



# Board of Directors Candidates

## Gary Berger

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DIRECTOR, INFORMATION SECURITY  
OGLETREE DEAKINS LAW FIRM



Candidate Country

United States

ILTA Profile Link

[Gary Berger ILTA Profile](#)

LinkedIn Profile Link

[Gary Berger LinkedIn Profile](#)

Legal Sector  
Experience

I have worked with Ogletree Deakins Law Firm for over 23 years. I was the lead technology person for the firm from 1999 to 2017. I then assumed the role of Director of Information Security. Throughout my tenure at Ogletree, I have overseen and facilitated the technology and security considerations for the firm, representing both areas to various committees, senior executives, and the Board of Directors.

When I started, the firm had a little less than 200 attorneys and 13 locations. I have contributed to and enabled significant growth of the firm. We now have nearly 1000 attorneys and over 55 locations, some of which are international.

I have worked closely with all aspects of firm administration including Litigation Support, Knowledge Management, Risk Management, General Counsel, Marketing, Events, as well as being involved in client-facing pitches, data integrations, and various business ventures.

I have been a part of many sector roundtables and peer groups to expand my network, contribute to the legal sector, and to contribute to Ogletree's success.

ILTA Volunteer  
Experience

Aside from speaking and presentations, my first volunteer experience was as a Volunteer City Representative for the Greenville, SC, area. Since then, I have worked in various roles including LegalSec Summit committee member, and co-chair. I have contributed through blogs, white-papers, round-table discussions, and facilitating various similar activities.

Board of Directors  
Experience  
(ILTA and other  
organizations)

While at Clemson University, as the Director of Information Systems for the College of Engineering and Science, I reported to and worked with the CES advisory board in technology and the learning labs I oversaw.

While Director of IT at Ryobi Power Tools, I regularly reported to the Board of Directors and worked representing technology.

While at Ogletree, I frequently present and report on program status to the Board of Directors. While in my Director of Information Technology role, I established the Technology Advisory Committee and a strong relationship with the Office of General Counsel.

## Background

I am originally from Findlay, Ohio. I joined the U.S. Army at the age of 17, where I obtained my GED. While in the Army, I gained the rank of E-5 (Specialist 5) and fulfilled roles such as squad leader, barracks non-commissioned officer in charge, handling promotions in the battalion, and managing the organizations' regulations library.

From there, using the G.I. Bill, I obtained my Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from Western Kentucky University. I then worked in various technology roles until I obtained my Master of Science in Computer Engineering from Clemson University.

I then worked in various technology analyst, managerial, and leadership roles with progressive responsibilities. During my career, I have obtained various certifications and awards.

I currently live in South Carolina with my wife, Tamela.

## Vision

Each candidate was asked questions related to Board service and their vision for ILTA's future. The questions and response are shown below.

**Question:** Considering the areas of global experience, financial expertise, and consensus building, please share some unique business experience, personal qualities, and/or perspectives that you will bring to your ILTA Board service if elected.

**Response:** *"Our firm has grown to be international. We have offices in the E.U., Canada, and Mexico. This has prompted me to be aware of and involved with the issues related to international compliance. I have had to coordinate vendor services to open these offices while working with our General Counsel to ensure all regulatory requirements were met.*

*I have managed all aspects of large budgets in multiple environments, including those funded by government funding (academia), manufacturing, and my current law firm. I have had to project, track and report on financial performance in all of my positions over the last 30 years. Given that the Technology budget is among the larger budgets for an organization, I have worked with firm management to establish leasing and capital management processes and project management office processes.*

*I've learned in many roles that consensus is essential to success. I have worked with various committees and executive roles to solicit support and build consensus regarding recommendations and proposals. I have also learned that consensus is necessary for a team's success. It's essential to hear people's questions, listen to their concerns, and present relevant information in a manner that is easy to understand. Building consensus requires patience and insight, as well as commitment and persistence."*

**Question:** Please describe your vision of ILTA's future. What does ILTA need to help ensure a successful future?

**Response:** *"Shifts in the workplace and society will continue to affect ILTA's direction and strategic planning. In addition, A.I. is here and will play an ever-increasing role in many areas. There are many questions about the implications of A.I. in all aspects of legal operations. Members need help figuring out what that may mean to their firms and careers. The importance of security and privacy will grow at an ever-increasing rate.*

*ILTA needs to continue to integrate these considerations into its educational and service offerings. Career advice and the need for clear and timely information resources is timelier now more than ever. ILTA needs to continue to focus on the "whole" person, promoting an inclusive environment that is safe for all ILTA members. ILTA needs to deliberately address the diverse needs of a multi-generational organization."*

**Question** Which ideas from the current strategic plan should be pulled forward into the 2023 – 2026 strategic plan and what additional outcomes should be included in the 2023 – 2026 strategic plan?

**Response** *"All of the ideas stated are worthy and relevant for continued focus and should be incorporated in some way. Some ideas do deserve additional attention and focus.*

- *Developing partnerships outside of ILTA can help expand and deepen services.*

- *Finding creative ways of partnering with law firms can help grow and cement ILTA's membership numbers.*
- *Establishing rapport and developing relationships with firm executives aside from Technology, as ILTA can and does add value outside of Technology, particularly where there are areas where there is a strong overlap.*
- *Continued development of mentorship programs and tools to help people manage and lead effectively in a hybrid world are essential goals.*
- *Expanding content and offerings that help develop the mental health and well-being of ILTA members is equally important, especially under the circumstances of an environment that is undergoing constant change."*