



LEAGUE OF
CALIFORNIA
CITIES

125 YEARS
1898-2023

City Attorneys Spring **CONFERENCE**

May 8-10, 2024
Rancho Mirage, CA



MCLE Credit

The League of California Cities¹ is a Multiple Activity Provider for California State Bar approved minimum continuing legal education (MCLE) and certifies this activity meets the standards for MCLE credit by the State Bar of California in the total amount of 11.25 hours, including 1 hour of Technology in the Practice of Law subfield credit. ¹Provider No. 1985

To earn MCLE, please scan your badge at one of the available kiosks during these timeframes:

- ◆ Once during Wednesday afternoon sessions.
- ◆ Twice on Thursday: once during morning sessions and once during afternoon sessions.
- ◆ Once on Friday during morning sessions.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration Open Celebrity Foyer
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	General Session Celebrity D-H Moderator: Joseph Montes, President, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, Alhambra, San Marino, and Santa Clarita, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP Welcoming Remarks Speaker: Steven B. Quintanilla, City Attorney/City Prosecutor, Rancho Mirage, President/Owner, Law Offices of Quintanilla & Associates Land Use and CEQA Litigation Update Speakers: Christine Leigh Crowl, Senior Partner, Jarvis Fay, LLP John M. Luebberke, Of Counsel, Herum/Crabtree/Suntag Introduction to the New Surplus Land Act Speakers: Jena S. Acos, City Attorney, Carpinteria, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP Sydne Rennie, Associate Attorney, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP (Not) Burning Down the House Speakers: Rubin E. Cruse, Jr., Of Counsel, Renne Public Law Group Jonathan Holtzman, Founding Partner, Renne Public Law Group Kathryn Oehlschlager, Partner, Downey Brand
3:15 - 4:45 p.m.	General Session Celebrity D-H Moderator: Susana Alcalá Wood, First Vice President, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, Sacramento Mass Casualty Events: What Nobody Taught You and You Didn't Want to Learn Speakers: Vanessa Bechtel, President and CEO, Ventura County Community Foundation Karl H. Berger, City Attorney, Bellflower and Monterey Park, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP Catherine Engberg, City Attorney, Half Moon Bay, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP Ascending the Organizational Chart - How to Get and Keep the Public Agency Job You Want Speakers: Susana Alcalá Wood, First Vice President, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, Sacramento Christina Burrows, Assistant City Attorney, Culver City Valerie Gaeta Phillips, President and Owner, Bob Murray & Associates Scott C. Smith, City Attorney, Aliso Viejo and Laguna Niguel, Parter, Best Best & Krieger LLP
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	New Lawyers Meet and Greet (<i>Under 10 years of municipal law practice</i>) Celebrity D-H Meet colleagues, learn about the City Attorneys Department, share ideas about municipal law, and engage with the Cal Cities Attorney Development and Succession Committee.
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Networking Reception Masters Plaza Make new friends and see old ones while enjoying delicious appetizers and tasty beverages during the evening networking reception. Drinks available for purchase.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration Open Celebrity Foyer
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.	Networking Breakfast Ambassador 4
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Concurrent Group Discussions Grab breakfast off the buffet and join one of these topical group discussions: Coastal Cities Ambassador 5 Moderator: <i>Cindie K. McMahon, City Attorney, Carlsbad</i> Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Town Hall Ambassador 6-7 Moderator: <i>Michael Lawson, City Attorney, Hayward</i> Homelessness and the Unsheltered Ambassador 2-3 Moderator: <i>Andrew Jared, Senior Counsel, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC</i> Law Office Administration Celebrity A Moderator: <i>Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney, Riverside</i> Solo and Small City Attorney Offices Ambassador 1 Moderator: <i>Heather Leyn Stroud, City Attorney, South Lake Tahoe</i>
9:45 - 11:15 a.m.	General Session Celebrity D-H Moderator: <i>J. Christine Dietrick, Director, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, San Luis Obispo</i> The CBRT and Other Hot Topics in Municipal Revenues Speakers: <i>Michael G. Colantuono, Managing Shareholder, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC</i> <i>Margaret Prinzing, Partner, Olson Remcho</i> Ethics Complaints Against a Council Member Speaker: <i>Steven Miller, Partner, Hanson Bridgett</i> Segmentation, Participation and Lots of Complications Speaker: <i>Kevin G. Ennis, City Attorney, Moorpark, Shareholder, Richards Watson & Gershon</i>
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	General Session Celebrity D-H Moderator: <i>Roxanne M. Diaz, Second Vice President, City Attorneys Department, Shareholder, Richards, Watson & Gershon</i> Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Litigation Update Speakers: <i>Neil Okazaki, Senior Deputy City Attorney and Constitutional Policing Advisor, Corona</i> <i>Alana Rotter, Appellate Lawyer, Greines, Martin, Stein & Richland LLP</i>
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Networking Luncheon Ambassador 4-7

