

USA PACIFIC CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, UNITED STATES

10 - 17 JUNE 2025



CPE CONFERENCES



A Word from the Conference Director

It is a privilege to present the USA Pacific Conference in New York City—an iconic setting for critical reflection, professional growth, and cross-disciplinary exchange. Our conference continues to offer a dynamic platform for leaders in the legal, medical, and dental professions to explore complex challenges at the intersection of law, ethics, and clinical practice.

This year's academic agenda addresses topics of pressing relevance, including strategies for managing medical negligence claims and reducing legal liability in healthcare. We will also explore best practices for expert testimony, including ethical considerations and effective communication techniques when acting as an expert witness.

The program further examines the causes and consequences of the opioid crisis, while also reviewing evidence-based strategies to mitigate misuse in clinical practice. In parallel, delegates will assess the implications of the 2024 family law reforms and their impact on patient care and clinical decision-making.

Our sessions will also highlight psycho-social safety as a foundation for professional integrity in healthcare environments, and evaluate how judicial reasoning from prominent New York judges has helped shape medico-legal frameworks in Australia. Finally, we will discuss approaches tailored to supporting marginalized populations and models of care that respond to their unique needs.

With its commitment to academic excellence and professional relevance, the USA Pacific Conference invites delegates to challenge assumptions, expand their knowledge, and return to their practice with fresh insights and renewed purpose.

I look forward to welcoming you to New York for what promises to be an engaging and transformative week.

Lorenzo Boccabella
Conference Director

About the Conference Director

Lorenzo Boccabella, BA, LLB(Qld); Prof Cert Arbitration(Adelaide), has been in private practice as a Barrister-at law since early 1983. I proudly developed my practice broadly, straddling public law and private law, including conducting cases in the Supreme and Federal Courts as lead counsel. In 2008 the Council of the Bar Association of Queensland permitted me to hold myself out as a specialist in migration law. In that capacity I have conducted matters as lead counsel in the High Court and Federal Courts and in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. I continue to remain stimulated by legal practice at the bar.

“What keeps me excited about the practice of law is that I can help change people’s lives.”

In 1994, I founded CPE Conferences with the aim of creating high quality conferences internationally for professionals. Since then 100’s of conferences have been staged on every continent providing advanced continuing education. The conferences always cover broad subject matters including papers and talks from a range of talented international speakers. I often say expect the unexpected at these conferences. Possibly one of the most valuable aspects of these events has been the wonderful interaction between delegates from all over the world, a cross-pollination of ideas, professional practices and importantly friendships.

CPE Conferences looks forward to continuing these activities for years to come.

[linkedin/lorenzoboccabella](#)

www.lorenzoboccabella.com/home

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

USA Pacific Conference New York 2025

10 - 17 June 2025
New York, United States

Conference Venue:

11-13 June - New York University, Wasserman Center, 133 E 13th Street, 2nd Floor, New York.
15 June - The Penn Club, 30 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036.

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Welcome Drinks and Dinner

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

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| 12:00 – 13:00 | Field Activity- Rogue Allies The Strategic Relationship between Iran and North Korea
Prof Bechtol, Jr. (Ph.D. Union Institute)
Korea Society, 350 Madison Avenue, 24th Floor, NYC |
| 15:00 – 1630 | Journalists in the firing line – Governments and authorities fail to defend Journalists.
Amelia Evans, Advocacy Director Committee to Protect Journalists |
| 16:30 – 18:30 | Psycho-Social Safety and Integrity - The Critical Link
Prof Melinda Jane Edwards, Professor and Managing Director, Law & Ethics, QLD |

Thursday, June 12, 2025

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| 12:30 – 14:00 | Field Activity – Lunch and presentation with Justice Andrea Masley,
of the New York State Supreme Court
New York City Bar Association 42 West 44th Street New York |
| 15:30 – 17:30 | World Aging and Health Care Models
Dr Charles Herrera MD, Physician, FL |
| 17:30 – 19:00 | Possession and ownership in art and artifacts
Lucian Simmons ,Head of Provenance Research, Metropolitan Museum of Art
NYC, lawyer and former UK Barrister |



Friday, June 13, 2025

13:45 -

***Please note timings may change**

Field Activity - Pre-trial conference in the US Federal Court regarding a Russian Oligarch facing a criminal jury trial.

