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Foundations for Progress — #ALAConf19

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress." — Frederick Douglass

As legal management professionals, we have devoted incredible resources and effort to maintain our firms' infrastructure, and we continue to build on that foundation with an increased reliance on technology. Many see technology as key to making innovation and forward progress a success. Adopting that technology, however, comes with many obstacles including: evaluating the vast array of evolving technology available, determining which ones are right for our firms, getting buy-in and acceptance from our users, and making certain that we are safe from external forces that try to break in. At the 2019 Annual Conference & Expo in Grapevine, Texas, there are essential sessions to explore and experience that will help you both maintain your firm's progress and keep it moving forward.

The right technology can transform how legal work is done and streamline operations. If you are considering investing in new solutions, Jeff Barlow and Elizabeth Brooks will outline a best-in-class process for evaluating and choosing the right software in OM31: How to Assess and Select Legal Technology. Topics covered include defining requirements, managing an effective RFP process, creating selection criteria and facilitating meaningful technology demonstrations with vendors. This session will also cover barriers to user adoption and common pitfalls when introducing technology to your firm or legal department.

Data breaches are one of the greatest risks that has come with our reliance on technology. Because of the importance of preserving and protecting our firms' and clients' data, we have planned a Cybersecurity Track of three advanced-level education sessions.

- In the first session, OM10: Cyber Scenario: Simulated Firm Attacks, Rob Kleeger and Joe Riccie will take attendees through the important steps of responding to an incident and tips for developing comprehensive incident response plans *before* we are attacked.

- OM12: In the Cyber Trenches with a Legal Management Professional and a Cyber Forensics Expert will provide you with proactive steps you can take to help mitigate the damage of cybercrime and establish a reasonable and defensible position. Pamela Blank Woodruff and Rob Kleeger will walk attendees through speaking to new and current

vendors regarding their cybersecurity, and then they'll discuss the challenges and opportunities involved in convincing our firms to invest in being proactive.

- Finally, James Gast and David Myers, JD, will take us through a tabletop exercise of an incursion in OM13: The Legal Requirements Following a Data Breach. In this interactive session, attendees will be part of the post-breach response team, review the firm's policy for data breach response and act quickly. It will provide you with information and tools to take back to your firms to draft quality data breach response plans.

See you in Grapevine in April!

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