



LEAGUE OF
CALIFORNIA
CITIES

CITY ATTORNEYS SPRING CONFERENCE

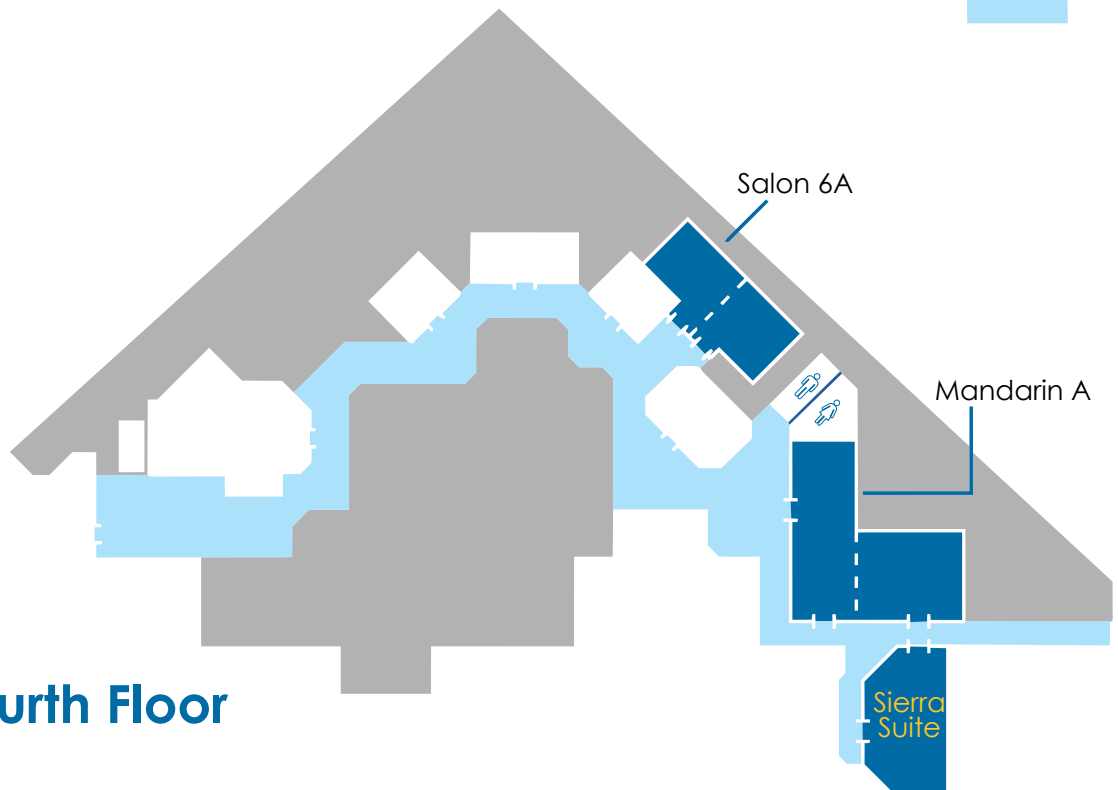
May 13-15, 2026
Hilton Universal City

Navigating change, powering progress.

FLOOR PLAN



Fourth Floor



CONFERENCE INFORMATION

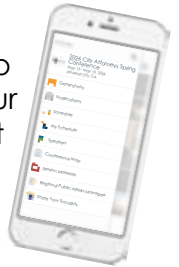


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The Cal Cities mobile app provides a personalized conference experience with access to the full program, key updates, a customized schedule, and more. Download through your device's app store by searching "League of California Cities" or "Cal Cities." Don't forget to allow push notifications to receive up-to-date conference information.



MCLE CREDIT

The League of California Cities¹ is a Multiple Activity Provider for California State Bar approved minimum continuing legal education (MCLE) and certifies this activity meets the standards for MCLE credit by the State Bar of California in the total amount of 11 participatory hours, including 1.25 hours of Technology Credit and 1.25 hours of Civility Credit. ¹Provider No. 1985

To earn MCLE, please scan your badge at one of the available kiosks in each of these timeframes:

- ◆ Once during Wednesday afternoon sessions.
- ◆ Twice on Thursday: once during morning sessions and once after 2:00 p.m.
- ◆ Once during Friday morning sessions.



PRESENTATIONS AND MATERIALS

Looking for presentation slides and session materials? All materials submitted are posted as they are received and can be found online at www.calcities.org/CASCmaterials or within the app under the "session materials" tab.

WEAR YOUR BADGE!

Please remember to wear your attendee badge at all times as only registered attendees are allowed admission to all sessions, meals, and receptions. If you lose or damage yours, please visit the registration desk for a new one.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

Scan the QR Code to share your feedback on the conference by May 30.



