Monday, March 9

8:00 – 9:00 am  Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 am  WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
- James V. Blair, Employer Co-Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC
- Robert DePriest, Employee Co-Chair, Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch, P.C., Washington, DC
- Ericka Dorsey, Union & Employee Co-Chair, American Federation of Government Employees, Washington, DC
- Shirine Moazed, Public Co-Chair, Office of Special Counsel, Washington, DC

9:15 – 10:30 am  EEOC UPDATE
The panelists will review significant EEOC administrative decisions pertaining to federal employees.

Speakers:  Kristin D. Alden, Alden Law Group PLLC, Washington, DC
Robbie Dix III, Associate Director, Office of Federal Operations, Appellate Review Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Washington, DC
Tony White, Counsel, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, DC

10:30 – 10:45 am  Refreshment Break

10:45 – 12:00 pm  THE HATCH ACT AND EMPLOYEE SPEECH IN THE PUBLIC WORKPLACE
Refresher course and update on the requirements of the Hatch Act pertaining to employee speech in the public workplace, including recurring and recent Hatch Act issues, and looking ahead to the 2020 elections.

Speakers:  Ana Galindo-Marrone, Chief, Hatch Act Unit, Office of Special Counsel, Washington, DC
Erica Hamrick, Deputy Chief, Hatch Act Unit, Office of Special Counsel, Washington, DC

12:00 – 12:30 pm  Luncheon

12:30 – 1:45 pm  TELEWORK IN THE FEDERAL WORKPLACE
The panel will discuss the state of the law regarding telework policies in the federal workplace, including an evaluation of updated rules regarding administrative leave.
Speakers: Travis Q. Elliott, Assistant Director, Office of Human Resources, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC  
Joseph V. Kaplan, Passman & Kaplan, P.C., Washington, DC  
Allison Uehling, Special Projects Editor – EEO, LRP Publications, Washington, DC

1:45 – 3:00 pm MSPB UPDATE  
The speakers will provide updates on important cases in the Federal Circuit from the past year and potential developments at the Board in 2020.

Speakers: Michael Bogdanow, Acting Director of Regional Operations, Merit Systems Protection Board, Washington, DC  
Julia H. Perkins, Shaw Bransford & Roth P.C, Washington, DC  
Nathanael Yale, Trial Attorney, Civil Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC

3:00 – 3:15 pm Refreshment Break

3:15 – 4:30 pm PREVENTING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE FEDERAL SECTOR  
The panel will discuss best practices for agency policies to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace and respond to sexual harassment complaints.

Speakers: Heidi R. Burakiewicz, Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch, P.C., Washington, DC  
Ericka G. Dorsey, American Federation of Government Employees, Washington, DC  
Maxie Hamilton, Former EEO Manager and CORE Plus Mediation Program Coordinator, National Park Service, Washington, DC

Tuesday, March 10

8:00 – 8:45 am Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 9:00 am SECTION UPDATE  
Christopher T. Hexter, Section Chair, Schuchat Cook & Werner, St. Louis, MO  
David S. Fortney, Employer Council Liaison, Fortney & Scott, Washington, DC  
Yona Rozen, Union & Employee Council Liaison, AFL-CIO, Washington, DC

9:00 – 10:15 am WHISTLEBLOWER UPDATE  
The panel will discuss the current state of the law regarding whistleblower protections for federal employees, as well as recent and proposed legislation that could further change the landscape of federal whistleblower rights and agency responsibilities.

Speakers: Debra D’Agostino, Federal Practice Group, Washington, DC  
Shireen Hansen, Senior Counsel, Chief Counsel’s Office, Transportation Security Administration [invited], Washington, DC  
Louis Lopez, Associate Special Counsel, Investigation & Prosecution Division, Office of Special Counsel, Washington, DC

10:15 – 10:30 am Break

10:30 – 11:45 am FLRA UPDATE  
Significant decisions by the FLRA and courts, plus other developments affecting federal sector representation elections, unfair labor practices, bargaining, and arbitration.
Speakers: Cathie McQuiston, Deputy General Counsel, American Federation of Government Employees, Washington, DC
Rebecca Osborne, Deputy Solicitor, Federal Labor Relations Authority, Washington, DC

11:45 – 12:45 pm  Lunch (on your own)

1:00 – 2:15 pm  ADA/REHABILITATION ACT CASE UPDATE
The panelists will discuss recent developments in case law with respect to reasonable accommodation, failure to accommodate, disparate treatment, etc., with a focus on federal employees.

Speakers: Jeanne Goldberg, Senior Attorney Advisor, Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Employment Opportunity Commission, Washington, DC
Joel A. Kravetz, Assistant Director for Complaints Management, U.S. Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Washington, DC

2:15 – 3:15 pm  SECURITY CLEARANCE UPDATE
The panel will discuss the current state of the law regarding security clearance adjudications, including changes in how clearances are processed.

Speakers: Mary Kuntz, Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch, P.C., Washington, DC

3:15 – 4:15 pm  COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING

The ABA will seek 11.0 hours of CLE credit in 60-minute states, and 13.2 hours of CLE credit for this program in 50-minute states. Credit hours are estimated and are subject to each state’s approval and credit rounding rules. Visit www.americanbar.org/mcle for general information on CLE at the ABA.

Visit the Section of Labor & Employment Law website at www.americanbar.org/labor for information about the Section Development Fund and Government and YLD Fellowship Program opportunities.

For registration fees over $500, qualifying attorneys could receive at least a 50% reduction in the course fee. This does not include any reduction in meals, lodging or travel costs associated with the course. Send requests to laborempllaw@americanbar.org.