



Journal of Air Law and Commerce

Presents

60th Annual SMU Air Law Symposium

March 31-April 1, 2026

Omni Las Colinas, 221 East Las Colinas Boulevard, Irving, TX 75039

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

6:00 pm-9:00 pm Walk-in / Late Registration only

6:00 pm-8:00 pm Welcome Reception – Lake Highlands Room (Lake Level floor)

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

7:15 am Registration / CLE check-in
Continental Breakfast

MORNING SESSION

Ladd Sanger, Presiding

8:00 am Welcoming Remarks

8:15 am **Matt Martinez**
Mike Tetreault
Cooley LLP – *Recent Developments in Aviation Law*

9:15 am **Steven Jarreau**
Steven Kirsch
U.S. Department of Justice – *Forty Years and Counting: The Enduring Legacy of Varig Airlines in Protecting the Government's Role in Regulating Aviation*

9:45 am Morning Break

Pam Hicks, Presiding

10:00 am **Darren Gaines**
Fly Vector LLC
Jon Stern
Victor Rane – *Two Air Traffic Controllers Share What You May Not Want to Hear*



10:30 am	Kevin Mahoney Kreindler & Kreindler LLP – <i>Topic: TBD</i>
11:00 am	Jocelyn LaBove Jocelyn Y. LaBove, PLLC – <i>Flight Plan for Success: An Introduction to Airport Law</i> (tentative)
11:30 am	Luncheon
12:00 pm	Stephen Creamer ATCA – <i>Topic: TBD</i>
	Presentation of the 23 rd Annual International Aerospace Womens Association Scholarship

AFTERNOON SESSION

Garrett Pendleton, Presiding

1:15 pm	Panel: <i>Anatomy of an Accident: From Crisis to Litigation Management</i> Moderator: Ken Quinn – Clyde & Co LLP Panelists: Don Chupp – Fireside Partners Inc. David Fuscus – Xenophon Strategies, Inc. Justin Green – Kreindler & Kreindler LLP Roberta Miranda – Marsh LLC Rodney Patton – U.S. Department of Justice Meg Taylor – Delta Air Lines, Inc.
2:15 pm	Tom Gricks OpenText Lee Schmeer Victor Rane – <i>Topic: AI</i>
2: 45 pm	Afternoon Break

Bill O'Connor, Presiding

3:00 pm	Mica Worthy Cranfill Sumner LLP – <i>Got Space Junk? Cosmic Liability When the Sky is Falling</i>
3:30 pm	David Downey Downey Aviation Services Hoa Nguyen Troutman Pepper Locke LLP – <i>Speaking the Same Language: An Expert's Guide on How to Work Effectively with Your Experts in Aviation Product Liability Cases</i>



4:00 pm	Kevin Durkin Clifford Law Offices – <i>Update on Boeing Max Litigation</i>
4:30 pm	Cyndi Devers Mike Miska Devers Miska Law – <i>Fume Events</i>
5:30 pm	Bill O'Connor Closing Remarks
5:35 pm	Evening Reception

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

7:30 am	Registration / CLE check-in Continental Breakfast
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MORNING SESSION

Pam Hicks, Presiding

8:15 am	Panel: <i>Current Aviation Claims Issues</i> Moderator: Garrett Pendleton – Starr Adjustment Services, Inc. Panelists: Anthony Murphy, Esq. – Global Aerospace, Inc. Sherry J. Ortiz, Esq. – Gallagher Global Aerospace Keri Ryan – AXA XL Glenn Vallach – USAIG
9:15 am	Ed Libassi A&P Aviation Consulting, Inc. – <i>Beyond Probable Cause: Leveraging Expert Insights in Aviation Accident Litigation and How to Best Work with Expert Consultants</i>
9:45 am	Carliss Chatman SMU, Dedman School of Law – <i>Topic: Director of Board and Office Oversight on Aviation Safety and Compliance</i>
10:15 am	Jerrod Mills U.S. Legal Support – <i>Technology in the Courtroom and Depositions</i>
10:45 am	Morning Break

Debra Fowler, Presiding

11:00 am	Ivy L. Nowinski Condon & Forsyth LLP – <i>Topic: Air carrier Litigation</i>
11:30 am	Camille Castillo FAA – <i>Topic: Administrative Claims</i>



12:00 pm	Luncheon
12:30 pm	Keynote speaker Ed Bolen NBAA – <i>Topic: Impact of Reauthorization Act</i>
	Raffle sponsored by ESI

AFTERNOON SESSION

Garrett Pendleton, Presiding

1:15 pm	Panel: Effective Mediation of Aviation Claims Moderator: Mark Tweedy – Mark Tweedy Mediation+Arbitration Ltd. Panelists: Michael Dery – Alexander Holburn Beaudin+Lang LLP Nicolas Drolet – Air Canada Joe Fiorante – CFM Lawyers LLP Paul Graham – Global Aerospace Underwriting Managers (Canada) Ltd.
2:15 pm	Landon Francois Wright Close & Barger, LLP – <i>Operational Limitations: Navigating Private Remedies Under the ACIAA</i>
3:00 pm	Afternoon Break

Ladd Sanger, Presiding

3:15 pm	Panel: General Counsel Moderator: Tracy Morris, Esq. – Starr Adjustment Services, Inc. Panelists: Chris Brady – Air Methods Peter Farley – Precision Aviation Group Tonya Holt – G2 Secure Staff, L.L.C. Laura Overton – Allegiant Airlines
4:15 pm	Panel: Mediation Ethics Moderator: Rick Alimonti – Alimonti Law Offices & Mediation Services Mediator: Mike Siboni – Siboni Law Group Panelists: Natalie Deneen Cox – Clyde & Co US LLP Stuart R. Fraenkel – Nelson & Fraenkel LLP Michael Page, Esq. – Allianz Commercial
5:15 pm	Ladd Sanger Closing Remarks