SAVE THE DATES:

2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO
SEPTEMBER 23-25 | ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER

2027 CITY ATTORNEYS SPRING CONFERENCE
MAY 5-7 | HYATT REGENCY MONTEREY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Registration Open Sierra Foyer
11:00 - 11:45 a.m.	New Lawyers Meet and Greet (<i>Under 10 years of municipal law practice</i>) Club Room Meet colleagues, learn about the City Attorneys Department, share ideas about municipal law, and engage with the Cal Cities Attorney Development and Succession Committee.
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	General Session (<i>Course ID S261 – 2 hours of General MCLE Credit and 1.25 hours of Technology Credit</i>) Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Prasanna Rasiah, President, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, San Mateo How Artificial Intelligence is Reshaping Municipal Law Join us for an in-depth walkthrough of how certain deployed AI technologies impact local agencies in the areas of public records, labor and employment, and more. Speakers: Mitesh Bhakta, Senior Assistant City Attorney, Mountain View Matthew Slentz, Senior Counsel, Colantouno, Highsmith & Whatley, PC Meghan Wharton, Senior Counsel, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC
2:45 - 4:45 p.m.	General Session (<i>Course ID S261 continued</i>) Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Javan Rad, Second Vice President, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, Ventura Land Use and CEQA Litigation Update Hear the latest updates on litigation related to land use and the California Environmental Quality Act. Speaker: Stephen Velyvis, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP Housing Approvals and Density Mandates This session will outline the key permitting and CEQA streamlining provisions in AB 130/SB 131, recent updates to State Density Bonus Law, and the new SB 79 requirements, with a focus on how these laws interact and what they require of local agencies reviewing housing projects. Speakers: Amanda Daams, Partner, Best Best & Krieger, LLP Claire Lai, Senior Of Counsel, Redwood Public Law, LLP Lauren Langer, Partner, Best Best & Krieger, LLP Steve Mattas, Partner, Redwood Public Law, LLP Alex Mog, Senior of Counsel, Redwood Public Law, LLP
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Networking Reception Ballroom Circle Catch up with colleagues while enjoying appetizers and no-host beverages during the evening networking reception.

2025 – 2026 Department Officers

President, Prasanna Rasiah, City Attorney, San Mateo
First Vice President, Roxanne Diaz, City Attorney, Maywood and South Pasadena
Second Vice President, Michael Lawson, City Attorney, Hayward
Second Vice President, Javan Rad, City Attorney, Ventura
Department Director, Eric Danly, City Attorney, Petaluma
Member-At-Large, Emilio Camacho, Sr. Deputy City Attorney, Sacramento
Member-At-Large, Heather Ferbert, City Attorney, San Diego

THURSDAY, MAY 14

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration Open Sierra Foyer
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast Ballroom Circle
8:15 - 9:00 a.m.	Concurrent Breakfast Discussions <i>(Not Eligible for MCLE Credit)</i> Grab your breakfast off the buffet and join one of these topical group discussions: Coastal Cities Sierra Suite Moderator: C. Dalton Sorich, Assistant City Attorney, Carlsbad Solo and Small Offices Sierra Suite Moderator: Michael Guina, City Attorney, Burlingame Homelessness and the Unsheltered Club Room Moderator: Andrew Jared, City Attorney, Yreka, Montague Etna and Shareholder, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Hiro Room Moderators: Michele Bagneris, City Attorney/City Prosecutor, Pasadena Heather Stroud, City Attorney, South Lake Tahoe Managing Ongoing Tensions between Local and Federal Governments Salon 6A Moderators: Emilio Camacho, Member-At-Large, City Attorneys Department and Sr. Deputy City Attorney, Sacramento Michael Lawson, Second Vice President, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, Hayward Public Records Act Requests Mandarin A Moderator: Karen Li, Assistant City Attorney, San Diego
9:15 - 10:45 a.m.	General Session <i>(Course ID S262 - 2.5 hours of General MCLE Credit)</i> Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Emilio Camacho, Member-At-Large, City Attorneys Department and Senior Deputy City Attorney, Sacramento Labor and Employment Litigation Update Hear the latest updates on litigation related to labor and employment in California. Speakers: Elizabeth Tom Arce, Partner, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore Danny Yoo, Partner, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore Smile! You're On Camera: Best Practices for Public Camera Footage Highlighting recent court decisions in Law Foundation v. Gilroy and Sacramento Television Stations v. City of Roseville, this session delves into the legal developments related to camera use by cities, including a recent lawsuit brought by the Attorney General over the sharing of automated license plate reader data. Attendees will hear best practices for the use, retention, and disclosure of data. Speakers: Eli Flushman, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP Donald Larkin, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

