Agenda At-A-Glance

Connecticut’s Diversity & Inclusion Summit: The Collaborative Blueprint

Wednesday, October 23, 2019
Quinnipiac University School of Law

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Registration and Networking

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.  Welcome Remarks
  Brad Saxton, Interim Dean, Quinnipiac University School of Law
  Christine Jean-Louis, Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Summit Committee
  Ndidi N. Moses, President, Connecticut Bar Association

9:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Diversity and Inclusion: Forging a Path (This workshop is full.)*
  Chris Armstrong and Vince Brantly, Veritas Culture, Washington, DC
  How do we address longstanding retention and advancement issues without going back to the same wells? What is at the root of our inability to make meaningful and consistent headway? How do we spark a coalition of the willingness to lead change going forward in this important space? These are questions we ask and attempt to answer every year. This year, we’re taking a different step. We are facilitating a dialogue that you will be the primary voice for. Think of it as a workshop on advancing diversity and inclusion that you will be the instructive voices behind! We are bringing in two nationally recognized diversity and inclusion and culture facilitators whose jobs will be to elicit your inputs, challenge your thinking, drive to root issues and root solutions, and ensure we walk out of the session with a way forward! The reality is, you know the landscape, you live the culture, you understand the challenges. As such, we need to let your ideas flow and your passions drive us to success. This is what a healthy movement looks like and we intend to harness just that.

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Attendee Lunch and Networking

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.  The Employer's Role with Diverse Hires
  E. Macey Russell, Choate Hall & Stewart LLP, Boston, MA
  Attorney Russell's keynote address will provide insight into why law firms fail to mentor diverse attorneys, protect or shield them from microaggressions, or make them feel comfortable.

1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.  Signatory Data Collection Overview
  Cecil J. Thomas, Vice President, Connecticut Bar Association
  Attendees will be reintroduced to the goals of the collaborative pledge/plan, see results from data collection among the signatories, and receive a summary of the path to successful training initiatives discussed during signatory meetings.

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.  Hear Our Narratives**
  An-Ping Hsieh, Connecticut
  Panelists
  David R. Jimenez, Jackson Lewis PC, Hartford
  Felice Gray-Kemp, Planet Alpha Corp, Cambridge, MA
  James A. Merklinger, Association of Corporate Counsel, Washington, DC
  Meghana D. Shah, Eversheds Sutherland, New York, NY

3:15 p.m.  Closing Remarks
  Jonathan M. Shapiro, Immediate Past President, Connecticut Bar Association

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  Networking Reception

CLE Credits
CT: 5.25 CT CLE (General)

* This workshop is full. To add your name to the waitlist, contact member services at msc@ctbar.org or (860)223-4400.
** Panelist and/or title are subject to change. Panelists were selected based on their broad array of individual experiences in different work environments within the legal profession.