MCLE Live and Online
Streaming to you this fall

There is no need to come to MCLE; we’ll continue to come to you—all fall.
The recent global health pandemic, and the emergency actions taken in response, has had a serious impact on every aspect of society and the economy. The legal community was no exception as offices closed and business as usual was interrupted in an effort to stem the spread of COVID-19. In March, MCLE halted its regular in-person programming at its Boston Conference Center mid-term and, in its place, quickly developed a timely series of more than 30 COVID-specific live webcasts—presented and delivered completely online—to keep the legal community informed. With stay-at-home advisories and several restrictions still in place, MCLE transitioned into its summer term with a full slate of online-only programs to considerable success as society became acclimated to the new normal, characterized by social distancing, remote work, virtual gatherings and uncertainty. Given MCLE’s experience and expertise with webcasting its live in-person programs for more than ten years, the shift to exclusively online proceeded seamlessly. And the legal community responded with a healthy appetite for online programs and the convenience they offer.
The safety of our community is of paramount importance to MCLE. Therefore, given the continuing uncertainties surrounding what the fall will bring and all the anxiety that comes with that, with an abundance of caution, MCLE is extending its recent practice and offering its full schedule of live programs online-only through the end of the calendar year. Faculty will continue to present remotely, as registrants join in online to the same quality of programs they’re accustomed to from MCLE. Programs that require in-person, hands-on participation are being rescheduled to after the New Year.
As the fall unfolds and circumstances become clearer, MCLE will continue to assess conditions and make preparations so that we can once again offer an in-person option for our programs and welcome you back to our Boston Conference Center. Despite the uncertainty of the times, one thing is certain: you can count on MCLE to deliver!

The streak goes on: 52, 53 and counting...

MCLE honored with two more awards

At the International Association for Continuing Legal Education’s (ACLEA) virtual 50th Annual Meeting in July, MCLE brought home not one but two awards for its exemplary work during the past year. These mark the 52nd and 53rd “ACLEA’s Best” awards MCLE has received since their inception in 1992!

Best in Technology: MCLE OnlinePass® Research Enhancement with Non-MCLE Databases
For its innovative use of technology, the useful example it sets for other ACLEA members, and its clean design and execution, MCLE was presented with the Award of Professional Excellence for technological enhancements that augment its website research capabilities and expand the functionality of the MCLE OnlinePass with non-MCLE content such as disciplinary decisions of the Board of Bar Overseers, substantive practice alerts from prominent Massachusetts law firms, and decisions and rulings from more than 15 Massachusetts administrative agencies. By building these non-MCLE databases and permitting full-text searches of any or all of them in conjunction with or separately from MCLE’s own rich content of programs and books, MCLE has positioned itself as both a content creator and aggregator—thus offering a deeper research experience for OnlinePass subscribers.

Best in Marketing:
Responding to Business Interruption During Crisis
For the 17th time overall, MCLE took home a coveted award in the category of Best Marketing, this time for its response to the recent health pandemic by successfully shifting its marketing efforts to mitigate the potentially-devastating losses in revenue resulting from the interruption in its regular programming and related business operations. ACLEA praised MCLE for immediately and effectively refocusing its resources to respond to current conditions by producing and aggressively marketing by email and social media a schedule of 60 existing “Best of the Best” programs during a 30-day period that allowed MCLE to showcase on-demand programs at a time when all activities had to be conducted remotely, while at the same time developing on a fast track a series of short, live pandemic-related online programs that were planned, marketed and offered all during the state’s stay-at-home emergency order. In many instances, these new programs went from conception to execution in no more than one week. With nearly 6,000 program registrations during the COVID period, MCLE continued to meet demand with important education, reinforced the value of the MCLE OnlinePass to subscribers while introducing others to the utility and convenience of online programs, and significantly mitigated the impact of the pandemic on its bottom line.

We are honored to be recognized each year by our peers for our innovation and leadership in continuing legal education. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and talented staff at MCLE for continuing to make MCLE one of the best!

Governor proclaims June 24, 2020
Massachusetts Paralegal Day

On June 1, Governor Charlie Baker signed a proclamation observing Wednesday, June 24, 2020 as Massachusetts Paralegal Day to recognize the important role that paralegals play in the legal profession as well as the combined efforts of the Western Massachusetts Paralegal Association, the Central Massachusetts Paralegal Association, and the Massachusetts Paralegal Association in co-sponsoring MCLE’s 22nd Annual Paralegal Conference 2020 to promote the growth and standards of the paralegal profession in Massachusetts. In the spirit of the day, on June 24, paralegals from around the state convened in a virtual forum to tackle relevant issues and focus on developments in law and practice that affect how paralegals serve the legal profession and the broader community.

MCLE joins Governor Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and Secretary of the Commonwealth William Gavin in recognizing paralegals for their service and in applauding the outstanding work that these three associations perform.
Support MCLE’s campaign to train pro bono advocates by...

**Giving to MCLE’s Scholarship Endowment Campaign**

*Thanks to our generous donors, we have raised $3,778,839—endowing 1,511 annual scholarships—or over 75% of our $5M goal!*  

MCLE has launched a campaign to raise $5 million to endow 2,000 scholarships in perpetuity. Your gift helps fund scholarships to MCLE programs for lawyers who represent low- and moderate-income clients, in particular civil legal aid staff attorneys and private practitioners who accept pro bono cases.

By contributing to MCLE’s scholarship endowment or to one of our named scholarship funds, you are helping to ensure that all persons in Massachusetts have access to legal services and representation—which, of course, begins with the education of lawyers.

**Ropes & Gray steps up to support training of legal aid lawyers**

Thanks to the generosity of Ropes & Gray LLP, nearly 500 lawyers who serve low-income individuals and families participated this spring in a free educational online program on What Legal Services Lawyers Need to Know About COVID-Related Assistance. In that MCLE webcast, experienced lawyers from Greater Boston Legal Services, Central West Justice Center, Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, and New England Law’s Clinical Law Office addressed the most critical issues facing the poor, provided overviews of important government orders and support programs, and shared how advocates are operating in a virtual world to help those most in need at a time when access to the courts and state agencies is restricted.

When we reached out to Ropes & Gray about the idea for this program, its partners did not hesitate to step up and sponsor it. MCLE is grateful to the firm for its support and leadership!

**Or by including MCLE in your Estate Plan**

The Legacy Society is a dedicated group of MCLE supporters who have included the MCLE Scholarship Endowment in their estate plans so as to ensure that the poor have access to well-trained lawyers in the future. You can join the following members of the MCLE Legacy Society and endow legal aid training through a bequest intention or by naming MCLE as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, IRA, trust instrument, life insurance policy, bank or brokerage account.

*Legacy Society*  
MCLE. Keep raising the bar.®  

Daniel L. Goldberg  
Saul Kurlat  
Richard S. Milstein  
John M. (Jack) Reilly  
Mary H. Schmidt  
Richard C. Van Nostrand

To make a tax-deductible contribution to the General Scholarship Endowment or to one of the named scholarship funds honoring outstanding members of the legal community, or for information on MCLE’s planned giving program, contact Sal Ricciardone, Esq., MCLE Director of Philanthropy & Special Projects, at 617-896-1596 or sricciardone@mcle.org.