

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Southeastern Women Litigators Conference**

# **High Tides & Litigation Vibes**



**MARCH 22 - 23, 2023**

**The Sonesta Resort, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina**



SOUTHEASTERN WOMEN  
AL • FL • GA **SEWL** NC • SC • TN  
ALITIGATORS

*Our second annual conference coincides with the Hilton Head Island Wine and Food Festival, so make your plans to stay over and enjoy delicious sips and tasty bites from the region's culinary leaders. Our conference hotel is offering our room rates through the weekend (based on availability).*





## *Hotel Information*

The Sonesta Resort is located at 130 Shipyard Drive, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Group reservations for the meeting can only be made for registered seminar attendees. Guaranteed reservations must be accompanied by a major credit card. The Sonesta will not hold any reservations unless secured by one of the above methods. The room rate at the Sonesta for standard view rooms is \$259.00/night plus tax (single or double occupancy) and a \$15.00/night resort fee. Reservations can be made by going to <https://book.passkey.com/gt/218612095?gtid=7aaa7cad8466724700a0c6c6b74d78cc>

All deposits are refundable up 72 hours prior to arrival. Availability of rooms at the group rate is subject to the SEWL room block and for reservations made on or before, Monday, February 20, 2023, the cutoff date. Reservations requests received after the room block has been fully reserved or after the release of unused rooms on February 20, 2023, will be accepted based on a space and rate availability basis.

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## *Getting There*

You can fly into the Hilton Head airport (HHH) or the Savannah/Hilton Head Airport (SAV). The Hilton Head airport is approximately 20 minutes from the Sonesta, and the Savannah/Hilton Head Airport is approximately 1 hour from the Sonesta.

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## *Hilton Head Island Wine & Food Festival*

The Festival is an event produced by the non-profit corporation Hilton Head Wine & Food, Inc. The proceeds from the festival's wine auction at the Grand and Public Tastings support the John & Valerie Curry Educational Scholarship Fund for college students pursuing degrees in the hospitality & tourism field. Scholarships are currently offered at the University of South Carolina Beaufort and the Technical College of the Lowcountry. In the last eight years we have provided \$94,000 in scholarships to deserving students. Find out more about the festival by going to About - Hilton Head Island Wine & Food Festival ([hiltonheadwineandfood.com](http://hiltonheadwineandfood.com)).



# *Southeastern Women Litigators Conference*

March 22 – 23, 2023

## Agenda

### *Wednesday, March 22, 2023*

6:00pm – 7:00pm Early Arrival Welcome Reception

7:00pm Optional Dine Arounds

7:15pm **Networking Wine Pairing Dinner – Ticketed Event**

Wendy Keefer, Certified Specialist of Wine and practicing attorney, has curated a selection of wines that will complement a Chef inspired menu and will share expert insights about each wine during the course of the evening.

\$85.00 per person

### *Thursday, March 23, 2023*

7:30am – 8:15am Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:15am Welcome & Announcements

8:30am – 10:30am **Navigating Rough Waters: Identifying Stressors & Coping Strategies**  
Lawyer life coach Ellen Ostrow will join us in first leading a panel of attorneys sharing personal experiences as to stressors in practice, imposter syndrome, burnout and other troubled seas many women attorneys routinely find themselves having to steer through in their careers. In the second hour, the discussion will offer skills and tools attendees can utilize to help pilot our way to calmer waters and achieve a more fulfilling and enjoyable career.

*Panelists:* Stephanie Brown, Wall Templeton & Haldrup, South Carolina; Dana Lang, Womble Bond, South Carolina; Kendra Stark, Gordon Rees, North Carolina; Jalisa R. Stevens, Copeland Stair Valz & Lovell, Atlanta, Georgia.



10:30am – 10:45am

Networking Break

10:45am – 11:45am

**Getting Your Sea Legs: What do Mentees really want from their Mentors**

A panel of young associates will help you get your “sea legs” by discussing the best ways to foster fruitful mentor/mentee relationships inside the firm. Topics will include how to attain growth in your specific areas of law while navigating the internal processes and structure of the firm and building strong relationships with colleagues and clients. If you’re a novice lawyer struggling to keep your head above water, our panelists will show you the ropes!

