



**INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE ALLIANCE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MAY 12-13, 2021
Dallas, Texas**

[Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum by the Galleria](#)
14901 Dallas Parkway Dallas, Texas 75254

All presentations will be streamed live for attendees not able to join in person.

AGENDA

All times are Central Time Zone

Thursday May 12, 2021

8:00am	Continental Breakfast	
8:30am	Welcome and ITA Business Meeting	Kevin Quinn
9:00am	“Mum’s the Word: Maintaining Client Confidentiality and Dealing with Ethical Challenges while Working from Anywhere and Everywhere”	Jeff Chadwick, Esq
10:00am	Break	
10:10am	“Estate Tax Issues”	Dan Seff
11:10am	“Managing Trusts in an Inflationary Environment”	David Askenase
12:10pm	Lunch with Roundtable discussion	
1:30pm	“Distributions from Trusts”	David F. Johnson, Esq
2:30pm	“Practical Guide to Cryptocurrencies for Trustees and Administrators”	Jeremy Lau & Jared Ong
3:30pm	Break	
3:45pm	“Understanding Trustee Liability”	Judith Pearson
4:45pm	Wrap Up	
5:00pm	Adjourn / Group dinner may be organized	

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Friday session will be in person only.

AGENDA

Friday May 13, 2021

8:00am

8:30am

12:00pm

All times are Central Time Zone

Continental Breakfast

Open Discussion / Business of Being a Trustee

Adjourn

LOCALE

In Person

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Mum's the Word: Maintaining Client Confidentiality and Dealing with Ethical Challenges while Working from Anywhere and Everywhere

Jeff Chadwick, Esq.

Working remotely is here to stay. Increasing client demand for virtual meetings presents estate planning advisors with unique ethical challenges, including how to preserve client confidentiality. This presentation will discuss how the traditional duty of confidentiality applies to a virtual estate planning practice, and will provide practical suggestions for structuring engagement letters, addressing conflicts of interests, and safeguarding client communications across all mediums.

Estate Tax Issues

Dan Seff

Dan will present updates on several tax planning issues across Federal and multiple State jurisdictions.

Managing Trusts in an Inflationary Environment

David Askenase

With inflation at 40 year highs impairing returns from cash and traditional fixed income, and equity markets experiencing heightened volatility, we talk about how fiduciaries can navigate the choppy waters of muted returns in an inflationary environment.

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Distributions from Trusts

David F. Johnson, Esq.

This presentation will discuss the various standards in trusts for distributions (mandatory standards, complete discretion standards, unascertainable standards and ascertainable standards), tax issues involved in selecting a standard, and the meaning of health, education, maintenance, and support. It will also address other issues concerning distributions, such as the duty to disclose distributions, the duty of impartiality, the principal and income act, prudent investor act, trust provisions that allow the divesting of a beneficiary's right to distributions, issues arising from a trustee also being a beneficiary, trustee discretion in distributing a trust upon termination, distributions to minors or incapacitated beneficiaries, loans from a trust as a distribution, spendthrift trust issues, co-trustee managing issues, exculpatory clauses, trustee's defense of failure to know of facts relevant for distributions, trustee's rights regarding overdistributions, and other relevant issues.

Practical Guide to Cryptocurrencies for Trustees and Administrators

Jeremy Lau and Jared Ong

As cryptocurrency and related alternative investments become more mainstream, professional trustees/fiduciaries will need to understand how cryptocurrency impacts trust and estate administration. This session teaches fiduciaries high level concepts of cryptocurrency and then uses this knowledge to identify practical tips relevant to a fiduciary's practice.

Understanding Trustee Liability

Judy Pearson

The keys to being a successful trustee are being properly educated, building a superior professional team, and being fully insured.

We will discuss:

- Challenges trustees face
- Who should be included in the team and what are their responsibilities
- Components of a risk management program
- Fundamentals of trustee liability insurance

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Jeff Chadwick, Esq. (www.winstead.com)

Shareholder, Winstead P.C

Jeff Chadwick is a member of the Wealth Preservation Practice Group with offices in Houston and The Woodlands. Jeff focuses his practice on trust and estate planning for business owners, corporate executives, professional athletes, and other high net worth individuals and families. He strives to provide innovative and practical solutions to a wide range of legal matters, including wealth transfer planning, trust and estate administration, business formation and succession, asset protection, charitable giving, and premarital planning.

Jeff is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He is a frequent speaker at estate planning seminars around the country and is an active member of many professional organizations. He also serves on the Texas Trust Code Committee, where he monitors trust issues in Texas and drafts legislation for inclusion in the Texas Trust Code.

Before settling in Texas, Jeff began his career in Richmond, Virginia. Jeff has maintained his Virginia law license and regularly counsels clients transitioning from Virginia to Texas, or vice versa, with regard to their estate planning matters.



Dan Seff (www.cbiz.com)

Senior Managing Director, CBIZ Colorado

Dan is the Senior Managing Director of the CBIZ & MHM Colorado office and a member of the MHM Board of Directors.

He is responsible for the overall management of the Colorado market, including financial performance, strategic planning efforts, and client satisfaction. A Certified

Public Accountant and Certified Valuation Analyst, he has been providing tax, accounting and consulting services to middle-marketing companies and their owners for over 30 years.

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David Askenase, CFA (<https://www.bernstein.com>)

David L. Askenase, CFA

David L. Askenase, CFA is a Vice President and a Financial Advisor with the Dallas office of Bernstein Private Wealth Management. He works with high-net-worth families and individuals, nonprofits, small businesses and, together with their other professional advisors and Bernstein’s portfolio and wealth management specialists, helps clients make investment and wealth planning decisions optimized to meet their goals. David joined the firm in 2015 as a private client associate and transitioned to his current position in 2019. David earned a BA in finance from Baruch College.

