

PROGRAMS DIRECTORSHIP
REPORT PREPARED FOR THE MARCH 5, 2026
BUSINESS LAW SECTION COUNCIL MEETING

1. Next Scheduled Meeting of the Directorship.

The Programs Directorship holds meetings, and communicates via video conference and email, as necessary, to discuss course speakers and other matters regarding the Business Law Institute, the Annual Meeting, and Business Boot Camp. The Directorship anticipates meeting next via video conference in mid-March of 2026, to continue its planning efforts.

2. Council Approval

N/A

3. Membership

The current members of the Programs Directorship are Laura Johnson, Eric Lark, John Schuring, Sarah Williams (Chair), and Ian Williamson. We continue to discuss bringing on additional members, so if anyone has interest please reach out to any of the current members.

4. Accomplishments Toward Committee Objectives

All of the Directorship members actively participate in the planning process. The Directorship will schedule meetings, or communicate via video conference and email, as necessary to finalize course schedules and secure speakers.

5. Meetings and Programs

The Directorship has been actively engaged in finalizing the programming, speakers, and sponsors for the 2026 Business Law Institute. As directed by the Council, the schedule for the Institute has been adjusted to provide that the programming will continue to be conducted on Friday, but that the networking reception/dinner will be held on Thursday evening. The Annual Meeting will be held Friday as well. We expect that the adjusted schedule will support increased participation from Section members. The Directorship will plan for a 2027 Business Law Institute to be held in a location in Southeast Michigan.

The Directorship also met with ICLE to review the schedule, programming, and speakers for the 2026/2027 Business Law Boot Camp. We are working to adjust the schedule to address commentary from attendees of past Boot Camps, including by shortening some of the sessions, and/or potentially decreasing the duration of Boot Camp from two full days to one or one and a half days. We are also working to continue and increase firm sponsorships. We expect to continue the Boot Camp with these adjustments, as it has been and continue to be a meaningful contribution to the education and development of junior attorneys in the Section.

6. Publications.

N/A.

7. Legislative/Judicial/Administrative Developments

N/A.

8. Miscellaneous

N/A.

Report submitted by:

Programs Directorship

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