

APPLICATION FOR CLE ACCREDITATION

State of Colorado — Continuing Legal Education
Submitted by the Colorado Defense Lawyers Association

Program Information

Program Name	2026 CDLA Annual Conference
Sponsoring Organization	Colorado Defense Lawyers Association (CDLA)
Program Dates	July 30 – August 1, 2026
Location	Grand Hyatt Vail, Vail, Colorado
Format	Live, In-Person
Accreditation Requested	Colorado, Wyoming
Total CLE Credits Requested	17.0 hours
General CLE Credits Requested	16.0 hours
Ethics Credits Requested	1.0 hour

Calculation Method

Credits calculated per Colorado Supreme Court rules: total session minutes ÷ 50 = credit hours. General credits rounded to the nearest whole credit per session. Ethics credits rounded down to the nearest 1/10th credit.

Program Description

The 2026 CDLA Annual Conference is the Colorado Defense Lawyers Association’s premier annual educational and networking event for civil defense practitioners. The conference features continuing legal education programming across two full days (Friday, July 31 and Saturday, August 1, 2026), spanning substantive legal topics, emerging practice issues, judicial perspectives, and professional responsibility.

Programming includes general sessions, concurrent breakout sessions, and lunch-and-learn presentations. All sessions are led by practicing attorneys, subject matter experts, and sitting jurists. One session — “Ethics — Lawyers Behaving Badly” — is specifically designated for ethics credit.

Friday Sessions — July 31, 2026

Time	Session Title & Speaker(s)	Min	CLE Hrs (General)	Ethics Hrs
8:30–9:45 am	Keynote: Dancing in the Rain — Managing People and Performance in Today’s Legal Environment Lou Radja	75	2.0	—
9:45–10:35 am	Data-Driven Reconstruction and Visualization, Plus Auditing and Challenging Persuasive Graphics Shawn	50	1.0	—

	Kinsey, 4ensic IMPACT; Mike Sutton and Aaron Kiefer, Impact Forensics			
10:40–11:30 am	Breakout (choose one): #1 Updates in Premises Liability #2 Depositions for New Lawyers #3 How to Defend Against the One-Stop Medical Shop	50	1.0	—
11:40 am–1:00 pm	Lunch & Learn: Case Law Update Jeff Ruebel, RQ Law; Christopher Unger, American Family Insurance	80	2.0	—
1:15–2:05 pm	Breakout (choose one): #4 Failure to Mitigate Lifestyle Factors on Chronic Pain #5 Excess Exposure from Day 1 #6 Subrogation	50	1.0	—
2:25–3:15 pm	Breakout (choose one): #7 Identifying and Addressing Emotional Reactions to Witnesses #8 Colorado's Costly Lawsuit Climate #9 Colorado's Highest-Risk Compliance Traps for 2026	50	1.0	—
3:20–4:10 pm	Our Courts — Rule of Law Justice Richard Gabriel, Colorado Supreme Court; Jen Friedberg, American Family Insurance	50	1.0	—
Friday Subtotal			9.0	—

Saturday Sessions — August 1, 2026

Time	Session Title & Speaker(s)	Min	CLE Hrs (General)	Ethics Hrs
8:00–9:30 am	AI for Civil Defense: Practical Tools to Transform Your Practice Alexandra Serra, Esq., University of San Francisco School of Law; Megan Daic, Esq., Daic Law	90	2.0	—
9:40–10:30 am	Breakout (choose one): #10 New Construction Statute #11 Preserving the Objection — Building the Defense Record #12 The Complexities of Pain	50	1.0	—
10:35–11:25 am	Voir Dire: Starting Your Trial on a High Judge Sarah Wallace, Colorado 2nd Judicial District	50	1.0	—
11:30 am–12:45 pm	Lunch & Learn: Legislative Update Ariana Busby; Adam Royval, Messner Reeves; Mark Hillman, CCJL	75	2.0	—
1:00–1:50 pm	Judges Panel Justice Susan Blanco, Colorado Supreme Court; Hon. Sarah B. Wallace; Hon. Jon J. Olafson	50	1.0	—
2:00–2:50 pm	Breakout (choose one): #13 Your AI Toolkit: From Case Management to Courtroom Preparation #14 From Idea to App: How Attorneys Are Building Their Own AI-Powered Legal Tools #15 Coverage Update	50	1.0	—
3:30–4:20 pm	ETHICS — Lawyers Behaving Badly Katherine Kelley Otto, Recht Kornfeld; Emilie Lorden, Wilson Elser	50	1.0	1.0
Saturday Subtotal			7.0	1.0

Credit Summary

Friday General CLE Hours	9.0
Saturday General CLE Hours	7.0

Total General CLE Hours	16.0
Total Ethics Hours	1.0
GRAND TOTAL CLE HOURS	17.0

Ethics Session Detail

Session Title:

Ethics — Lawyers Behaving Badly

Date & Time:

Saturday, August 1, 2026 | 3:30 – 4:20 p.m. (50 minutes)

Speakers:

Katherine Kelley Otto, Recht Kornfeld

Emilie Lorden, Wilson Elser

Ethics Credit Requested:

1.0 hour (50 min ÷ 50 = 1.0, rounded down to nearest 1/10th = 1.0)

This session qualifies for ethics credit under Colorado Supreme Court Rule 260.5 as it addresses professional responsibility issues arising from attorney conduct, ethical obligations, and disciplinary standards in civil litigation practice.

Contact Information

Organization	Colorado Defense Lawyers Association
Address	643 Dexter St., Denver, CO 80220
Website	www.codla.org www.cdlaconference.com

The Colorado Defense Lawyers Association certifies that the above information is accurate and that this program has been designed to comply with the requirements of the Colorado Supreme Court's rules governing continuing legal education.