



GACDL 2026 Fall Seminar | November 5-7, 2026

Everything is on fire...now what?

Program Directors: Erin King & Suzanne Tevis
Brasstown Valley Resort | Young Harris, GA

Thursday November 5, 2026

5:00pm

Cocktail reception | Brassies at Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa | Sponsored by:



Friday, November 6, 2026

9:00a - 10:30a

GACDL Board Meeting | Creekside Pavillion at Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa

10:30a - 12:30p

Check-in (Walk-ins - space permitting - add \$40)

12:30p - 12:45p

Welcome | Ballroom

GACDL President: Erin Gerstenzang
Founder, EHG Law Firm

Program Directors

Erin King

Chair, GACDL Education Committee
Ghanouni Teen & Young Adult Defense Firm

&

Suzanne Tevis

Vice-Chair, GACDL Education Committee
Partner, Tevis Law Firm

12:45p - 1:45p

Trial by Fire: Keeping Your Cool when the Heat is On (Professionalism)

Ahmad Crews

Founder, The Law Office of Ahmad R. Crews

1:45p - 2:45p

Lighting the Way: Advocating for Clients Behind Bars (GA Board of Pardons & Paroles)

Moderator: Steve Hayes, Director of Communications

Panelists: Joyette Holmes, Chair Robert Markley, Board Member
Chris Barnett, Executive Director

2:45p - 3:00p

Break | Break Nook

3:00p - 4:00p

Stop, Drop, & Object: Protecting the Record when Trial Gets Heated

Jackie Tyo

Assistant Public Defender, Clayton Circuit Public Defender's Office

4:00p - 5:00p

Keynote | Fireproof: Winning the Unwinnable Case

Mike Jacobs

Partner, W. Scott Smith

5:00p - 5:15p

Indigent Defense Award

Presented by: Russell Gabriel
Chair, GACDL Indigent Defense Committee

5:15p - 5:25p

GCDLEF Report

Presented by: Ryan Swingle
Chair, GCDLEF
Founder & Partner, Swingle Levin, LLC

5:25p - 5:30p

A Word from Your Cocktail Sponsor

5:30p - 7:30p

Cocktail Reception | Lodge Lobby

8:30p - 10:30p

Karaoke in Brassies | Sponsored by

DALLAS HIRAM
DUI
SCHOOL





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Saturday, November 7, 2026

7:00a	Continental Breakfast Break Nook
8:30a - 9:00a	Welcome Ballroom GACDL President: Erin Gerstenzang Founder, EHG Law Firm Program Directors Erin King Chair, GACDL Education Committee Ghanouni Teen & Young Adult Defense Firm & Suzanne Tevis Vice-Chair, GACDL Education Committee Partner, Tevis Law Firm Amicus Report Leslie Spornberger Jones , Chair, GACDL Amicus Committee Founder, Leslie Jones Law Strike Force Report Michael Schwartz Vice-Chair, GACDL Strike Force Committee Founder, New South Law, LLC
9:00a - 10:00a	"Everything Is Fine:" Staying Composed and Fighting Back when the Judge Is the One on Fire Chinwe Foster Founder, Foster Law Firm
10:00a - 11:00a	Igniting Possibilities: Using Changes in Science and Law to Your Advantage Mark Loudon-Brown Senior Attorney, Southern Center for Human Rights Paulina Lucio-Maymon Staff Attorney, Southern Center for Human Rights
11:00a - 11:15a	Break Break Nook
11:15a - 12:15p	Hot Topics: Case Law Update Meagan Hurley Editor, GACDL's <i>What's the Decision?</i> Director, The Habeas Project (Clinic), Mercer University School of Law,
12:15p - 1:45p	Lunch (On Your Own)
1:45p - 2:45p	Suit Up!: Staying Grounded When Everything's on Fire Max Schardt Founder, Max Schardt Law
2:45p - 2:50p	Stand-Up Announcements Break
2:50p - 3:50p	Keynote Under Fire: Defending Constitutional Rights & Challenging Police Conduct David Osbourne, Jr. Founder, The Law Offices of Dr. David Osborne, Jr. LLC
3:50p - 4:00p	Closing Insights & Takeaways Program Directors: Erin King & Suzanne Tevis
4:00p	Adjourn