



---

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present*

### **The ABC's of Blockchain How This New Technology Will Revolutionize the Practice of Law**

**Wednesday, September 15th  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

## **WEBINAR**

### *Program Summary*

“What is Zoom?” - said most lawyers until March 2020. The electric typewriter. The photocopy machine. Sound and video recording devices. The internet. There was a time when all of this was new technology and lawyers couldn't imagine if and how it would fit into their practice. The next iteration in this evolutionary process is blockchain. Over the past few years, the term "blockchain" has become synonymous with cryptocurrency (a.k.a. "bitcoin") but its applications far exceed that. It may seem mysterious or complicated, but blockchain technology is already being used in many legal arenas and it will undoubtedly become commonplace in the near future to provide data transparency, reliability, and security in business and legal transactions.

This program will help you to understand blockchain technology in a clear, accessible manner, including how it can be applied in the practice of law. Attendees will gain a working knowledge of the theory behind blockchain, as well as a virtual roadmap showing how it is utilized today. The presenters will discuss what blockchain technology is, how it works and why it is important. The program will also cover practical ways that blockchain will someday be used in the legal profession, including safeguarding data and confidential information, tracking the chain of custody of evidence, real and personal property, creating "smart contracts" that are self-executing and expediting contract review. By the end of the program, blockchain will evolve from a mysterious new technology to an innovative tool that students can envision using in the future.

### *Eligibility*

This program is open to attorneys in the Department of Law and Public Safety and county prosecutors' offices. Registrants will receive the course materials prior to the program date.

### *Faculty*

**Lisa Westerman Spiegel, Esq.** is an Associate Executive Director of the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA). She runs the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education (NJICLE), a self-supporting division of the NJSBA, where she fills the roles of financial strategist, creative director and educator. Ms. Spiegel has worked with prominent members of the legal community to educate tens of thousands of lawyers and judges throughout the state, bringing to light important, up-to-the-minute issues. Ms. Spiegel believes that it is vital for the New Jersey legal community to have a solid grasp of ever-evolving technology, including blockchain, which she views as an idea as revolutionary as the light bulb. She co-authored "Blockchain Technology – Transforming the Practice of Law and Society as a Whole" with her colleague Dr. Robert Spangler, which was published in New Jersey Lawyer Magazine in June 2020. She is a member of CompTIA's Blockchain Council. Ms. Spiegel received a 2020 Professional Excellence Award from the New Jersey Law Journal for her work in continuing legal education. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from Douglass College and a J.D from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

**Dr. Robert Spangler** is an Assistant Executive Director of the New Jersey State Bar Association, where he is responsible for IT, operations, and marketing. He is an accomplished, innovative Business Technologist/Marketer with extensive experience leading high-profile initiatives from concept through delivery, achieving results with cost-effective strategies that work. He co-authored "Blockchain Technology – Transforming the Practice of Law and Society as a Whole" with his colleague Lisa Spiegel, which was published in New Jersey Lawyer Magazine in June 2020. Dr. Spangler has more than 20 years of progressive leadership experience in a wide variety of industries, including business analytics, complex data analysis and web technologies. He holds two United States patents in social media marketing technologies. Dr. Spangler earned a BSBA and an MBA from Centenary University in Hackettstown, NJ, and a Doctorate in Business Administration with Concentrations in Marketing and Social Media from Walden University in Minneapolis, MN.

### *CLE Credit*

**NJ CLE Credit:** This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 2.0 hours of Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVF) total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

### *Registration*

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

**Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.**

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.