Proceedings start at 2pm hence we need to arrive by at 1.45pm, smart attire for all (LB will have a coat & business shirt), must bring your photo ID (preferably passport)

Courtroom 14B is located at 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007, in downtown Manhattan. There are three courthouses in close vicinity of one another in the area, so note that the courthouse at 500 Pearl Street is the one that does not have columns as part of its facade. (Our court is the Federal District Court NOT a NY state court).

When you arrive at the courthouse, the marshals will ask the purpose of your visit and you may advise that you are meeting with Judge Rakoff. Once you go through security, you should take the elevators to the 14th floor of the building to Judge Rakoff's courtroom 14B.

[Take the (Green) 4 or 5 train to 'Brooklyn Bridge - City Hall' subway station]

[Preferable to bring your passport, all personal effects have to be put in a locker, so bring minimal hand luggage, allow plenty of time to get there and go through security - allocate one hour to get from your departure point to sitting in the back of the court]

Saturday, June 14, 2025

Networking Day

Sunday, June 15, 2025

***Please note timings may change**

15:00 – 17:00

Family Law Changes from June 2025 - Family Law Amendment Act 2024
Mr Peter Fowler, Barrister, NSW

17:00 – 18:00

Four New York Chief Judges: Their Impact on Anglo-Australian Law
Stephen Lee, Barrister, QLD

18:00 – 19:00

A Forum on the Expert Witness
Mr Lorenzo Boccabella, Barrister-at-law, QLD

Monday, June 16, 2025

Networking Day

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Departure day



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Speakers

Mr Lorenzo Boccabella

Topics: A Workshop in Medical Negligence; A Forum on the Expert Witness;

Lorenzo Boccabella is a barrister-at-law specialising in administrative, medical negligence and migration law. In addition to his practice, he regularly lectures on migration law in Australia. He has a keen interest in the cross section between constitutional law, politics and current affairs. Lorenzo has written and lectured on comparative constitutional law, providing insights into the legal frameworks governing executive immunity and accountability.

Prof Melinda Jane Edwards

Topic: Psycho-Social Safety and Integrity - The Critical Link

Professor Melinda Edwards is the Managing Director of Ethics Advisory Services. She is also Honorary Consul to the Kingdom of Bhutan. She was previously a litigator, Professor of Law, Assistant Dean and Managing Director of her own International Consultancy business before becoming the Managing Director of EAS in 2022.

She has been nationally recognised for her excellence in the design and teaching of skills-based curriculum and has taught university courses in: Equity and Trusts; Civil Procedure; Alternative Dispute Resolution; Mediation; Clinical Negligence; Business Law, Leadership and Negotiation Strategies, also publishing extensively in these areas including a number of textbooks in Equity and Trusts Law.

She has also custom-designed corporate education programs for a range of sectors including mining and resources, the legal and medical professions, government, banking and NGOs, with extensive international experience including projects in Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, The Czech Republic and Papua New Guinea.



Mr Peter Fowler

Topic: Family Law Changes from June 2025 - Family Law Amendment Act 2024

Peter Fowler is an experienced barrister based at Culwulla Chambers in Sydney, practicing primarily in family law. He was admitted as a solicitor in 1979 and practiced in private practice from 1981 to 2015, with over two decades as an Accredited Specialist in Family Law (1994–2015). Since coming to the Bar in 2015, Peter has conducted a wide range of family law matters—including mediations, interim and final hearings, and appeals—in the Federal Circuit Court, the Family Court, and the Full Court. He also appears in estate litigation, family provision claims, civil matters, and criminal hearings across various courts in NSW.

Peter's legal career spans over four decades, with a strong focus on family law, apprehended violence orders, estate disputes, and children's crime. He has presented numerous papers to fellow legal professionals on family law and estate litigation. Peter served as President of the St. George–Sutherland Law Society from 2013 to 2015 and regularly receives briefs to appear in matters across Sydney, Parramatta, Wollongong, regional NSW, and interstate.

