



# AMERICAN JUDGES ASSOCIATION 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Welcome to the New Age: The Future of Courts  
in the Era of Artificial Intelligence**

**The Westin New Orleans  
New Orleans, LA  
October 5-10, 2024**

## AMERICAN JUDGES ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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**Questions?**

**[aja@ncsc.org](mailto:aja@ncsc.org)**

**1-800-616-6165**





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## Saturday, October 5th

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	AJA Budget Committee Meeting
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	AJA Nominations Committee Meeting
11:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Registration
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	New Member Reception (included with your registration)
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Welcome Reception (included with your registration)

## Sunday, October 6th

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	American Judges Foundation Meeting
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	AJA Committee Meetings
1:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Exhibit Show Open



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## Sunday, October 6th (continued)

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<p><b>Welcome Remarks</b> <i>President of AJA - Judge Catherine Carlson</i> <i>Chief Justice John Weimer - Louisiana Supreme Court</i> <i>Mayor LaToya Cantrell - Mayor of New Orleans</i></p>
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	<p><b>Constitutional Law Update</b> <i>Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, University of California, Berkeley School of Law</i> <i>Moderator: Judge Elliot Zide (Ret.)</i></p> <p>Dean Chemerinsky will provide his annual review of the major United States Supreme Court cases from the term that ended in June, 2024. He will highlight the voting blocs by the Justices in each case and offer his analysis and commentary regarding the Court's jurisprudence in various areas of the law. Participants will gain a better understanding of how the U.S. Supreme Court functions as a decision-making institution and will be up to date with current trends of the Court.</p>
3:00 PM – 3:15 PM	<p><b>Break</b></p>
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	<p><b>AJA 65th Anniversary Oral History Project Presentation</b></p>
3:30 PM - 3:45 PM	<p><b>Exhibitor Independent Education Session</b></p>



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## Sunday, October 6th (continued)

3:45 PM – 4:45 PM

**Artificial Intelligence 101: A Primer...and Beyond**  
*Judge Scott U. Schlegel, Louisiana Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal,  
Division F, Gretna, Louisiana*  
**Moderator: Chief Judge Bernadette D'Souza, Civil District  
Court, Parish of New Orleans, Louisiana**

In this session, Judge Schlegel will review the basics of Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) to set participants up with knowledge that will be helpful for the rest of the conference. Judge Schlegel will then describe the novel applications of AI that he has seen and developed for use in the courts.

Evening

Dinner on your own

## Monday, October 7th

8:45 AM – Meet on  
steps of Louisiana  
Supreme Court, 400  
Royal Street

9:00 AM - procession  
from Courthouse to  
Cathedral

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM  
Red Mass

### Red Mass

You are invited to join the judges of the Louisiana courts for this traditional celebration to mark the opening of the judicial year. You are welcome to wear your judicial robes and participate in the processional. If you prefer to simply attend and observe, you are welcome to do so.

*(Takes place offsite at the St. Louis Cathedral, behind Jackson Square at 615 Pere Antoine Alley.)*





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## Monday, October 7th (continued)

11:00 AM – 5:15 PM	Registration
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Lunch on your own
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Exhibit Show Open
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	<p><b>What Judges Should Know: Artificial Intelligence and What AI Means for Survivors</b> <i>Mr. Chad Sniffen, Senior Technology Safety Specialist for the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)</i> <i>Moderator: Judge Nicole Sheppard, Orleans Parish Civil Court, Parish of New Orleans, Louisiana</i></p> <p>AI-powered generation of text, images, voice and video are already shocking the world with their quality, realism and ease of use. By design, these systems can only become more powerful over time. This workshop will survey the scope of existing AI-powered systems and their uses, as well as any known abusive uses of AI at the time the session is delivered. Any abusive uses in the context of intimate partner violence will be highlighted, as well as ways in which AI-powered systems can benefit abuse survivors.</p>
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Exhibitor Independent Education Session
2:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Break



