MINNEAPOLIS

Photo courtesy Meet Minneapolis

THE FOUR SEASONS HOTEL MINNEAPOLIS • MINNEAPOLIS, MN • OCTOBER 18-22, 2023



International Academy of Trial Lawyers **2023 Mid-Year Meeting**

MEETING OVERVIEW

Wednesday, October 18

10:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings Opening Reception Four Seasons Minneapolis

Thursday, October 19

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Breakfast **Committee Meetings Optional Excursions*** Depart for Reception and Dinner **Reception and Dinner** Paisley Park

Friday, October 20

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. 12:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Evening

New Fellow Breakfast (all invited) **Induction of New Fellows Professional Program** Reception **Optional Excursions*** Dinner on Your Own







Saturday, October 21

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Induction of New Fellows
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Professional Program
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Reception
12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Optional Excursions*
6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.	Closing Night Gala Four Seasons Minneapolis

Schedule subject to change. *Please see optional excursion page for additional information and pricing.



Photo courtesy of Paisley P



FEATURED SPEAKERS

U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar

U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar is the first woman elected to represent the State of Minnesota in the United States Senate.

Before serving in the Senate, Senator Klobuchar headed the largest prosecutor's office in Minnesota for eight years. Since arriving in the Senate, she has led the effort to pass landmark pieces of legislation to end human trafficking, combat the opioid epidemic and she fought to pass the most significant consumer product safety legislation in a generation.

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison

Attorney General Ellison has served as attorney general since Minnesotans first elected him in 2018.

Before becoming attorney general, he represented Minnesotans in the U.S. House of Representatives for 12 years. Attorney General Ellison also served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for four years and practiced law as a criminal-defense and civil-rights attorney for 16 years, including five years as executive director of the Legal Rights Center.

Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey

Elected in 2017, Mayor Jacob Frey is the 48th mayor of Minneapolis. Jacob's priorities include increasing affordable housing, strengthening community-police relations and creating inclusive economic policies.

Jerry Blackwell, U.S. District Judge, District of Minnesota

Judge Jerry W. Blackwell was appointed as a United States District Court Judge by President Joe Biden and took the oath of office on December 22, 2022. Judge Blackwell previously served as the founding partner at the law firm of Blackwell Burke P.A. in Minneapolis.

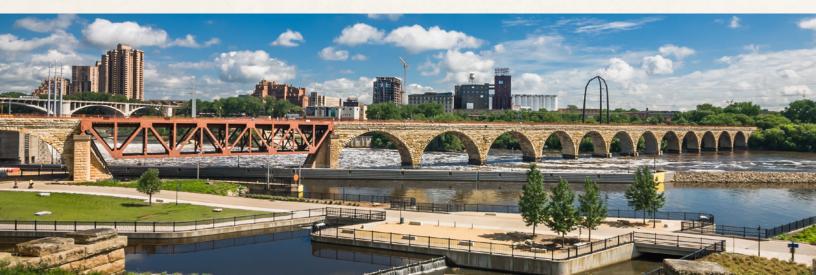
Judge Blackwell was formerly a trial attorney with thirty-five years of experience in complex litigation matters around the country. His recognitions include being named Minnesota Attorney of the Year six times, named to Best Lawyers in America for over a decade, he was the recipient of the National Law Journal 2022 "Winning Litigator" of the year recognition, and he received lifetime achievement awards from Benchmark Litigation and the National Bar Association in 2022. He is a founding member of the Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers (1995).

Judge Blackwell served pro bono as a lead Special Assistant Attorney General in the prosecution of former Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin for the death of George Floyd. Additionally, in 2020, in tandem with the Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial Committee of Duluth, he helped pro bono to secure the first posthumous pardon in Minnesota history for Max Mason, a black traveling circus worker wrongfully convicted of raping a white woman in 1920. Three of his black circus co-workers were lynched by a mob of 10,000 whites in Duluth for the fabricated rape charge.

Judge Blackwell attended UNC-Chapel Hill for his undergraduate and law school education and is a distinguished alumnus at both institutions. He attended UNC as a Morehead-Cain Scholar.

John Bessler, Professor of Law, University of Baltimore

John Bessler, a trial lawyer and law professor. He has taught at the University of Baltimore School of Law since 2009, becoming a tenured faculty member in 2014. In 2017, he authored *The Death Penalty as Torture: From the Dark Ages to Abolition* (Carolina Academic Press, 2017), a bronze medalist in the *Independent Publisher* Book Awards (World History).



