



Masters in Trial™

A Trial Demonstration from Opening Statement
Through Jury Deliberations

WHEN:

February 8, 2023
9:00am - 5:00pm

WHERE:

Chapman Law School
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866
Room 237

PRESENTED BY:

The Orange County
Chapter of the
American Board of
Trial Advocates

DEFENSE TEAM:

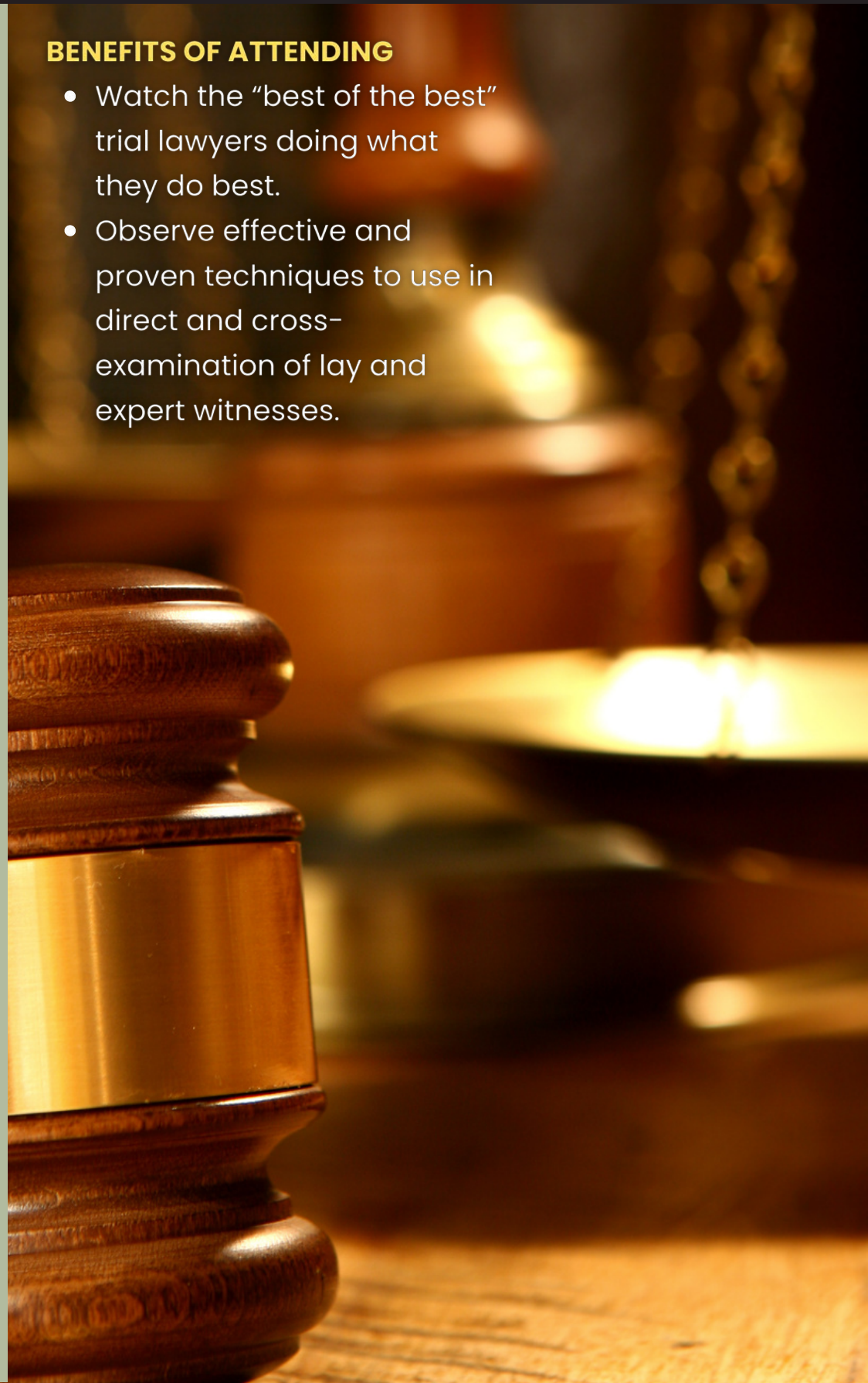
Kim Valentine
Peggy Holm
Bibi Fell
Carol Salmacia
Elizabeth Kolar

PLAINTIFF TEAM:

Greg Bentley
Roger Dreyer
Dan Hodes
Niall McCarthy
Geoff Wells

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Watch the “best of the best” trial lawyers doing what they do best.
- Observe effective and proven techniques to use in direct and cross-examination of lay and expert witnesses.



