



CMCP 2026

ANNUAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

LOS ANGELES • SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2026

Allen Matkins **INTUIT**

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

2026 ANNUAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Where Community Meets Opportunity

SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2026

UCLA Meyer & Renee Luskin Conference Center
Los Angeles, California



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Skadden is proud to support the California Minority Counsel Program and its 2026 Annual Business Conference.

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WELCOME

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Tracey Broadhead

Executive Director

California Minority Counsel Program

Welcome to the 2026 Annual Business Conference!

On behalf of the CMCP Board of Directors and our team, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Los Angeles for the 2026 Annual Business Conference!

This year, we've intentionally reimagined the Conference in response to what we heard from our members. With travel budgets tighter and time increasingly precious, we condensed three days into two—without sacrificing what makes this gathering so valuable. Corporate Connections anchors our first day, followed by a power-packed second day of thought-provoking programming, candid conversations, networking, and opportunities to deepen relationships.

Throughout these two days, I encourage you to think of CMCP as the place *where community meets opportunity*.

For 37 years, CMCP has created spaces where attorneys can find community, build authentic relationships, expand their professional networks—and do business. At a time when the conversation around diversity and inclusion continues to evolve, that work remains as important as ever.

I want to express our deepest gratitude to our sponsors. Your support is so much more than a financial investment in this Conference. By standing with CMCP, you affirm the importance of having a space where relationships can take root and grow, where those relationships can lead to business opportunities, and where attorneys at every stage of their careers can learn, develop, and thrive. We are tremendously grateful that you continue to see the value in CMCP and invest in this community.

I also extend a heartfelt thank you to our Board of Directors, CMCP staff, and Annual Business Conference Planning Committee. Your time, ideas, energy, relationships, and commitment have made this Conference possible. So much of what our attendees will experience over these two days is the result of your work behind the scenes.

And to everyone joining us: lean in. Introduce yourself to someone new. Reconnect with someone you haven't seen in a while. Attend a session that challenges your thinking. Share your experience. Ask for the introduction. Explore a business opportunity. And make room at the table for someone else.

Whether this is your first CMCP conference or one of many, you belong in this community, and we're glad you're here.

Welcome to the 2026 Annual Business Conference. Let's connect, learn, celebrate—and create opportunities together.

*With gratitude & excitement,
Tracey Broadhead*

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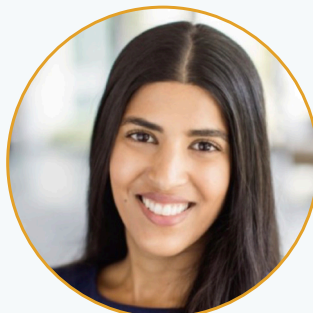
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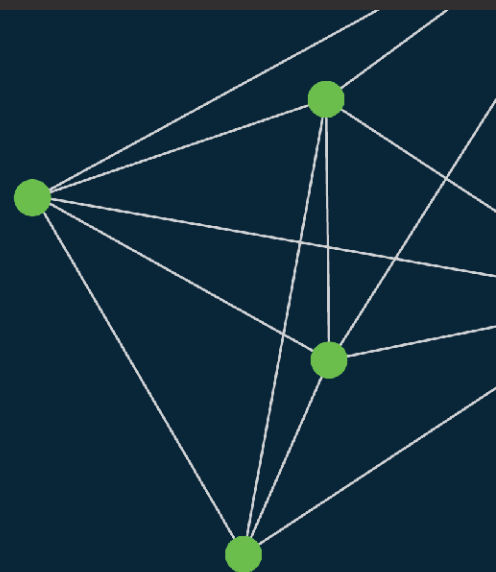
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*These numbers are subject to fluctuation. 45160

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

DAY ONE AGENDA

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

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IN-HOUSE COUNSEL LUNCHEON

Join us for a special lunch exclusively for in-house counsel before Corporate Connections begins. Connect with fellow in-house attorneys in a dedicated space designed just for you.

