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## ANNUAL MEETING AWARDS LUNCHEON DOUBLETREE ALBUQUERQUE

201 Marquette Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102 Phone: 505-247-3344

NMDLA 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1870 Chicago, IL 60606 Email to nmdefense@nmdla.org Questions? Call 312-698-6207

#### Visit nmdla.org to Register

Be part of NMDLA's International Day of Service by stepping up and supporting legal aid in New Mexico.

Your gift to Equal Access to Justice will be matched dollar-for-dollar in September, up to \$5,000!

Access to legal aid is life changing. Together we can raise \$10,000 and help tip the scales between shelter and homelessness, safety and danger, and economic security and poverty.

Give generously today!



#### **Registration Fees:**

- ☐ \$125 DLA Member
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- □ \$105 Government Staff Attorney□ \$65 Lunch only (no CLE)
- ☐ \$0 Judge/Clerk/Law Student
- ☐ \$155 DRI Member
- ☐ \$175 Non DLA or DRI Member
- ☐ \$90 Adjuster/Paralegal



NMDLA P.O. Box 94116 Albuquerque, NM 87199-4116 Phone 505-797-6021 Fax 877-245-5021 Email nmdefense@nmdla.org

# **2024 NMDLA**ANNUAL MEETING AWARDS LUNCHEON

Friday, September 20, 2024 10:30 AM TO 6:00 PM

Doubletree, Albuquerque

2.0 General MCLE Credits and 1.0 EIJ CLE Credit

### AWARDS LUNCHEON

Join us in celebrating the Outstanding Civil Defense Lawyer of the Year and Young Lawyer of the Year



SCHEDULE SP

**SPEAKERS** 

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM Registration

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM Social Inflation Strategies 2024: The Pushback

**Christopher Turney** 

Turney, LG

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM Intelligence Tradecraft: Principles for Advanced Investigations

Nick Cereby, General Manager

DigiStream

Opening Remarks by Jeffrey Mitchell, NMDLA President

NMDLA Awards Presentations by Taryn Kaselonis, NMDLA President-Elect

DRI Presentation by Michael Carter

Hall Booth Smith, P.C.

2:00 PM - 2:15 PM Break

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM The Economic Impact of Emotional Witness Performance at Deposition

Steve Wood, Ph.D., Senior Litigation Consultant

Courtroom Sciences

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM Interrupting Bias in the Legal Profession (EIJ 1.0 CLE Credit)

Amber Parker, Ph.D. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Human Resources Specialist

New Mexico Legal Aid

4:15 PM Reception

#### **SPEAKERS**

#### **Christopher Turney**

Turney, LG

Creative Analysis

Strategic Execution

Client Focus

These are the three guiding principles that drive Chris Turney's law firm. Chris Turney is a civil defense attorney based in Kansas City. In addition to defending products made by innovative companies and critical decisions made by professionals in an imperfect world, Chris invests his professional time into two DRI committees. He is the current chair of DRI's Litigation Skills Committee, which develops programming to improve the quality of our colleagues across the country. He

also chairs DRI's Social Inflation Task Force, which analyzes issues that drive up settlement values and verdicts. The Task Force's emphasis is not only on issue identification, but also on the "Pushback" strategies we can implement nationwide to protect the companies and professionals who are essential to our economy and must be protected from abusive litigation.

Most importantly, though, Chris married out of his league. He and his wife, Aimee, have two kids (ages 17 & 13) who are more talented than him in every way. He is unapologetically a long time Chiefs season ticket holder, and as a hobby, he turns chicken wings into purified water for our global neighbors.

When he provides his cell number and email address in the presentation, he is authentically inviting you to reach out to him. The issues we face in our line of work are important, we are under attack, and Chris is committed to driving our team toward success.

#### **Nick Cereby**

General Manager, DigiStream

Nick Cereby is a General Manager at DigiStream Investigations and oversees the Arizona affiliate. He helps DigiStream's clients use the private intelligence sector's most innovative investigative tools and research to make critical decisions. We serve business, legal, insurance, and public-sector interests across North America. Nick has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and is a licensed investigator in Arizona, New Mexico, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Nevada.

#### Steve Wood, PhD

Senior Litigation Consultant, Courtroom Sciences

Steve M. Wood, Ph.D. is a Senior Litigation Consultant at Courtroom Sciences, Inc., a full service, national litigation consulting firm in Irving, Texas. Dr. Wood uses his social psychological expertise to help clients understand the juror decision-making process and maximize the likelihood of favorable case outcomes. He also assists clients with a myriad of case-related activities, including pre-trial research, witness effectiveness training, case theme development, supplemental juror questionnaires, and jury selection. He is a frequent conference speaker, and his work has been published in various peer-reviewed academic journals, as well as several scholarly magazines. He also co-hosts The Litigation Psychology Podcast.

#### Amanda Parker, PhD

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Human Resources Specialist, New Mexico Legal Aid

Dr. Amanda Parker is a writer, researcher, and educator from Albuquerque, New Mexico. She holds a BA in History, a master's in Educational Thought and Sociocultural Studies, and her PhD is focused on racial equity in education and society. Her academic work and teaching concentrated on the intersection of race and gender, building solidarity, developing critically conscious teachers, and examining racism in families. She has delivered seminars on antiracism and racial awareness, gender bias, and cultural humility to firefighters and community safety services for the City of Albuquerque and provides coaching and problem-solving to leaders in nonprofits, government, and the judiciary. Dr. Parker was the inaugural Director of the Equity in Justice Program at the State Bar of New Mexico. In this role she fostered community relationships, led educational efforts, and built programs to address equity and inclusion for judges, lawyers, and law students.

In her current role at New Mexico Legal Aid, she is leading diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. She leads firm-wide training and consults staff at all levels to build an organization of critically conscious practitioners who have deep knowledge of how race, gender, sexuality, and disability, intersect with poverty and the communities that New Mexico Legal Aid serves. She is involved in many community partnerships, including the Commission on Equity and Justice.

She lives in Albuquerque with her daughters and can be found walking her poorly behaved dogs and practicing yoga in her free time.