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## Monday, October 7th (continued)

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Legal Aspects of Emerging Technologies (Ethics session)**  
*Professor Gary Marchant, Professor and Faculty Director,  
Center for Law, Science and Innovation, Sandra Day O'Connor  
College of Law, Arizona State University*  
**Moderator: Judge Tom Alevizos, La Porte County Circuit Court,  
Indiana**

There are many aspects of current technology that judges need to deal with in their courtrooms, and in considering and rendering their decisions. Professor Marchant will discuss the legal aspects of some of these technologies that judges need to be aware of in making use of those technologies, including artificial intelligence.

4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

**Safe and Secure? Are you Sure?**  
*Judge Esther Salas, U.S. District Court, District of New  
Jersey and Mr. Mark Lanterman, Chief Technology Officer of  
Computer Forensic Services*  
**Moderator: Chief Justice Robert Torres, Supreme Court of  
Guam**

From protests to personal tragedies, how safe are judicial officers and their families in the current digital age? Judge Esther Salas, advocate for judicial security, and Mark Lanterman, a cybersecurity expert, discuss judicial security and efforts to protect you and your loved ones.

Evening

Dinner on your own



# AMERICAN JUDGES ASSOCIATION 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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## Tuesday, October 8th

7:15 AM - 8:15 AM	AJA Committee Meetings
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Information Desk
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Exhibit Show Open
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	<p><b>Navigating the Minefield of AI Use in Legal Research</b> <i>Mr. Pablo Arredondo, founder of Casetext and Chief Justice</i> <i>Robert Torres, Supreme Court of Guam</i></p> <p>Generative AI has advanced by leaps and bounds in a very short time, showing great promise while raising significant concerns. What controls are needed to unlock the power of these tools while ensuring they don't wreak havoc? This session will address the reimagining of a better way to work using expertly applied generative AI.</p>
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Exhibitor Independent Education Session
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM	General Assembly Meeting
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Break



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## Tuesday, October 8th (continued)

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Law and Literature: “We Cast a Shadow”**

***Mr. Maurice Carlos Ruffin, author***

***Moderator: Justice Piper Griffin, Louisiana Supreme Court***

In this year’s annual AJA Law and Literature session, Mr. Ruffin, a lawyer from New Orleans, will discuss his widely acclaimed debut novel, nominated for a number of book awards. The novel portrays a darkly humorous but heartbreaking picture of a dystopian America suffering from extreme racism. *(Registered guests are welcome to attend this session.)*

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

**Awards Luncheon** (included with your registration)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Stalking in the Digital Age: How Judges Should Respond**

***Jennifer Landhuis, Director of Stalking Prevention, Awareness and Resource Center (SPARC) at AEquitas, Washington, DC***

***Moderator: Judge Lisa Woodruff-White (Ret.), Baton Rouge, Louisiana***

Stalking behavior warrants special attention because victims report experiencing stalking at much higher rates than the justice system identifies. Stalkers are creative criminals who use and misuse a variety of technologies to locate, surveil and monitor their victims. This session will inform judicial decision-making by addressing common technologies use by stalkers (spoofing, Air Tags, GPS and Stalkerware), and the potential safety concerns posed by these technologies, and identify effective judicial responses.





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## Tuesday, October 8th (continued)

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM (concurrent session)	<p><b>SANDI: Improving Court Access and Service in Miami with an Advanced Artificial Intelligence Chatbot</b> <i>Mr. Juan C. Carmenate, Director of the Family Courts Self-Help Program, Florida Eleventh Circuit</i> <i>Moderator. Presiding Judge Michael Hendrickson, 30th Circuit Court, Missouri</i></p> <p>SANDI (Self-Help Assistant Navigator of Digital Interactions) is a chatbot at the Miami-Dade Courts website in an online chat widow. SANDI was funded by a grant from the State Justice Institute, in collaboration with the National Center for State Courts and Advance Robot Solutions. SANDI has been effective in enhancing artificial intelligence to improve digital assistant usage, especially effective in assisting self- represented litigants in obtaining and correctly completing forms for certain court matters. This presentation will explain how SANDI was developed, operates and assists in efficient and effective functioning of court processes.</p>