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Centennial Ballroom

CMCP CORPORATE CONNECTIONS

An exclusive networking event held during the CMCP Annual Business Conference offering a unique opportunity for in-house counsel to connect with highly skilled outside counsel from top participating law firms. Through a series of dynamic, back-to-back 20-minute "speed round" interviews, participants have the chance to initiate meaningful conversations, explore potential collaborations, and lay the groundwork for strong, long-lasting professional relationships. Outside counsel participation requires active CMCP membership.

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Centennial Foyer & Patio

WELCOME RECEPTION

Reconnect with familiar faces, meet new peers, and start building the relationships that will make this year's event truly unforgettable.

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Neighborhood Restaurants



DINE AROUND WEST LA

an evening of networking, great food, and even better company at some of West LA's top restaurants — various cuisines and alcohol-free options are available!

** This is an optional special event (additional fees apply)*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

DAY TWO AGENDA

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Centennial Ballroom

 GreenbergTraurig

Illumination

 Skadden

RISE, SHINE, & BUILD YOUR NETWORK OVER BREAKFAST

Don't miss out on the opportunity to foster new connections over breakfast. This is the perfect time to learn about each other's businesses, gain industry insights, and expand your professional connections. Make the most of your networking opportunities at the Annual Business Conference.

BREAKFAST WITH A GC (INVITATION ONLY)

Lottery winners gain valuable perspectives as our esteemed General Counsel, discuss current legal trends, challenges, and opportunities impacting businesses in California. To be considered, entrants must be active members of CMCP and have 15 years or less of practice.

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Centennial Ballroom

OPENING PLENARY | FROM THE DESK OF THE GC TO THE BOARDROOM

What In-House Leaders — and Their Outside Counsel — Need to Know

From the Desk of the GC to the Boardroom will bring together legal leaders to discuss the evolving role attorneys play both as strategic advisors and as influential voices in organizational governance. Panelists will also address ethical considerations, conflicts issues, leadership development, and the ways board service can strengthen an attorney's professional profile and strategic perspective.

Featuring Marie Ma (moderator), Jonathan Kuai, Wilma Wallace, and Tricia Montalvo Timm.

10:45 AM - 12:15 AM

Optimist A & B

MEN OF CMCP FORUM

Beyond the Practice: Purpose and Fulfillment in the Law

This interactive session explores leadership, mentorship, and building a sustainable, meaningful life in and beyond law practice. Through guided discussion and breakouts, attendees examine authentic leadership, trust, inclusion, and relationships that support advancement, while reflecting on success, purpose, and well-being.

Featuring Parminder Sandhu, Diego Arp, Judge Rupert Byrdson, and Bijal Vakil.

Legacy A & B

 HansonBridgett

WOMEN OF CMCP FOURM

Designing a Circle of Trust: From Surface Connections to Sisterhood

Standard networking advice overlooks the "whisper networks" and sisterhood alliances that truly sustain women of color. This session shows how to build your personal "board of directors": peers, mentors, sponsors, and allies who advocate for you, protect your reputation, and create opportunities when you're not in the room.

Featuring Camille Vasquez, Yesenia Gallegos, Shaela Lawson, and Preeti Singh.

12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Centennial Ballroom

RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

The Recognition Luncheon honors the leaders, innovators, and champions of inclusion transforming the legal community. Enjoy a plated meal, celebrate remarkable achievements, and connect with colleagues. A keynote conversation following the awards presentation will explore the invisible barriers to success, the celebration of resilience, and creating genuine pathways to opportunity.

Featuring Shaka Senghor and James Andrews.

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Optimist A & B



A1 - EARNING THE CALL

Business Development That Strengthens the IHC–OC Partnership Across Generations

Winning work today means becoming the trusted call, not delivering the best pitch. This session explores how generational differences are reshaping in-house/outside counsel relationships. In-house and outside counsel share candid insights and practical strategies to build authentic partnerships, align with client priorities, increase visibility, and earn the call.

Featuring Yusuf Zakir, Robert Orozco, Sophia Contreras Schwartz, Rob Watkins, and Stacey Villagomez.

Legacy A & B

A2 - THE HUMAN BEHIND THE MACHINE

Bias & Accountability in Legal AI

As legal departments and law firms rapidly adopt AI, bias embedded through training data, design, and deployment can affect legal decisions and outcomes. Panelists examine risks in compliance, investigations, hiring, and risk assessment, and share governance strategies, oversight, and testing that preserve fairness, transparency, and professional judgment.