THURSDAY, MAY 9

1:45 - 3:15 p.m.

General Session

Celebrity D-H

Moderator: Joseph Montes, President, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, Alhambra, San Marino, and Santa Clarita, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

Department Business Meeting and Colleague Recognition

- ◆ President's Report
- ◆ Report on Enhancing Participation and Inclusion
- ◆ Director's Report
- ◆ Colleague Recognition

Update on Open and Public Publication – A Focus on the Brown Act

Speakers: Javan Rad, Chief Assistant City Attorney, Pasadena
Sujata Reuter, Chief Assistant City Attorney, Santa Clara

3:30 - 5:15 p.m.

General Session

Celebrity D-H

Moderator: Prasanna W. Rasiah, Second Vice President, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, San Mateo

Executive Director Remarks

Speaker: Carolyn Coleman, Executive Director and CEO, League of California Cities

Section 1983 Liability: Best Practices for Cities to Manage and Mitigate Risk in a Changing World

Speakers: Kevin Bibler, Senior Vice President, Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.
Michael W. Pott, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Legal Counsel, Public Risk Innovation Solutions and Management ("PRISM")
Karen Rogan, Assistant City Attorney, Chula Vista

Labor and Employment Litigation Update

Speakers: Elizabeth Arce, Partner, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Jennifer Rosner, Partner, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore

2023 – 2024 City Attorneys Department Officers

President, Joseph Montes, City Attorney, Alhambra, San Marino, and Santa Clarita, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

First Vice President, Susana Alcalá Wood, City Attorney, Sacramento

Second Vice President, Roxanne Diaz, City Attorney, Maywood and South Pasadena, Richards, Watson & Gershon