Masters in Trial™

A Trial Demonstration from Opening Statement Through Jury Deliberations

WHEN: February 8, 2023

WHERE: Chapman Law School – Room 237

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

The American Board of Trial Advocates, an organization with more than 7,300 of the best trial lawyers in America, is dedicated to the preservation of the right to trial by jury guaranteed by the 7th Amendment.

Educating lawyers in the art of trial advocacy is a primary goal of the Foundation of the American Board of Trial Advocates. The Masters in Trial™ shows how some of the most successful trial lawyers in the country conduct a trial — without war stories. All of the trial team counsel are ABOTA members and are well-known and highly respected in their fields.

CASE

Miller v. Bolton: Slip and Fall

The plaintiff in this case is seeking damages that resulted from a fall down a stairway. The plaintiff had visited a friend rented house, and when he was leaving the plaintiff slipped and fell falling, approximately ten stairs, which resulted in a Lisfranc fracture in his left foot which was corrected in an emergency surgery. While at the hospital, the plaintiff gave the cause of his injury as falling down the stairs, but he told his employer that the injury was the result of surfing. The plaintiff is searching for damages for his medical care and lost earnings. The Defendant is the owner of the property where the Plaintiff fell. The case includes testimony from experts, witnesses, medical records, handrail stipulations, and photographs of the stairwell.

This is one seminar trial lawyers will be talking about. You don't want to miss it. Come see how the Masters do it.

CLE CREDIT

The Orange County Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates has requested approval from the California Board of Continuing Legal Education for 7.25 credit hours (including 1 hour of Ethics).

TRIAL TEAMS

COORDINATORS

Pamela Liosi-Traut
Traut Firm

Keith P. More
Bentley & More

DEFENSE TEAM

Kim Valentine
Peggy Holm
Bibi Fell
Carol Salmacia
Elizabeth Kolar

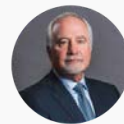
PLAINTIFF TEAM

Greg Bentley
Roger Dreyer
Dan Hodes
Niall McCarthy
Geoff Wells



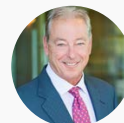
GREGORY L. BENTLEY

Gregory L. Bentley, a founding partner of Bentley & More LLP, has been recognized as a Top 100 Lawyer (2016/2017) and Top Plaintiff Lawyer (2016-2022) by the Daily Journal, as a Best Lawyers for Personal Injury, Product Liability & Insurance Law, and as a Super Lawyer for each year from 2010 through 2022, including as a Top 50 in Orange County and Top 100 in Southern California. Mr. Bentley is a member of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the International Society of Barristers, the American College of Trial Lawyers, and the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is the Past President of the Consumer Attorneys of California, CAOIE, and the San Bernardino/Riverside Chapter of ABOTA. He has been named the 2014 CAOC Consumer Attorney of the Year, 2012 CAOIE Trial Lawyer of the Year, 2013 WSBCBA Trial Lawyer of the Year, and the OCTLA Top Gun Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2013 and 2016. Mr. Bentley is a staunch advocate for consumer rights, practicing in the fields of catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death, product liability, insurance bad faith, and public entity liability. Following a first-of-its-kind verdict, he has also been at the forefront of national electronic cigarette explosion litigation.



ROGER A. DREYER

Mr. Dreyer specializes in the areas of traumatic brain injuries, catastrophic physical injuries, wrongful death and products liability. He has tried in excess of 150 civil jury trials and he is recognized as a Diplomat of ABOTA. Mr. Dreyer has obtained in excess of 200 seven-figure and eight-figure verdicts and settlements, many resulting in record setting verdicts in that community. He has handled many high profile actions including representing the family in the wrongful death by "water intoxication" action and the Oakland Raiders fraudulent misrepresentation case against the Oakland entities, both of which resulted in record setting verdicts. He has received numerous professional awards from professional organizations including Consumer Attorneys of California and Cal-ABOTA, each of whom have recognized him as the Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2010 and 2000 respectively. Verdicts he has obtained have effectively redefined the standards of conduct expected of corporations and manufacturers.



