

UTAH LITIGATION SECTION HOSTS THE

# FIRST ANNUAL MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

## Conference Schedule

Thursday

1. (5:30pm) The cocktail Hour
2. (6:30pm) Dinner is Served
3. (7:00pm) “The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change?” presented by Professor Gerald Rosenberg.

Friday

4. (10:00am) “How to Market Yourself and Your Firm”
5. (11:30am) “Guns and Society” Lunch Address presented by Adam Gura.
6. ( 1:30pm) “Preparing a Case for Justice Court”
7. ( 3:00pm) “Avoiding Malpractice and Managing Client Expectations” CLE and Breakout Sessions.
8. (5:00pm) Conference Closes



February 15, 2018

Dear Attendee:

Welcome to the First Annual Litigation Section Midwinter Conference. Our Executive Committee is very excited to branch out beyond our quarterly one-hour CLE events to this larger two-day event with two nationally known speakers. The focus of this year is litigation as a means of social change. This has been a very interesting few years in our country with lawyers making a real difference on many different issues—both local and national. Our organizers also wanted to give you some information on the practical side of lawyering and we have a few presentations on issues that face all who practice law.

If you are a member of our Section, I thank you for your membership and continued support. Over the past few years we have worked hard to bring value to being a member by sponsoring these events and by taking a leadership role in the Bar. If you are not yet a member, we would welcome you to join so that you can enjoy discounted rates for our events and stay informed on developments in the practice of law.

It is truly an honor to be the Chair of this Section and to work with volunteers who are committed to service in the Bar. This event, and all of our events, are organized and run by volunteer members of our Section. If you see them, please thank them. If you loved this event, please be sure to tell other lawyers about our Section and our events. We are having our Third Biennial Trial Academy on March 21-23<sup>rd</sup>, and registration is now open. Please refer to [www.utahbar.org/cle/](http://www.utahbar.org/cle/) for more information. If you have any ideas for events, or how we can better serve you, please let me know. [mstahler@strongandhanni.com](mailto:mstahler@strongandhanni.com)

Sincerely,

Michael A. Stahler

Chair, Litigation Section 2017-2018



## The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change?"

**Professor Gerald N. Rosenberg** is a Professor of Political Science and Law at the University of Chicago. He has taught at Yale University, Northwestern University School of Law where he served as the Jack N. Pritzker Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law, at the Law School of Xiamen University in China as a Fulbright Professor, and at the National Law School of India University in Bangalore. In the 1995-1996 academic year he was a Visiting Fellow in the Law Program of the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. A Phi Beta Kappa, Summa Cum Laude graduate of Dartmouth College, he earned a master's degree in Politics and Philosophy from Oxford University, a law degree from the University of Michigan, and a doctorate in Political Science from Yale University. His work focuses on the interaction between courts, social movements, and the society and culture in which they are embedded. A member of the Washington, D.C. bar, his work has appeared in the University of Chicago Law Review, the University of Virginia Law Review, Northwestern University Law Review, Law & Social Inquiry, NOMOS, Supreme Court Review, the Journal of Supreme Court History, the Green Bag, and other law reviews and journals. He has contributed to multiple edited collections and is the author of *The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change?* and a textbook on American Government. His awards include the Llewellyn John & Harriet Manchester Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the Gordon J. Laing Prize from the University of Chicago Press, and the Wadsworth Award and the Teaching and Mentoring Award from the American Political Science Association.

## How to Market Yourself and Your Firm

**John Munro** is a Vice President of National Markets for Blackstone Discovery / Impact Discovery. He is a visionary growth oriented executive with 17 years of experience organically building, leading, and inspiring teams up to 125 to deliver exceptional customer experiences. Progressively advance product, process, quality and customer service improvements that lead to measurable cost and risk reduction and sustained growth. Expert at communicating and implementing change while simultaneously increasing employee and customer satisfaction. Recognized as a mentor / leader who creates positive, results driven teams and organizations that consistently achieve 40%+ organic growth while increasing EBITDA. Aggressive problem solver with a deep passion for continuous innovation and improvement.