THURSDAY, MAY 14

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	General Session (<i>Course ID S262 continued</i>) Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Eric Danly, Department Director, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, Petaluma The Future of Impact Fees and Tiered Rates This session explains what Sheetz v. County of El Dorado means for development fees and other regulatory programs, outlines the Mitigation Fee Act's new mandates for fee updates, and reviews the evolving legal landscape for tiered water rates. Learn about adapting fee and rate programs to remain defensible, compliant, and financially sustainable. Speakers: Michael Colantuono, Shareholder, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC Rubin Cruse, Partner, Renne Public Law Group Glen Hansen, Of Counsel, Renne Public Law Group
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Networking Luncheon Ballroom Circle
1:15 - 2:00 p.m.	Department Business Meeting and Colleague Recognition Sierra Ballroom
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	General Session (<i>Course S263 – 2.5 hours of General MCLE Credit</i>) Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Prasanna Rasiah, President, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, San Mateo Preserving Local Control and Litigating Federal Grant Conditions Courts are tackling novel legal questions as longstanding norms change. This session will describe lessons learned from the last year and discuss litigation between cities and the federal government, executive orders, and communication strategies. It will also include a discussion of litigation brought by cities challenging new federal grant conditions and the outlook for federal grant funding for cities. Speakers: Heather Ferbert, Member-At-Large, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, San Diego Jill Habig, Founder and CEO, Public Rights Project Andrew Janz, City Attorney, Fresno James Ross, Partner and Head of Affirmative Litigation Practice, Renne Public Law Group
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Break Sierra Foyer
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	General Session (<i>Course ID S263 continued</i>) Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Heather Ferbert, Member-At-Large, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, San Diego Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Litigation Update Hear the latest updates on litigation related to municipal torts and civil rights in California. Speaker: John Pearson, Deputy City Attorney, San Diego Emails to Algorithms: Public Records Challenges in the AI Era The expansion of technology has fundamentally changed the public records landscape. This session examines the challenges involved in processing public records requests and explores policy solutions that minimize risk while enabling public entities to adopt new technologies that enhance everyday operations. Speakers: Leah Castella, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP Alexandra Mulhall, Associate, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP
5:00 - 5:45 p.m.	Department Committees Open House Mixer Sierra Foyer The City Attorneys Department Executive Committee invites all interested attendees to join them for an open house mixer to engage with members of the City Attorneys Department committees. This is your chance to meet colleagues, ask questions about exciting opportunities within the department and get more involved while enjoying appetizers and no host beverages.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

8:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Registration Open Sierra Foyer
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast Ballroom Circle
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	General Session <i>(Course ID S264 – 1.5 hours of General MCLE Credit and 1.25 hours of Civility Credit)</i> Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Eric Danly, Department Director, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, Petaluma General Municipal Litigation Update Hear the latest updates on litigation related to general municipal topics in California. Speaker: Ezra Siegel, Senior Attorney, Richards, Watson & Gershon City Under Scrutiny: Employment Matters and High-Profile Investigations Explore the unique ethical challenges that arise when internal employment matters escalate into high-profile investigations including department leaders, elected officials, or key staff. Attendees will gain practical strategies for maintaining integrity, managing risk, and upholding public trust while providing sound legal guidance when the stakes are high and the spotlight is on. Speakers: Kristin Allen, Attorney Investigator, Van Dermeyden Makus Law Corporation Shauna Amon, Principal, Jackson Lewis P.C.
10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	General Session <i>(Course ID S264 continued)</i> Sierra Ballroom Moderator: Michael Lawson, Second Vice President, City Attorneys Department and City Attorney, Hayward Calm in The Chaos: City Attorneys Facing Incivility <i>Presented by the Essential Skills Subcommittee of the Attorney Development and Succession Committee, City Attorneys Department</i> Follow the trials and tribulations of a city attorney in the City of Pettysburg. Things were going well until city staff approved a controversial development application. When people heard a seven-story apartment complex might be built in the middle of Pettysburg's quaint downtown, things got rough for the city attorney. This session examines the legal, ethical, and practical challenges city attorneys face amid growing incivility in local government and offers strategies for responding to difficult attorneys, staff, council members, and members of the public while maintaining professionalism. Speakers: Michelle Hugard, Deputy City Attorney, Santa Monica Michael Guina, City Attorney, Burlingame Dan Hentschke, Assistant City Attorney, Santa Barbara Dan Sodergren, City Attorney, Pleasanton



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