Sept. 18-20, 2025, Sheraton Centre Toronto, Toronto ON
- National M&A Institute: Nov. 13-14, 2025, Las Vegas, NV (registration info to come)
- 2026 M&A Committee Standalone Meeting: Jan. 29-31, 2026, The Montage, Laguna Beach, CA
- Spring 2026 BLS Meeting: Apr. 16-18, 2026, Hilton Atlanta, Atlanta GA
- Fall 2026 BLS Meeting: Sept. 3-5, 2026, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago IL

Upcoming/Ongoing Publications and Opportunities (with contact info if you would like to participate)

- MAC Briefs – summarizing recent key legal decisions, available [here](#) – contact [Nick Mozal](#) (Potter Anderson)
- Our *Deal Points* newsletter – current and back issues available [here](#) – contact [Luciana Griebel](#) (Morgan Lewis) or [Janine Labusch](#) (Donahue & Partners)
- Annual Survey of Judicial Developments – contact [Nick Mozal](#) (Potter Anderson)
- *In the Know* and *Business Law Basics* webinars – suggestions welcome – contact [Ashley Hess](#) (BakerHostetler) or other Committee leaders
- MAC Cup – opportunities to coach teams or judge matches in the M&A Committee's law student negotiation competition; we also need everyone to reach out to encourage their law schools and summer associates to participate – contact [Thaddeus Chase](#) (McDermott) or [Mike O'Bryan](#) (Morrison Foerster)
- Private Company Deal Points Study – contact [Jessica Pearlman](#) (K&L Gates) or [Tatjana Paterno](#) (Bass Berry)
- Public Company Deal Points Study – contact [Charlotte May](#) (Covington)
- Canadian Private Company Deal Points Study – contact [André Perey](#) (Osler) or [Gesta Abols](#) (Fasken)
- European Private Company Deal Points Study – contact [Reid Feldman](#) (Kramer Levin), [Bob Calmes](#) (Arendt), [Yan Pecoraro](#) (Portolano Cavallo) or [Alexander Roth](#) (Taylor Wessing)
- Business Law Today articles and M&A blurbs (see examples on website, [here](#)) – contact [Lisa Stark](#) (Delaware Corporate Counsel), [Chauncey Lane](#) (Holland & Knight), or [Sachin Java](#) (Walter Haverfield)
- Hotshot / BLT collaboration – page available [here](#) – contact [Lisa Hedrick](#)
- Revised Model Asset Purchase Agreement – coming soon!
- Updating “Ethical Implications of the Use of Legal Technologies by Innovative M&A Lawyers” from Nov. 2, 2021 Business Law Today, original version available [here](#)
- Maintaining the “Directory of Technologies used in M&A”, available [here](#) – contact [Daniel Rosenberg](#) (Charles Russell Speechlys)
- Short Form Model Acquisition Agreements – contact [Jason Balog](#) (Miles & Stockbridge) or [Eric Graben](#) (Nelson Mullins)
- Training & Deploying M&A Lawyers in the GenAI Era – opportunities to join this project led by [Ian Nelson](#) (Hotshot) and [Jonathan Dolgin](#) (Fox Rothschild)
- Complete two open surveys – Assessing Technology in M&A [here](#) [[surveymonkey.com](#)] and Tracking the Use and Adoption of GenAI in M&A Work [here](#) [[surveymonkey.com](#)].

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To share thoughts on topics or ideas for activities, you may also contact M&A Committee Chair, [Rita-Anne O'Neill](#) (Sullivan & Cromwell) or Vice-Chairs, [Jenny Hochenberg](#) (Freshfields), [Charlotte May](#) (Covington) and [Jessica Pearlman](#) (K&L Gates).

Sign up for the M&A Committee and our Subcommittees and Task Forces

- Join the M&A Committee through the “Join – Now” button on our homepage [here](#)
 - You must also join the Subcommittees and Task Forces separately
- The “Join – Now” button takes you to your personal ABA Dashboard, where you need to click “Manage – Memberships” and then “Join Committees”. Expand the drop-down button next to “Mergers and Acquisitions” to see and join our individual Subcommittees and Task Forces.
- Joining will automatically add you to the listservs of the relevant groups, so you will receive their publications, meeting notices and other materials – but you **must join**



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