*Panelists:* Ayana M. Parker, Gordon Rees, North Carolina; Sloane Bell Phillips, Balch & Bingham, Alabama; Tyrra V. Walker, Chartwell Law, Georgia; Megan White, Richardson Plowden, South Carolina; *Moderator:* Lynn Lawyer, Managing Counsel, Travelers, Tennessee

11:45am – 1:00pm

Networking Lunch

1:00pm – 2:00pm

**SEAing Results: Creating Opportunities and Building Relationship**

Women litigators are an untapped resource. Learn how to leverage your diverse legal talents and use your unique qualities as effective differentiators to create your own opportunities and build solid relationships to expand your network, client base, and support team of other fabulous women lawyers.

*Panelists:* Brannon Arnold, Weinberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn & Dial, Georgia; Anna Hedgepeth, Cranfill Sumner, North Carolina; Erin Young, Extended Stay America, North Carolina; *Moderator:* Kristen Nichols, Turner Padget Graham & Laney, South Carolina

2:00pm – 3:00pm

**Sailing Your Story Through Cross Exam**

For a lawyer preparing for trial, all of the seemingly contradictory advice can be overwhelming- don’t give the witness a chance to explain, don’t ask any questions you don’t know the answer to, don’t ask why, etc. While preparing your case for trial can be rough waters, in this panel you will learn how to carefully plan and chart your course of telling your story through



cross exam. Examples of prepared and courtroom tested cross exam in a variety of different cases will be explored, with tips and techniques shared.

*Panelists:* Beth Boone, Hall Booth Smith, Georgia; Pamela Lee, Swift Currie, Georgia; Sara Lincoln, Lincoln Derr, North Carolina

3:00pm – 3:15pm

Networking Break

3:15pm – 4:15pm

### **Securing your Anchor**

“In case of emergency- put your life vest on before helping others” – The popular podcast, The Mother Board, goes live ... with questions from you!” – Hear from the 3 hosts of The Mother Board podcast as they share about the highs and lows of growing their practice (and families) and why you can’t help others unless you put your own life vest first. Please submit questions ahead of time for a live and interactive Q&A.

*The Mother Board Hosts:* Whitney Greene, Chartwell Law, Georgia; Taylor Poncz, Drew Eckl & Farnham, Georgia; & Aarati Subramaniam, JordanADR, Georgia

4:15pm – 4:30pm

Questions/Comments

4:30pm

Adjournment

## ***Friday, March 24, 2023***

10:30am

### **Golf Lessons – Shipyard Golf Course – Ticketed Event**

Since business can be conducted anywhere these days, and sometimes that means on a golf course, we invite you to join us for a golf clinic. Whether you’re a beginner, who wouldn’t know a tee box from a tea bag, or a legend on the links, you’re guaranteed to have fun and learn something. We’ll have adult beverages and other refreshing drinks to keep you hydrated while you try to hit that tiny little ball.

\$50.00 per person



## *About Wendy Keefer*



Wendy Keefer is a licensed and practicing South Carolina attorney, whose 25 year legal career has included work with various litigation firms in Charleston, SC and Washington, DC and for the U.S. Department of Justice. Some years ago, she decided to step away a bit from the law – though not completely – to spend time on another of her passions: wine. Earning certifications from the Court of Master Sommeliers, the Society of Wine Educators and more, Wendy is now a Certified Specialist of Wine and a specialist in the wines of California and Italy. In 2016, she opened Cellar Experience to offer wine classes to anyone with an interest, from those just getting into wine to those with years of exploration of the wine world. Now offering a weekly online wine class and private tasting events, you can learn more about Wendy and Cellar Experience at [www.cellarexperience.com](http://www.cellarexperience.com). As she often says, “what other agricultural product is affected by geography, geology, history, science, and art that is all contained in a single bottle that changes slightly every day?”





*Platinum Level*



*Gold Level*



*Silver Level*



*Bronze Level*

