



# The World Spins Madly On: Making Sense of the Current State of International Law

## 2021 International Practice Section Program

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**Thursday, March 25, 2021**  
**Live Webcast**

**North Carolina: 6.00 MCLE Hours**

**Includes:**

**1.00 Technology Training**

**Qualifies for NC State Bar Immigration Law Specialization**

**Planned by the NCBA International Practice Section**

Designed to benefit novice and seasoned international law practitioners alike, this program covers a spectrum of topics, including: the state of U.S. immigration law, digital solutions to cross-border protection and data transfer issues, international arbitration developments, rules concerning product origin and domestic content, and the transition to LIBOR. Attendees also hear about the steps one multinational company has taken in response to COVID-19 and in preparation for future global crises.

# The World Spins Madly On: Making Sense of the Current State of International Law

Thursday, March 25, 2021

8:55 AM–4:10 PM

**8:55 Welcome and Introductions**

**9:00 Immigration Law and Policy – Where Do We Go from Here?**

**Chapman**

What is the future of U.S. immigration law and policy as we know it for the next four years? The Trump administration issued over 400 executive actions, as part of its strategy for restricting U.S. immigration. This presentation explores the statutory, regulatory and policy agendas and what President Biden's first 100 days in office reveal about his immigration objectives and timelines.

**10:00 Break**

**10:10 Practicing International Law in the Digital Age<sup>†</sup>**

**Mathis**

The pandemic has forced us to change how we practice international law. This session concentrates on e-discovery, privacy and security issues unique to international law practitioners. Explore how these issues and digital solutions are continuing to evolve as they pertain to cross-border protection and transfer of data.

**11:10 Break**

**11:20 International Dispute Resolution and the Singapore Convention**

**Lindquist**

Learn about the significance of the Singapore Convention, its development and the important Articles of the Convention for practitioners and their clients who are involved in the settlement of international disputes. This session also highlights the requirements for coverage, as well as defenses to recognition and to enforcement under the Convention.

**12:20 Lunch Break**

**12:50 Lessons Learned in the Pandemic as General Counsel of a Global Organization**

**Boccia**

How does general counsel of a multinational company analyze and create policies and processes to manage risk during a global pandemic? From employee quarantines to international travel restrictions to force majeure clauses to remote employment, in-house counsel faced unprecedented issues that ran the gamut. This session explores lessons learned and what steps one multinational company's general counsel is taking to prepare for similar future events.

**1:50 Break**

**2:00 Counting Down the Transition Away From LIBOR**

**Cathcart and Chamberlin**

The London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) has been the benchmark interest rate for countless contracts worth more than \$240 trillion, encompassing everything from complex derivatives to lending documents and residential mortgages, and the financial world now faces a daunting challenge to prepare for its replacement. LIBOR is a central fixture across all manner of financial activity, and impacts such things as risk, valuation, commercial contracts, performance modelling, SEC filings and more.

During this informative discussion, the presenter focuses on the latest legal trends and perspectives involved in preparing for the transition away from LIBOR. Review the latest guidance from the Alternative Reference Rates Committee, challenges, opportunities and critical areas of importance for lawyers that will be responsible for addressing one of the most significant changes impacting the financial services industry today. This session also provides recommendations on specific areas where LIBOR replacement efforts should be focused and what resources are available from some of the leading industry organizations and banks involved in navigating this change.

**3:00 Break**

**3:10 Navigating Multiple and Inconsistent Rules of Origin and Domestic Content  
Kearney**

Businesses face complex regulatory challenges as products are increasingly sourced abroad or, if produced domestically, are comprised of materials and components from multiple countries. Correctly assessing the origin of a product not only ensures compliant entry of products into the U.S. under customs rules, but it is also critical to qualifying products for duty-free entry under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and avoiding punitive tariffs, to establishing eligibility to participate in public procurements subject to domestic preference rules, and to advertising products as “Made in USA.” This session addresses ways to help the practitioner sort through the often-inconsistent rules applied under multiple laws by various federal agencies when determining the origin of a product, and provides an update on recent changes to these rules and their application.

**4:10 Adjourn**

‡ Indicates portion providing Technology Training credit

**Speakers**

- Monica Boccia, Biesse America Inc., Charlotte
- B. Taber Cathcart, Womble Bond Dickinson (U.S.) LLP, Charlotte
- Erik J. Chamberlin, Womble Bond Dickinson (U.S.) LLP, Charlotte
- Gerard M. Chapman, Chapman Law Firm, Greensboro
- James K. Kearney, Womble Bond Dickinson (U.S.) LLP, Tysons, VA
- Kurt E. Lindquist, Cozen O’Connor, Washington, DC
- Tandy B. Mathis, Moore & Van Allen PLLC, Charlotte

**Planner**

- Jennifer L. Cory, Womble Bond Dickinson (U.S.) LLP, Charlotte