Featuring Amy Chang, Allyson Bennett, Marjorie Soto-Garcia, and David Wang.

Illumination

A3 - CULTURE INSIDE THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Creating Environments Where People Stay & Thrive

(Legal Department Diversity Summit)

Culture inside the legal department now drives retention, engagement, and innovation. In this interactive in-house discussion, panelists share practical strategies for building cultures with psychological safety, mentorship, accountability, and inclusion, helping attorneys thrive amid heavy workloads, AI, and hybrid work while reducing burnout.

Featuring Malavika Lobo, Romi Akpala, Christophe Mosby, Ankita Patel, and Yolanda Sanders.

**HUSCH
BLACKWELL**

Continued on next page

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

DAY TWO AGENDA (CONTINUED)

4:15 PM - 5:30 PM

Optimist A & B



Legacy A & B

Illumination

B1 - NO BLUEPRINT, NO PROBLEM

Breaking Ceilings with Soy, Sazón, & Soul

First-generation attorneys often navigate the profession without a roadmap. Diverse panelists, using “soy, sazón & soul” as a metaphor for identity and resilience, share how lived experience becomes a strategic advantage in leadership and business development, offering practical tools to navigate spaces not designed for them.

Featuring Melissa Vasquez-Myers, Andrés Cantero, Jr., Judge Wesley Hsu, Alyssa Koo, and Warrington Parker.

B2 - FROM BUZZWORD TO BILLABLE

Putting AI to Work in Your Legal Practice

AI is transforming legal practice, but hype and uncertainty can make it hard to know where to start. Join our panel for a practical, no-nonsense look at how attorneys are using AI tools for real legal work today, including an honest conversation about where AI falls short and why that knowledge makes you a better attorney.

Featuring Stephanie Cherny, Cornell Crosby, Amber Gardina-Quintanilla, and Justin Sanders.

B3 - CALIFORNIA EMPLOYMENT LAW FLASHPOINTS

Arbitration, DEI Risk, and Accommodation Challenges in 2026

This session covers three high-stakes areas of California employment law: evolving arbitration agreement enforceability, growing scrutiny of DEI-related practices, and expanding accommodation obligations, including pregnancy, mental health, and religion. Attendees gain actionable guidance for maintaining compliant, defensible workplace practices.

Featuring Pooja Patel, Judge Louise LaMothe, Bradford Paul, and Marina Torres.

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Centennial Terrace



CLOSING RECEPTION | MEET & GREET THE GC'S

Join us for an evening of insights, connections, and inspiration as we host a distinguished panel of General Counsels from prominent companies across California. This will also be a relaxing opportunity to wind down after the conference, featuring refreshments and a closing reception to wrap up the event.

Working together to make things happen

We can energize each other's efforts—and help reach those common goals faster. That's why PG&E applauds California Minority Counsel Program (CMCP). Together, we can help make great things happen.



HUSCH BLACKWELL

Driven By Diverse Perspectives

Husch Blackwell is proud to support the California Minority Counsel Program's Annual Business Conference. As a law firm committed to transforming our values into actions, we celebrate CMCP's commitment to inclusion, opportunity, and diversity within the legal profession.



Henry Aho
Associate
Oakland



Hilda Akopyan
Senior Associate
Los Angeles



Jennifer Lee
Office Managing Partner
Oakland

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355 South Grand Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90071

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Leading the Way

King & Spalding supports the California Minority Counsel Program and its 2026 Annual Business Conference. We join in congratulating the 2026 CMCP Champion Award honorees.

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SPEAKERS



Romi Akpala
Head of Legal
*Rivian and Volkswagen Group
Technologies*



James Andrews
Founder
Andrews & Co.



Diego Arp
Assistant General Counsel
Wells Fargo



Allyson Bennett
Associate General Counsel
(AI Research)
OpenAI



Judge Rupert Byrdsong
Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court



Andrés Cantero, Jr.
Real Estate Attorney
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP



Amy Chang
Executive
Creative Artists Agency, LLC



Stephanie Cherny
Deputy General Counsel -
M&A, Corporate Governance,
Legal Solutions & Strategy
Intuit Inc.



