



MEET YOUR PRESENTERS

CLE Real Estate Seminar, June 8th, 2022



MICHAEL KENNEDY, CATIC

Presenting: Ethics Smorgasbord

Mike Kennedy has been Vermont Bar Counsel since 2012 and administers Vermont's Bar Assistance Program. The program provides proactive guidance on issues related to the Rules of Professional Conduct and law office management. It includes responding to ethics inquiries, presenting continuing legal education seminars, overseeing Vermont's disciplinary diversion program, and providing referrals and assistance to lawyers and judges with behavioral health issues. From 2000-2012, Mike was Vermont's Disciplinary Counsel.

Mike is a former president of the Vermont Bar Association and the current chair of the Vermont Bar Association's Pro Bono Committee. Mike sits on both the Vermont Commission for the Well-Being of the Legal Profession and the Vermont Bar Association's COVID-19 Response Committee. He's a former member of the Vermont Board of Bar Examiners and chaired the Legal Education Committee of the Vermont Commission on the Future of Legal Services. Outside the law, Mike sits on the Board of Directors at Run Vermont.

Mike graduated from University of Vermont in 1989 and received a JD from the George Washington University National Law Center in 1993. Mike is a retired high school basketball coach and an avid runner who recently completed his 23rd marathon.



COLLEEN M. CAPOSSELLA, CATIC

Presenting: Cyber Security Update – The Threat Continues

Colleen is President of CATICPro, Inc., a sister company to CATIC®, offering bonds and various insurance products including E&O and Professional Liability coverages. She is also Director of Internal Compliance and Audit for the CATIC organization.

Colleen is an attorney and licensed insurance producer, and speaks regionally on risk management topics. Among other recognitions, the National Law Journal selected her in 2016 as a Cybersecurity Trailblazer for her early educational focus on cybersecurity initiatives for our industry. She offers information on various cyberattack methods and examples of certain risk management initiatives to consider addressing with your legal professionals and your technology/cybersecurity experts as you evaluate or re-evaluate with them the specific security needs of your business operations.

Before joining CATIC and taking on the role as President of CATICPro, Colleen was in private practice in Connecticut, concentrating primarily on business law, commercial real estate, lender representation and commercial financing.



ANDREW D. MIKELL

Presenting: Current Developments

Andy was engaged in private practice for 13 years before becoming State Manager and Title Counsel at Vermont Attorneys Title Corporation (VATC) in 1997. At VATC Andy is a problem solver – helping over 200 member attorneys and their staffs resolve title issues. He graduated from Williams College and Vermont Law School. He chaired the Vermont Bar Association's Title Standards subcommittee for 7 years and the VBA Real Property Law Committee for 8 years.

Andy and his wife have two grown sons. They live in Williston where he served as a member of the town select board and the school board.



ELIZABETH A. SMITH

Presenting: Current Developments

Liz graduated from St. Michael's College in 2007 and received her J.D. from Vermont Law School in 2011. While in law school, Liz clerked for Judge Thomas Durkin in the Environmental Division of the Vermont Superior Court. After graduating, Liz worked in private practice, focusing on real estate, before joining the VATC team in 2016. She is a member of the VBA Title Standards and currently serves as Chair of the Committee. Liz lives with her husband and children in Underhill Center.



KRISTINE STEPENUCK, LAKE CHAMPLAIN SEA GRANT AND UVM EXTENSION

Presenting: Web-based Mapping for Real Estate Professionals

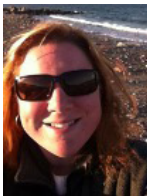
For more than 20 years, Kris Stepenuck has focused her career to build community connections to and understanding of the impact our actions have on the health of streams, rivers and lakes. In her role as Extension Associate Professor at the University of Vermont with Lake Champlain Sea Grant and UVM Extension, she engages in outreach, research and teaching related to improving and protecting water resources for the future. Kris holds a Ph.D. in Environment and Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and enjoys hiking, skiing, and biking in her free time.



LINDA PATTERSON

Linda is responsible for coordinating education programs that target real estate professionals, watershed groups and municipal employees. She collaborates with topic experts to develop accredited courses for real estate professionals in Vermont and New York on topics related to land use and water quality protection. Linda works with watershed groups and communities to create and present education workshops focused on erosion control and stormwater runoff. She enlists local businesses, non-profits and municipal agencies in adopting recommended lawn care practices for healthy soils and stormwater runoff mitigation.

Linda's life-long devotion to the health and welfare of Lake Champlain inspired her transition from a social work career to working for the Lake back in 2013. She is co-founder of Ahead of the Storm, a Lewis Creek Association program addressing stormwater runoff in the LaPlatte River watershed through education, mitigation designs, and installations. Her involvement with local watershed initiatives includes her role as a member of the Sacred Waters Committee of the Clean Water Network, and of the Aquatic Plant Committee for the Long Point. Linda's family has owned a summer home on Lake Champlain at Long Point since the 1920's. She is an avid open-water swimmer, hiker, and cross-country skier, and enjoys sharing time on the Lake with her extended family.



CRISTIN ASHMANKAS, DRINKING & GROUNDWATER DIVISION, DEC/ANR

Presenting: Buying and Selling Wastewater Systems & Water Wells in Vermont

Cristin Ashmankas is an Environmental Analyst with the State of Vermont's Department of Environmental Conservation, Drinking Water & Groundwater Protection Division. In this role, she works with engineers, designers, and the public in permitting wastewater, potable water, and ensuring compliance. Prior to joining the State, she was a high school STEM teacher and a college professor of physical science. She has been a geological and environmental consultant for various organizations and governmental agencies. Cristin holds a M.S. from the University of Rhode Island in Geological Oceanography, specializing in climate change in the Arctic and natural disasters, and a B.S. from Eckerd College in Physics and Marine Geophysics, specializing in Baffin Bay hydrology. She grew up in Massachusetts, mainly Cape Cod, but has come to call the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont home.



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