## Guns and Society

**Alan Gura** dedicates his law practice to Supreme Court, appellate and strategic litigation. Gura has argued and won landmark constitutional cases before the United States Supreme Court. He has also argued cases before ten federal courts of appeals and numerous federal district courts throughout the country. Gura regularly lectures and debates at law schools and continuing legal education seminars about legal issues of current interest. Gura also teaches strategic litigation as an adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University, and is proud to have litigated the demise of various unconstitutional statutes and ordinances. Alan Gura has served as counsel to the United States Senate Judiciary Committee, and as a Deputy Attorney General for the State of California. He has also practiced as an associate with the Washington offices of Sidley Austin. Gura began his career clerking for U.S. District Judge Terrence Boyle in the Eastern District of North Carolina. Alan Gura earned his J.D. at Georgetown (1995) and his B.A. at Cornell University (1992). Selected Awards and Recognitions: 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America, National Law Journal, 2013 Brief of the Week, National Law Journal, Oct. 9, 2012 (amicus brief for Brandeis Center for Human Rights, 80-20 National Asian American Educational Foundation, et al., in Fisher v. University of Texas, U.S. Supreme Court No. 11-345) Appellate Lawyer of the Week, National Law Journal, Aug. 25, 2010 (amicus brief for Members of Congress in Weiss v. Generali, U.S. Supreme Court No. 10-80) Top 40 Lawyers Under 40, Washington, D.C., Legal Times, 2009 Champion of Justice, Legal Times, 2009 2008 Lawyers of the Year, Lawyers Weekly USA

## Avoiding Malpractice and Managing Client Expectations

**Stuart H. Schultz** is a shareholder at Strong & Hanni specializing in employment, legal malpractice, product liability, and commercial litigation. He is a 1979 graduate of the University of Utah College of Law and a 1976 *magna cum laude* graduate of BYU. He served as a visiting professor in civil litigation at Dnipropetrovsk State University in the Ukraine in 2011. He served on the Utah Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct from 1988-1995 and again from 2002-2014.

**Jonathan O. Hafen** is a shareholder at Parr Brown and a member of the Litigation Section Executive Committee of the Utah State Bar. He is a past Chair of the Section. He practices commercial litigation, employment litigation, intellectual property litigation, securities litigation, and class action litigation. He is a 1991 *magna cum laude* graduate of BYU Law School and a 1988 *summa cum laude* graduate of BYU.

**Michael A. Stahler** is a shareholder at Strong & Hanni and the current Chair of the Litigation Section of the Utah State Bar. He has served on the Litigation Section Executive Committee since 2012. He specializes in construction law, personal injury defense, and commercial litigation. He is the recipient of the 2018 Young Lawyer of the Year Award from the Construction Defect & Dispute Conference. He is a 2008 *cum laude* graduate of Vermont Law School and a 2003 *cum laude* graduate of Middlebury College.

**Special thanks** for Michael Harmond, Lindsay Bockstein, Whitney McKiddy, Cara Dunkelman, Ben lehnardt and Mandy Pruitt!

## Upcoming Litigation Section Events

- **March 8-10: Spring Convention with Litigation Sessions**
- **March 14: Free Licensed Lawyer Website CLE and Lunch**
- **March 21-23: Trial Academy CLE Program**
- **March 21: Careers in Litigation CLE at BYU**
- **April 5: Expungement Day Event**
- **April 12: Second District Judicial Reception**
- **April 13: Casino Night**
- **May 10-12: Federal Law Symposium**
- **July 25-28: Summer Convention with Litigation Events and Sessions**
- **Weekly Yoga, Fridays at 12 noon, Zimmerman Jones Booher (341 South Main Street, Salt Lake City). Contact: Heather Thuet at [heather.thuet@chrisjen.com](mailto:heather.thuet@chrisjen.com)**

To Learn more about a litigation event or how to join the litigation section visit us at <http://litigation.utahbar.org/>