Second Vice President, Prasanna W. Rasiah, City Attorney, San Mateo

Department Director, J. Christine Dietrick, City Attorney, San Luis Obispo

FRIDAY, MAY 10

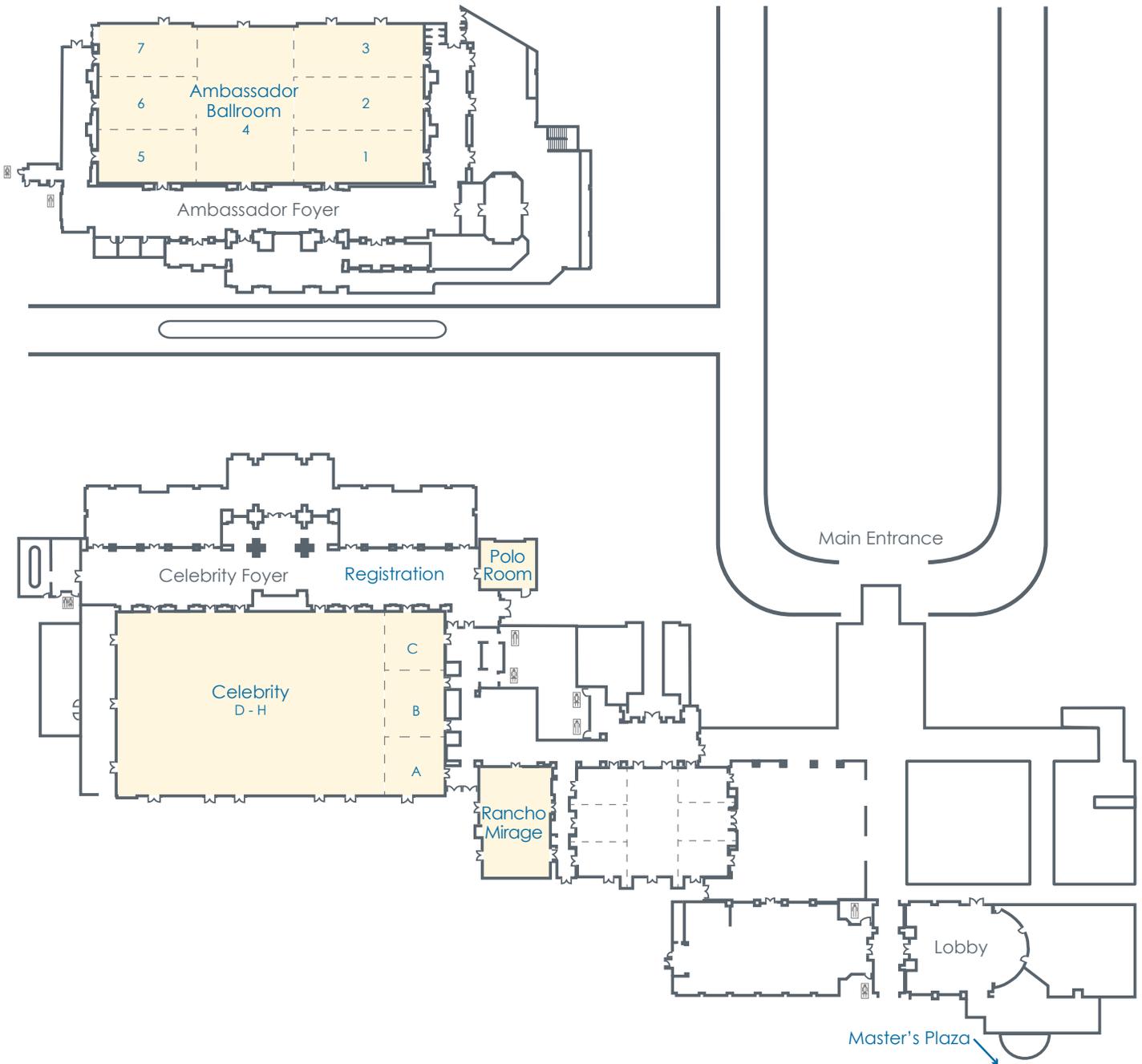
7:00 - 7:45 a.m.	Fun Run <i>Sponsored by</i>  Celebrity Foyer
8:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Registration Open Celebrity Foyer
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast Ambassador 4-7
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	General Session Celebrity D-H Moderator: <i>Susana Alcalá Wood, First Vice President, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, Sacramento</i> General Municipal Litigation Update Speakers: <i>Mark J. Austin, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP</i> <i>Meghan A. Wharton, Senior Counsel, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC</i> Balancing Acts: Constitutional Rights vs. Meeting Decorum in California Cities Speaker: <i>David Mehretu, Principal, Meyers Nave</i>
10:45 a.m. - noon	General Session Celebrity D-H Moderator: <i>Prasanna W. Rasiah, Second Vice President, City Attorneys Department, City Attorney, San Mateo</i> Are You Smarter Than an AI? (MCLE Specialty Credit for Technology in the Practice of Law) Speaker: <i>Marc Zafferano, Senior Counsel, Boucher Law</i> Closing Remarks

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

Send us your [feedback](#) on the conference by scanning this QR code.



FLOOR PLAN



Save The Dates:

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO
OCT. 16-18 | LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER

2025 CITY ATTORNEYS SPRING CONFERENCE
MAY 7-9 | BURLINGAME

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Strengthening California Cities
through **Advocacy** and **Education**