DANIEL M. HODES

Daniel Hodes is a 1981 graduate of Pepperdine University School of Law, having moved to California from New York after undergraduate. Now in his 41st year in practice, Mr. Hodes is a former President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association and has been voted Trial Lawyer of the Year on three occasions by that organization. He has been a finalist for the Trial Lawyer of the Year by Consumer Attorneys of California on two other occasions. For the past 6 years he has been voted by his peers as one of the top 50 lawyers in Orange County. He has been an ABOTA member since 1995 and has obtained over 100 seven or eight figure verdicts and settlements. He was recently inducted into the OCTLA Hall of Fame. He was a senior partner in the Lopez Hodes firm for 20 years and founded Hodes Milman, LLP 15 years ago.

Sponsored by:



Presented by:
The Orange County Chapter of the
American Board of Trial Advocates



NIALL P. MCCARTHY

Niall P. McCarthy, a Partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP, is a graduate of the University of California at Davis and Santa Clara University School of Law. He has practiced with the firm since 1992.

Niall has been named a Top 100 attorney in California many times by the Daily Journal and by Super Lawyers Magazine, as well as being repeatedly named to the Daily Journal's "Top Plaintiffs' Lawyers" list. Niall has received three California Lawyer Magazine Attorney of the Year (CLAY) Awards. Niall was also awarded the Trial Lawyer of the Year Award by the San Mateo County Trial Lawyers Association.



KEITH P. MORE

Keith More is a founding partner of Bentley & More, LLP. For the past 34 years, Keith has specialized in both Workers Compensation and Personal Injury.

Since 2010, Keith has been rated by Super Lawyers in the Top 50 in Orange County and Top 100 in California multiple times.

For the past 5 years, Keith was listed in the Daily Journal Top Labor & Employment Lawyers. Keith prides himself as an ABOTA member who has also tried over 200 Workers Compensation cases. Mr. More in 2003, 2004, 2012 & 2019 was voted Orange County's Workers Compensation trial lawyer of the year.

In 2008, Mr. More was the President of the OC Trial Lawyers Association. In 2019, in a mandatory arbitration contract case involving a quadriplegic, Keith received a \$44 million dollar award for his client. In 2022, Keith was named Best Lawyers Workers Compensation Attorney of the Year.

Over his 33 year career, Keith has taken on some of the largest corporations in the world. Besides the in court awards, Keith is most proud of his ability to connect with his clients. It's not just about being the lawyer. It's about being their voice and telling their story. Keith goes the extra mile and sits in on Team Conferences, meets with doctors, vendors and therapists. If you or a loved one are in need of Keith's services, whether you were injured in a motor vehicle accident, construction site incident, fall or work related injury make Keith a part of your team.



GEOFFREY WELLS

Geoffrey Wells is a partner in the firm of Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP and joined the firm in 1992. Since that time, he has been involved in over two hundred and fifty (250) multi-million dollar trials and settlements, including the Santa Monica Farmers Market cases, the Carson tank collapse cases, Fen-Phen cases, Cedars-Sinai over-radiation cases, and was liaison counsel in the FedEx bus crash cases. He recently obtained a \$36.1 million verdict for a six-year old girl who was hit by a car when she was running across the street to her bus stop. Mr. Wells was President of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles in 2014. He is an elected member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and is an elected member of the Executive Board for the Consumer Attorneys Association of California (2022 First Vice President). He is also a member of AAJ. He is a graduate of the University of Washington (B.A. 1981), where he was a pitcher for the college baseball team. He received his law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law (1985).

REGISTRATION

Register online [HERE](#) or scan QR code below.

\$250 per person

Course materials will be delivered via email.



Refund Policy

Refunds will be given, less a \$40 administrative fee if received in writing in the Foundation offices no later than 3:00 p.m. (PST) on Friday, January 15, 2023. Refunds are not available for no-shows or cancellations after Friday, January 15, 2023. All registrations must be pre-paid.

**BIBIANNE U. FELL**

Bibi represents plaintiffs who suffered catastrophic injuries or the death of a loved one. She is the Founding Partner of Fell Law, PC, in San Diego, California and is a Partner at Athea Trial Lawyers, a nationwide plaintiff's firm comprised of six prominent female trial lawyers.