Mr Stephen Lee

Topic: Four New York Chief Judges: Their Impact on Anglo-Australian Law

Stephen is a practising Barrister-at-Law based in Brisbane. He has 30 years of experience in that role across a wide range of practice areas, but focusses primarily on commercial litigation, equity and public law. He came to the Bar after working as Associate to a Queensland Supreme Court judge and working in law firms, and after completing post-graduate studies in Oxford (BCL) and Columbia University in the City of New York (JSD). He is admitted to the New York Bar and the Bar of England and Wales. He is an accredited mediator and arbitrator. For more information on Stephen, visit stephenlee.com.au.

Dr Charles Herrera

Topic: World Aging and Health Care Models

Charles Herrera, MD is a geriatrician in North Lauderdale, Florida and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Broward Health Coral Springs and HCA Florida Woodmont Hospital. He received his medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine/Hahnemann University and has been in practice for more than 20 years.

Professor Bruce.E.Bechtol, Jr

Topic: Rogue Allies The Strategic Relationship between Iran and North Korea

Bruce E. Bechtol, Jr. (Ph.D. Union Institute), is an award winning professor of political science at Angelo State University and a retired Marine. He was formerly on the faculty at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College (2005–2010) and the Air Command and Staff College (2003–2005). Dr. Bechtol served as an adjunct visiting professor at the Korea University Graduate School of International Studies (2006–2007). He was an intelligence officer at the Defense Intelligence Agency from 1997 until 2003, eventually serving as the senior analyst for Northeast Asia in the Intelligence Directorate (J2) on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon. He formerly sat on the editorial review board of the East Asian Review from 2005 to 2009 and served as editor of the Defense Intelligence Journal from 2004 to 2005. He is currently on the editorial advisory board of the Korea Observer (2011–present), the editorial board of the International Journal of Security Studies, and is on the scientific board of Global Humanities (2014–present). He is the current Chairman of the Board of the International Council on Korean Studies. He is the co-author of the recent book (with Anthony N. Celso) *Rogue Allies: The Strategic Partnership between Iran and North Korea* (Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, 2025), and the author of *North Korean Military Proliferation to the Middle East and Africa: Enabling Violence and Instability* (University Press of Kentucky: 2018), *North Korea and Regional Security in the Kim Jong-un Era: A New International Security Dilemma* (Palgrave Macmillan: 2014), *The Last Days of Kim Jong-Il: The North Korean Threat in a Changing Era* (University of Nebraska Press: 2013), *Defiant Failed State: The North Korean Threat to International Security* (Potomac Books: 2010), and *Red Rogue: The Persistent Challenge of North Korea* (Potomac Books: 2007), and he is the editor of *Confronting Security Challenges on the Korean Peninsula* (Marine Corps University Press: 2011) and *The Quest for a Unified Korea: Strategies for the Cultural and Interagency Process* (Marine Corps University Foundation: 2007). He is also the author of more than forty articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Amelia Evans

Topic: Journalists in the firing line – governments and authorities fail to defend journalists.

Amelia Evans joined CPJ in December 2023. An international human rights lawyer by training, she spent more than a decade as the executive director of The Shifting Power Project (formerly known as the Institute for Multi-Stakeholder Integrity), a nonprofit human rights organization focused on rectifying power imbalances and abuses caused by corporations. Over the last 15 years, she has investigated and reported on business and human rights-related issues in a number of countries, particularly in the Central African and Asia-Pacific regions. Previously, she was a clinical supervisor at Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic, and has received numerous fellowships focused on economic justice and human rights. Evans obtained her LL.M. from Harvard Law School, and LL.B. (Hons.) and B.C.A. (Economics and Finance) from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. In her other life, she is a documentary filmmaker.

Justice Andrea Masley

Justice Andrea Masley was elected as a Justice to the New York State Supreme Court in 2016 and assigned to the Commercial Division in 2017. She was elected to a ten-year term in the New York City Civil Court in 2007 and assigned to Family Court from 2008 to 2010.

For ten years prior to her election to the New York City Civil Court, Judge Masley was the Principal Court Attorney for Justice Charles Edward Ramos, in the Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court, New York County, and for Judge Louise Gans, Acting New York State Supreme Court Judge, New York County.