Cornell Crosby
Counsel
Seyfarth Shaw LLP



Yesenia Gallegos
Partner
McDermott Will & Shulte, LLP



**Amber
Gardina-Quintanilla**
Director, Employment Law
Articulate Global, LLC



Judge Wesley Hsu
United States District Judge
United States District Court



Alyssa Koo
Managing Counsel,
Commercial Law
*Pacific Gas and Electric
Company*



Jonathan Kuai
EVP, Chief People and Legal
Officer
Korn Ferry



Judge Louise LaMothe
President
Louise A LaMothe, APC



Shaela Lawson
Director, Global Engagement
Netflix, Inc.

Continued on next page

SPEAKERS (CONTINUED)



Malavika Lobo
Senior Corporate Counsel
Gen Digital Inc.



Marie Ma
Chief Legal Officer
Articulate Global, LLC



Tricia Montalvo Timm
Board Director
Salsify



Christophe Mosby
Senior Legal Executive



Robert Orozco
Partner
Ropers Majeski PC



Warrington Parker
Partner
Crowell & Moring LLP



Ankita Patel
VP, Deputy General Counsel
(North America)
Dole Packaged Foods



Pooja Patel
Associate Attorney
Sanders Roberts LLP



Bradford Paul
Director, Head of Global
Employment Law
Navan, Inc.



Yolanda Sanders
Chief Executive Officer
Journey To Lead



Justin Sanders
Founding Partner
Sanders Roberts LLP



Parminder Sandhu
Senior Associate
Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP



**Sophia Contreras
Schwartz**
Chief Legal Officer
Nextdoor



Shaka Senghor
Founder
Shaka Senghor Inc.



Preeti Singh
Head of Insurance Legal and
Risk Consulting Lead
Google LLC



Marjorie Soto-Garcia
Partner
Morrison & Foerster LLP



Marina Torres
Partner
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP



Bijal Vakil
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Camille Vasquez
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*Sheppard, Mullin, Richter &
Hampton LLP*



Stacey Villagomez
Senior Counsel
Allen Matkins



Wilma Wallace
Chair of the Board of
Directors
FSG



David Wang
Chief Innovation Officer
Cooley LLP



Rob Watkins
Product Safety Counsel
Apple Inc.



Yusuf Zakir
Chief Talent & Inclusion
Officer
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP



Davis Wright Tremain is proud to support the **California Minority Counsel Program.**

We celebrate their mission of promoting diversity in the legal profession and look forward to connecting with our colleagues at the 2026 Annual Business Conference!



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diversity, equity & inclusion!

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Law Firms for Talent
(2010-2025)**

Hall of Fame List:
Ranked 10+ years

**2027/2026
Vault Rankings**

#2 Overall Inclusion
#2 Best Law Firms for Women

**Law360 2024
Diversity Scorecard**

#9 Best Law Firms for
Female Partners
#15 Best Law Firms for
Female Attorneys

**Mansfield
Certification Plus
2019-2025**

**Corporate
Equality Index
2026 Listee**

**NLJ 500: 2025
Women's
Scorecard #29**

**The American
Lawyer's 2025
Diversity
Scorecard #4**

**Chambers USA DEI:
2024 Outstanding
Firm Shortlist**

**Bloomberg Law's
2024 Diversity,
Equity, and Inclusion
Framework Honoree**

**JPMorgan Chase's
2024 Unity in
Action Awardee**

**OneJustice's 2025
Champion of Justice
Awardee**

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**Kenneth Trujillo-
Jamison**
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Tiffany Thomas
Associate General Counsel –
Employment Law & Benefits
Genentech

CALIFORNIA MINORITY COUNSEL PROGRAM

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Molly Jones
Partner
Crowell & Moring LLP

CMCPAC Vice Chair



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Agentic AI, Trust & Safety



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Davis Wright
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Andrew Blan
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A.W. Blan Workplace
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** Membership dues must be paid by December 31, 2026 to be eligible for the drawing.*



SAVE THE DATE

2027

Annual Business Conference

September 30—October 1, 2027

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San Francisco SOMA