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## Tuesday, October 8th (continued)

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM  
(concurrent session)

### **The Road Ahead: The Intersection of Autonomous Vehicle Technology Breakout Session**

*Judge Yvette Mansfield Alexander, Baton Rouge City Court,  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Judge Gayle Byers (Ret.),  
Middleburg Heights, Ohio*

Technological advancements in cars and trucks have begun to dominate streets and roadways everywhere. Improvements include everything from enhanced safety features like adaptive cruise control and lane-keep assist technology to the introduction of vehicles with full self-driving functionality. The not-too-distant future will usher in an era of more fully automated vehicles against the backdrop of rapidly advancing artificial intelligence overlays. Soon, courts will need to rationalize this technological marriage in order to resolve common disputes. The question becomes, what tools, laws, policies or legislation will be needed to understand the new technological landscape, against a legal system that is often outpaced by digital improvements. This session will explore some of the unique issues related to the deployment of artificial intelligence in autonomous commercial vehicles along with the potential necessity for new and improved legal approaches to traditional cases.



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## Tuesday, October 8th (continued)

**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

### **American Judges Foundation Fundraiser Reception**

Join colleagues at the unique “Wedding Cake House” for drinks and appetizers. The Foundation supports civic education and underresourced and underrepresented communities.

*\*This is not included with conference registration, and requires separate registration and payment.*

## Wednesday, October 9th

**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Information Desk**

**9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**Board of Governors Meeting**



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## Wednesday, October 9th (continued)

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM

**AI is Everywhere: The Resource Judge Experience**

*Presiding Judge Rodney Adams, Irving Municipal Court, Irving, Texas*

*Judge Rhonda Goode-Douglas, Criminal District Court, Section E, New Orleans, Louisiana*

*Chief Justice Robert J. Torres, Supreme Court of Guam*

*Judge Margaret Wiebe, Provincial Court of Manitoba, Winnipeg*

*Moderator: Judge Michael Pietruszka (Ret.), New York*

This session will explore AI applications in specialty platforms explored by Resource Judges during their experience in the State Justice Institute funded National Courts and Sciences Institute's Artificial Intelligence Strategic Initiative – health care delivery and outcomes; genomics and genetic engineering; neuroscience and neuro technologies; and applications in understanding criminal defendants' potential for dangerousness and likelihood of recidivism. A review of current research into AI related case law to this date will be included in this session.

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

**Lunch on your own**

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Legal Writing and AI**

*Professor Joe Regalia, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada - Las Vegas*

*Moderator: Judge Lynda Jones, Davidson County General Sessions Court Div. IX, Nashville, Tennessee*

In this session, Professor Joe Regalia will explore how the latest generative AI and other legal technologies can help you write better, as well as the pitfalls and ethical concerns.



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## Wednesday, October 9th (continued)

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	<p><b>Artificial Intelligence and Diversity: The Issues, and Are There any Solutions?</b> <i>Rachel See, Esq., Senior Counsel, Seyfarth Shaw and Vice-chair of its People Analytics Practice Group and contributions by Professor Sonia Rankin, University of New Mexico</i> <i>Moderator. Justice Piper Griffin, Louisiana Supreme Court</i></p> <p>Various sets of data are used to create and refine artificial intelligence. But the data sets used may lack diversity. This session will consider how a lack of such diversity may impact the artificial intelligence that is being relied on in society at large, and in our courtrooms and legal systems</p>
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<b>AJA's President's Reception</b> (included in your registration)
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	<b>AJA's President's Installation Banquet and Dance</b> (included with your registration)

## Thursday, October 10th

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Executive Committee Meeting
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