



DOECAA

Department of Energy Contractor Attorneys Association

2026 FALL CONFERENCE

September 10 & 11, 2026

Hotel Washington, Washington D.C.

Elevation Conference Room

Conference Co-Chairs

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FINAL AGENDA

2026 DOECAA Fall Conference Agenda - 1

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* CLE credit is being sought in several jurisdictions

Thursday, September 10, 2026 (Elevation Conference Room)

Time (Eastern)	Topic/Event	Speaker
9:00 am	Registration, Continental Breakfast & Networking	
9:45 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Saurabh Anand, Chief Counsel for SLAC & DOECAA President Will Elias, CLO, Sandia National Laboratories
10:00 am	Session 1: Employment Law Update <i>Examining three employment law challenges currently facing in-house counsel: workforce reductions in a shifting legal and economic landscape, immigration compliance amid evolving federal enforcement priorities and policy changes, and religious and disability accommodation claims arising from remote and hybrid work arrangements.</i>	John Sullivan, Associate General Counsel for Contractor Human Resources (DOE GC-63) Cindy Lovato-Farmer, General Counsel, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Julia Lapis, Senior Counsel, Hartline Barger
11:15 am	Networking Break	
11:30 am	Keynote: DOE General Counsel Perspectives	Hon. Jonathan Brightbill, General Counsel, DOE
12:00 pm	Lunch & Breakout Session	
1:15 pm	Session 2: Recent Developments in Cost & Pricing <i>Exploring recent legal developments relating to cost and pricing under DOE contracts and grants, including recent case law and amendments to CAS and 2 CFR Part 200.</i>	Peter Terenzio, Special Counsel, Covington & Burling John Polcari, Partner, HKA Global, Inc.
2:15 pm	Session 3: Leveraging Tech: AI, Workflow, and Matter Management <i>Exploring how technology can enhance efficiency, streamline workflows, and improve matter management within the legal department.</i>	Maesea McCalpin, Director Analyst, Gartner, Inc. Will Elias, Chief Legal Officer, Sandia National Laboratories Pablo Prando, General Counsel, Los Alamos National Laboratory
3:00 pm	Office of Inspector General Update	Sarah Nelson, Assistant Inspector General for the Office of Management
3:30 pm	Networking Break	
4:00 pm	DOECAA Business Meeting: Board Actions & Elections (See link to member-only page for more info)	
5:00 pm	Networking Reception Note: Separate ticket purchase required, see www.doecaa.org	

2026 DOECAA Fall Conference Agenda - 2

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Friday, September 11, 2026 (Elevation Conference Room)

Time (Eastern)	Item	Speaker
8:30 am	Networking & Continental Breakfast	
9:00 am	Perspectives from NNSA General Counsel	Lisa Daley-Mangi, General Counsel, NNSA
9:30 am	Session 4: Legal Ethics <i>This session will address issues that arise when legal functions interface with various sets of key stakeholders - boards, parent companies, leadership/management, and their organizations' DOE/NNSA customers.</i>	Jack Marshall, President, ProEthics Ltd.
10:30 am	Networking Break	
10:45 am	Session 5: Modernizing Operational Directives <i>This session will address how organizations can reset internal policies and procedures in view of the Modernizing Operational Directives initiative's reduction of external requirements; what processes and principles should organizations consider to maximize speed, minimize bureaucracy, and manage risks?</i>	Mike Pratt, General Law Senior Counsel, Managing, Sandia National Laboratories Richard Sweeney, Senior Manager, Prime Contract, Export Controls, and Policy, Sandia National Laboratories
11:45 am	Refreshment break	
12:00 pm	Session 6: Navigating a Changing Landscape: The FAR Overhaul, Recent Executive Orders, and False Claims Act Developments <i>This session will address the "revolutionary" changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation, key executive orders impacting DOE and NNSA contractors, and significant False Claims Act developments from the past year. Attendees will learn how these shifts could reshape audit focus areas, incurred cost review considerations, and the intersection between audit findings and FCA enforcement referrals.</i>	Mark Meagher, Meagher GC Law LLC Phil Seckman, Partner, Dentons US LLP Alex Hastings, Partner, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP
1:00 pm	Closing Remarks	Saurabh Anand & Will Elias