Seventeenth Annual
Akron Law Winter Institute 2024
Program Schedule
Sponsored by Brennan Manna Diamond, LLC

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  UA School of Law Alumni and Welcome Reception
                Featuring: University of Akron President, Dr. Gary L. Miller
                Location: [Gulf Lawn]

Thursday, February 8, 2024

6:45 – 7:25 a.m.  Buffet Breakfast
                Location: Vanderbilt Terrace

7:25 – 7:30 a.m.  Welcome from the Dean
                All presentations held in Vanderbilt Ballroom

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.  Navigating the Shifting Workplace Landscape: Employment Law Trends for 2024
                Monica Andress
                Attorney, Brennan Manna Diamond

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.  The State of ERISA Preemption: Post Rutledge
                Christopher V. Goff
                President and CEO, Employers Health

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.  Break

10:45 – 12:15 p.m.  Trends in Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare
                Hon. Linda Teodosio
                Judge, Summit County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division

12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Buffet Lunch
                Location: Vanderbilt Terrace

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  Akron Tire Worker Asbestos Litigation
                Thomas W. Bevan, Esq.
                Attorney, Bevan & Associates, LPA
2:30–4:00 p.m.  Transitioning Your Law Practice: Ethical Considerations and Strategies  
(1.5 Prof. Conduct CLE hrs.)  
Alisa Benedict O’Brien  
Assistant Dean for Career Services, Strategic Initiatives & External Affairs, The University of Akron School of Law

Thursday Evening  Dinner on your own in beautiful Naples. Enjoy your evening!

Friday, February 9, 2024

6:45 – 7:30 a.m.  Buffet Breakfast  
Locations: Vanderbilt Terrace

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.  Ethical Considerations for the Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Practice of Law  
(1.5 Prof. Conduct CLE hrs.)  
Sarah Starnes  
Assistant Professor, Law Library, The University of Akron School of Law  
Sean Steward  
Assistant Professor of Legal Writing, The University of Akron School of Law  
All presentations held in Vanderbilt Ballroom

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.  Compassionate Justice: Drug Courts and Specialty Dockets  
(1.5 CLE hrs.)  
Hon. Thomas A. Teodosio  
Retired Judge sitting by assignment in Ohio Common Pleas and Municipal Courts

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.  Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  DE&I in the Legal Profession: Where do we stand, where are we going, and how can we get there?  
(1.5 Prof. Conduct CLE hrs.)  
Amanda Smith, Esq  
Shareholder, Kastner Westman & Wilkins, LLC

12:15 p.m.  CLE Forms and See You Next Year

CLE Information

Thursday, February 8, 2024:  = 7.5 CLE hours including 1.5 professional conduct hours  
Friday, February 9, 2024:  = 4.5 CLE hours including 3.0 professional conduct hours  
17th Annual Winter Institute 2024 CLE Total:  = 12 CLE hours including 4.5 professional conduct hours