Bibi graduated from USD School of Law magna cum laude in 2004. Before devoting her time to representing injured plaintiffs, Bibi handled complex commercial litigation and employment disputes at Baker & McKenzie, LLP and then at Fleming & Fell, PC.

Bibi is one of the few women attorneys to have received a verdict over \$100,000,000 as lead trial counsel. Bibi is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) where she serves as the National Board Representative for the San Diego Chapter and National Board Committee Co-Chair for the Amicus Committee. Membership is extended by invitation only to lawyers who have demonstrated extensive trial experience, civility and professionalism. Bibi is the Society of Women Trial Lawyer's 2022 Woman of the Year, a 2021 finalist for Consumer Attorneys of California's Consumer Advocate of the Year, one of three 2018 finalists for Consumer Attorneys of San Diego's "Trial Lawyer of the Year" award, has received both an "Outstanding Trial Lawyer" and "Outstanding Advocate" award from Consumer Attorneys of San Diego. In 2020, she received the "Trial Lawyer of the Year" award from Pepperdine Law School. Bibi has also been selected to be a member of The National Trial Lawyers: Top 100 Trial Lawyers, the Daily Journal's Top 100 Women Lawyers, and Superlawyers.

Bibi gives back by teaching Advanced Trial Advocacy at the USD School of Law, serving as the program director for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy's Pacific Deposition Skills program, and teaching trial skills through NITA around the country and in Northern Ireland.

Bibi raises her three daughters, who are 17, 15, and 6 years old.

**MARGARET M. HOLM**

Margaret M. Holm is a Partner in the Orange County, San Diego, and Los Angeles offices and Chair of the Healthcare practice. Ms. Holm is one of the country's leading trial and appellate litigators for large health care entities in complex civil disputes. She is a well-renowned leader in the legal profession. Ms. Holm defends national and regional insurers in addition to healthcare organizations and providers, including hospitals, medical professionals, nursing homes, and long-term care facilities.

She has defended clients for professional malpractice, wrongful death, abuse, neglect, class actions, and catastrophic injury allegations. She handles the defense of property and business owners, national sporting associations, school associations, and public entities in complex, catastrophic cases involving fraud, abuse, neglect, and mass torts. She also has experience defending employers in cases involving a wide range of employment law issues.

Ms. Holm has an outstanding record of obtaining defense verdicts, early dismissals, and favorable settlements in over 200 civil jury trials and arbitrations with a success record of over 95 percent in jury verdict cases. She has held multiple leadership positions in law firms and legal organizations and has been recognized for her work by many prominent organizations on their lists of leading health care attorneys.

Ms. Holm received her law degree from Santa Clara University School of Law, where she was elected the first woman Student Bar Association President in its history. She graduated with a B.A. from the University of California San Diego. The American College of Trial Lawyers nominated and inducted Ms. Holm as a Fellow due to her exceptional skills in trial advocacy and civility. At the time, she was only the third woman in the nation to have achieved this honor. She has attained the prestigious rank of Diplomate from the American Board of Trial Advocates, where she has also served on its National Board of Directors and was President of the California state chapter of ABOTA and President of the local Orange County chapter.

**ELIZABETH KOLAR**

Elizabeth Kolar founded Kolar & Associates, A Law Corporation in 2001 and has represented automobile dealerships exclusively throughout California for nearly 20 years. Her expertise includes a litigation practice specializing in the defense of automobile dealerships in the area of Commercial/Consumer Transactions, Product Liability, Premises Liability, Employment Law and Breach of Contract.

Ms. Kolar received her undergraduate degree from the University of California in Irvine (B.A. Psychology, 1988). She received her M.A. at the Southern California College of Medical Careers. She received her law degree from Western State University College of Law (J.D. 1993) where she graduated with Honors. She served as a law clerk for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal under Justice Warren J. Ferguson. She was admitted to the California Bar in 1993.

Ms. Kolar is a member of the prestigious American Board of Trial Attorneys (ABOTA), California New Car Dealers Association (CNCDA), Nation Association of Dealer Counsel (NADA), Defense Research institute, the Orange County Bar Association and the Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County.

Ms. Kolar has tried over 50 Jury Trials, 500+ Court Trials and 25+ Binding Arbitrations on behalf of her clients with a 99% defense verdict success rate.