Judge Masley received her J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in 1991 where, in the Spring of 2005, she taught Remedies. Upon graduation, Judge Masley was a litigation associate at the firm of Dechert Price & Rhoads until 1995. Before joining the staff of the New York State Supreme Court in 1998, Judge Masley was Diversity Counsel at the City Bar Association.

Judge Masley is a member of the New York State Bar's Commercial and Federal Litigation Section, and since 1991, a member of the City Bar Association, where she currently serves on the Executive Committee. During her 2005-2008 tenure as Chair of the City Bar's Committee on State Courts of Superior Jurisdiction, which addresses issues arising in New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Terms, Appellate Divisions, Court of Claims, and Court of Appeals, the Committee drafted the form confidentiality agreement for the Commercial Division. She sat on the City Bar's Electronic Discovery Committees from 2005 to 2007, which drafted reports entitled "Manual for State Trial Courts Regarding Electronic Discovery" and "Cost-Allocation Explosion of Electronic Discovery in All Areas of Litigation Necessitates Changes in CPLR." The New York State Bar's Commercial and Federal Litigation Section awarded Judge Masley the Chair's Service Award as Chair of its PJI Committee and for her contribution to commercial practice in 2013 and 2015.

She is the author of a chapter on contract litigation in the five-volume series Practical Solutions for New York Lawyers, published by Lexis/Nexis in 2003.

Prior to her legal career, Judge Masley obtained an M.B.A. in finance and a B.A. in Economics from Rutgers University. She was the Trade Practice Specialist at the Better Business Bureau and an accountant at Bunge Corporation, a grain trading firm.

Lucian Simmons

Topic: Possession and ownership in art and artifacts

Lucian Simmons is the Head of Provenance Research at the MET. He has worked at Sotheby's since 1995, most recently serving as Vice Chairman and Worldwide Head of the Restitution Department and Senior Specialist for the Impressionist and Modern Art Department. Prior to joining Sotheby's, he was a partner in the London law firm of Barlow, Lyde and Gilbert. Having studied law at the London School of Economics, he was called to the Bar in 1984 and later requalified as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales. He is a regular public speaker on art law, restitution, art history, and the fine and decorative arts.

Associated Readings

Psycho-Social Safety and Integrity - The Critical Link

1. Psych Safety in Medicine: what is it and who cares? Mina Sarofim, MJA 220 (8) 6 May 2024
2. Speaking Up and Taking Action: Psychological Safety and Joint Problem-Solving Orientation in Safety Improvement – Bahadzuzada,H; Kerrissey,M.; Edmondson,A.C. Healthcare 2024, 12, 812.
3. A new framework for Australian specialty colleges and other healthcare leaders to address bullying, discrimination, and harassment that involves doctors – Haskell,T.; Dtankovich,J.; Merridew,N. The Lancet Regional Health – Western Pacific 2024;48: 101118
4. Kozarov v Victoria (2022) 273 CLR 115

Family Law Changes from June 2025 - Family Law Amendment Act 2024

1. Commonwealth of Australia. Family Law Amendment Act 2024 (Cth), No. 118, 2024. Assented to 10 December 2024. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2024A00118>
2. Commonwealth of Australia. Explanatory Memorandum: Family Law Amendment Bill 2024. Canberra: Parliament of Australia, 2024.
3. Commonwealth of Australia. Family Law Amendment Bill 2024: Explanatory Memorandum. Circulated by authority of the Attorney-General, the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC MP, House of Representatives, Parliament of Australia, 2024.
4. Australian Government Attorney-General's Department. Family Law Changes from June 2025: Information for Family Law Professionals. Canberra: AGD, 2024.

Four New York Chief Judges: Their Impact on Anglo-Australian Law

1. Stephen, Four Influential New York Chief Judges (drawing on "Cardozo" (2022) 84 Hearsay;
 - a. "Cardozo" (issue 84),
 - b. "The Influence of Chancellor Kent" (Issue 92) and
 - c. "John Jay: First Chief Justice of the United States of America" (Issue 99) and on an anticipated fourth article on de Lancey CJ