ACCOMMODATIONS

Four Seasons Hotel Minneapolis 245 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401 +1 (612) 895-5700 www.fourseasons.com/minneapolis

To make your hotel reservation, **use the link provided via email** or call (800) 819-5053 and indicate your reservation is for the IATL Mid-Year Meeting. The deadline to book your room is **September 18**, **2023**, for guaranteed rate and availability. The group rate is available between October 18 and October 22. If you'd like to extend your stay at the Four Seasons beyond the meeting dates, you'll be best accommodated by booking with a representative at 1-800-819-5053. Group rates are available three days pre and post meeting, dates outside that window are subject to regular rates and availability.

In the heart of the business district, Four Seasons stands at the corner of Hennepin and Washington Avenues – at the top of Nicollet Mall, the city's main pedestrian thoroughfare. It's just two blocks to the Mississippi River and close to the North Loop Warehouse District. Enjoy easy access via the secondlevel Skyway System, linking to downtown offices, sports stadiums, theatres, restaurants and shopping.











Photos courtesy Four Seasons Minneapolis

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

Thursday, October 19

Walker Art Gallery & Sculpture Tour + Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., \$155/person

Known as a world-class contemporary art center in Minneapolis, MN, the Walker Art Center is a must see when visiting the Twin Cities. This excursion will offer bother indoor and (optional) outdoor eyepieces for guests. The museum's permanent collection includes over 13,000 modern and contemporary art pieces, including books, costumes, drawings, media works, paintings, photography, prints, and sculpture. The Walker Art Center began in 1879 as an art gallery in the home of lumber baron Thomas Barlow Walker. The private, guided tour lasts 1 hour with additional time provided for exploration on your own. This excursion will include walking indoors and outdoors, plan accordingly. Lunch will be provided.

Minneapolis Institute of Art + Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., \$135/person

In 1883, twenty-five citizens of Minneapolis founded the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts, committing them to bringing the arts into the life of their community. More than a century later, the museum they created, the Minneapolis Institute of Art, stands as a monument to a remarkable history of civic involvement and cultural achievement. This self-guided tour will be a great way to spend the afternoon. Mia's permanent collection has grown from 800 works of art to more than 89,000 objects. The collection includes world-famous works that embody the highest levels of artistic achievement, our objects span from about 20,000 BCE and representing the world's diverse cultures across six continents. The museum has seven curatorial areas: Arts of Africa & the Americas; Contemporary Art; Decorative Arts, Textiles & Sculpture; Asian Art; Paintings; Photography and New Media; and Prints and Drawings. The recommended time to dedicate to touring MIA is 60 minutes.

Twin Cities Brewery Tour + Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., \$195/person

This guided tour will start at the hotel and end at the hotel. Guests will be picked up in the tour bus and head to 3 different breweries around town. The first stop will include lunch for the group! Each stop will include a glass of beer. The bus will also have coolers to store any purchases made at each brewery! This is a great way to taste great beer local to Minneapolis and St. Paul! Snacks and water will be provided on the bus.

Friday, October 20

Walker Art Gallery & Sculpture Tour + Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., \$155/person (Same as Thursday.)

Twin Cities Brewery Tour + Dinner

3:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., \$205/person (Same as Thursday except dinner at final stop.)

Saturday, October 21

Twin Cities Brewery Tour + Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., \$195/person (Same as Thursday.)

Minneapolis Institute of Art + Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., \$135/person (Same as Thursday.)





Photo by Bruce Silcox for Minneapolis Institute of Art, Courtesy of Mia and Meet Minneapolis



Self-guided Tours

We are thrilled to introduce an exciting new feature for this year's gathering: the freedom to explore the sites and scenes of Minneapolis on your terms! Additional self-guided adventures details will be available soon:

- Mill City Museum
- George Floyd Square
- Guthrie Theatre performance
- Mall of America shopping (easy light-rail or uber ride away)
- Galleria shopping

- Target Field Tours (MLB Twins)
- US Bank Stadium Tours (Minnesota Vikings)
- Minneapolis Walking Tours
- (Stone Arch, Gold Metal Park, etc.) Segway Tour

SAVE THE DATES

2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Ojai Valley Inn, Ojai, CA

March 6-10, 2024



Don't miss the unspoiled natural beauty of its mountain surroundings and celebrates the relaxed glamour of California's past to create an unparalleled resort experience that is quintessentially Ojai. Ojai Valley Inn offers an abundance of active and peaceful pleasures – legendary golf course, pools, unique dining outlets, and more providing the ultimate opportunity for Fellows to be together alongside their spouses/partners, children and guests.

2024 MID-YEAR MEETING

Stein Ericksen Lodge Deer Valley, Park City, UT



2024 INTERNATIONAL MEETING: JAPAN

Peninsula Tokyo: October 18-21, 2024 Ritz Carlton Nikko: October 21-24, 2024 Kyoto at Ritz Carlton October 24-28, 2024