**PAMELA LIOSI-TRAUT**

Pamela Liosi-Traut has over 26 years of experience handling personal injury matters. She has practiced with the Traut Firm since 2014, doing exclusively plaintiff's personal injury, medical malpractice and wrongful death law. She is a former partner with an Orange County insurance defense firm, where she practiced for 18 years. She has tried numerous jury and bench trials, representing both plaintiffs and defendants in personal injury, medical malpractice and wrongful death matters.

Pamela is a Foundation Legacy Patriot Fellow and member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). She was recently elected as a National Foundation Trustee and also serves on the Diversity Committee for National ABOTA. She currently serves as President-Elect for the Executive Committee of the Orange County Chapter. She also chairs the Foundation Committee for OC-ABOTA and has organized and been a team leader three times for the prestigious "Masters in Trial."

She is currently President of the Robert A. Banyard Inn of Court, and was the recipient of the Angelo Palmieri Award for Civility from that organization in 2017. She served two terms as President of the Italian American Lawyers of Orange County in 2013 and 2014. In 2018, she was inducted into the Western State College of Law Hall of Fame.

She has been a presenter for the College of Trial Advocacy and taught Legal Research and Writing at Western State College of Law. She has been a contributing author to the "Verdict" Magazine and "The Gavel" on various topics.

SCHEDULE

8:15 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Overview of Trial

- Pamela Liosi-Traut - Orange County, CA
- Keith More - Orange County, CA

9:15 a.m. Voir Dire

- Plaintiff: Greg Bentley - Orange County, CA
- Defense: Elizabeth Kolar - Orange County, CA

9:45 a.m. Opening Statements

- Plaintiff: Dan Hodes - Orange County, CA
- Defense: Margaret Holm - Orange County, CA

10:15 a.m. Examination of the Plaintiff

- Direct: Geoff Wells - Los Angeles, CA
- Cross: Carol Salmacia - Orange County, CA

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Examination of Plaintiff Eye Witness

- Direct: Dan Hodes - Orange County, CA
- Cross: Bibi Fell - San Diego, CA

11:15 a.m. Examination of the Plaintiff Expert (Professional Engineer)

- Direct: Geoff Wells - Los Angeles, CA
- Cross: Bibi Fell - San Diego, CA

12:00 p.m. Lunch (provided)

- Lewis Sifford, National President 2022, - Ethics MCLE

1:00 p.m. Examination of Defendant

- Direct: Carol Salmacia, Orange County, CA
- Cross: Greg Bentley - Orange County, CA

2:00 p.m. Examination of Defendant Expert (Professional Engineer)

- Direct: Elizabeth Kolar - Orange County, CA
- Cross: Niall McCarthy - San Francisco, CA

2:45 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. Closing Argument

- Plaintiff: Roger Dreyer - Sacramento Valley, CA
- Defense: Kim Valentine - Orange County, CA

3:45 p.m. Jury Deliberations (Shown live in the courtroom)

4:30 p.m. Jury Verdict & Panel Discussion

5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Masters in Trial™

A Trial Demonstration from Opening Statement Through Jury Deliberations

WHEN: February 8, 2023

WHERE: Chapman Law School – Room 237



CAROL SALMACIA

Carol Salmacia is a member of the Litigation and Healthcare Practice Group's in Buchalter's San Diego office. Ms. Salmacia has handled thousands of litigated cases involving medical malpractice, legal malpractice, products liability, wrongful death, fraud, breach of contract, retaliation, personal injury, and business disputes. She has had jury trials in CA, NV, and IL state courts.

Ms. Salmacia has been named as one of the "Best Lawyers in California," and in 2002-2003 was listed in the Daily Journal as one of the "Top 30 CA Women Litigators." She is rated by Martindale-Hubbell as AV Preeminent.



KIM VALENTINE

Kimberly Valentine advocates for the vulnerable, elderly, injured and the infirm. Her clients ages span from newborn children to elderly as old as 104. She practices predominately in the areas of elder abuse and medical malpractice. Ms. Valentine is an Associate with the American Board of Trial Advocates. She has received the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association's Top Gun award as an exceptional Elder Abuse litigator multiple times. She was also named a Super Lawyer each year since 2014. Super Lawyers Southern California Magazine named her as one of the top 50 Orange County lawyers and Top 50 Women lawyers in Southern California multiple times and did so again in 2021. The American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) awarded her the Volunteer of the Year award for the Orange County chapter in 2019, and Ms. Valentine was selected by CAL ABOTA as Volunteer of the year in 2020.