David is a board member of 24HourDallas, and is also a board member at Rise Youth Athletics. David and his wife Brandi have 2 young boys, Mason and Cole, and are active in both the Dallas and Lakewood communities where they reside.



David F. Johnson, Esq. (www.winstead.com)

Managing Shareholder of Winstead PC’s Fort Worth Office

David maintains an active trial and appellate practice for the financial services industry. David is the primary author of the Texas Fiduciary Litigator blog (txfiduciarylitigator.com), which reports on legal cases and issues impacting the fiduciary field in Texas.

David has specialized in trust and estate disputes including: trust modification/clarification, trustee resignation/removal, breach of fiduciary duty and related claims, accountings, will contests, mental competency issues, and undue influence. David’s recent trial experience includes:

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Represented a trustee in federal class action suit where trust beneficiaries challenged whether it was the authorized trustee of over 220 trusts;
Represented trustees regarding claims of mismanagement of assets;
Represented a trustee who filed suit to modify three trusts to remove a charitable beneficiary that had substantially changed operations;
Represented a trustee regarding dispute over the failure to make distributions;
Represented a trustee/bank regarding a negligence claim arising from investments from an IRA account;
Represented individuals in will contests arising from claims of undue influence and mental incompetence;
Represented estate representatives against claims raised by a beneficiary for breach of fiduciary duty;
Represented beneficiaries against estate representatives for breach of fiduciary duty and other related claims; and
Represented estate representatives, trustees, and beneficiaries regarding accountings and related claims.

David is one of twenty attorneys in the state (of the 84,000 licensed) that has the triple Board Certification in Civil Trial Law, Civil Appellate, and Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Additionally, David was a member of the Civil Trial Law Commission of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. This commission writes and grades the exam for new applicants for civil trial law certification. David is a graduate of Baylor University School of Law, *Magna Cum Laude*, and Baylor University, B.B.A. in Accounting. David has published over twenty (20) law review articles on various litigation topics. David's articles have been cited as authority by: federal courts, the Texas Supreme Court (three times), the Texas courts of appeals (El Paso, Waco, Texarkana, Tyler, Beaumont, and Houston), McDonald and Carlson in their Texas Civil Practice treatise, William V. Dorsaneo in the Texas Litigation Guide, Baylor Law Review, South Texas Law Review, and the Tennessee Law Review. David has presented and/or prepared written materials for over one hundred and fifty (150) continuing legal education courses.

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Jeremy Lau (www.prudentinvestors.com)
President / Chief Investment Officer, Prudent Investors

Jeremy L. Lau serves as President and Chief Investment Officer of Prudent Investors. He teaches the Investment Management course for California State University, Fullerton's Trustee Certification Program and frequently speaks on fiduciary investing to attorneys and fiduciaries across various associations. Before joining Prudent Investors, he worked as an Executive Director in investment banking in Tokyo and Hong Kong for Deutsche Bank AG and UBS AG in structured credit and convertible bonds. He graduated in Accounting (with Honors distinction) from Brigham Young University and has earned the right to use the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) and Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) designations.



Jared Ong (www.prudentinvestors.com)
Director, Portfolio Management, Prudent Investors

Jared Ong oversees portfolio management, trading and technology for Prudent Investors. He has more than 15 years of experience working in the financial services industry and holds a Series 65 license. Prior to joining Prudent, Jared previously worked at Capital Group as a business systems analyst where he was integral in improving the trade operations group's equity, fixed income, and foreign exchange trade processes. A graduate from Brigham Young University, Jared holds a Bachelors in Music and has obtained his CFP® certification. In his spare time, he enjoys composing and arranging music.

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Judith Pearson (www.woodrufflawyer.com)

Family Office & Trustee Liability Resource Group Leader, Woodruff Sawyer

Judith Pearson, a seasoned insurance industry and risk management expert who leads the Family Office & Trustee Liability Resource Group for Woodruff Sawyer. Judith has an expertise in identifying, mitigating and transferring risk for wealth transfer vehicles. Trust laws and structures are changing, complex and contradictory creating fiduciary responsibility and personal liability. With an understanding of this risk Woodruff Sawyer is in a position to educate trustees and other fiduciaries to reduce risk as well as implement insurance solutions to transfer risk which surpasses what's currently available in the marketplace. Her clients range from individual and professional trustees, trust companies, law firms and CPA's as well as family offices and private trust companies.

Prior to joining Woodruff Sawyer she formed Nomadx Solutions, LLC to provide risk management solutions to fiduciaries. Ms. Pearson was President of ARIS Title Insurance Corporation which was formed under her direction to provide title insurance for fine art and other important collectibles. While leading ARIS Ms. Pearson was named one of the 2015 Power of 100 Leaders in the art world by Blouin/Artinfo International for her role as an insurance innovator.

Ms. Pearson also held the positions of Senior Executive Vice President of Chicago based AON Corporation's Financial Services Group ("FSG") and head of FSG's intellectual property division. A veteran in the insurance industry whose career spanned underwriting for AIG and then Chubb as an underwriting manager, an insurance broker at AON and one of its acquisitions. Judith specialized in Intellectual Property Liability, Directors' and Officers' Liability, Fidelity and similar coverage forms and underwriting for U.S based Fortune 500 and equivalent foreign based corporations.

Ms. Pearson has been a frequent speaker at Trust and Estate Forums, ABA Trust School, Additionally, Ms. Pearson has been quoted in The Wall Street Journal, New York Times, The Economist, Chicago Sun Times, LA Times, Art and Auction Magazine and has written articles for Trust & Estates, Wealth Management and Estate Planning Magazines.

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