

**SUMMER
2023**

*"A forum for the
exchange of
information and
ideas relating to
claims law."*



NEWS!



Welcome from SCLA President

By: Sarah Hudson, President-Society of Claim Law Associates

It is my great pleasure to greet you as the Society of Claim Law Associates (Society) President for the 2023-2025 term. I earned my SCLA designation in 2018 and most recently held the Society position as Executive Vice President and have served as a Trustee for three terms. As the Society moves into its 31st year, we will continue to build on all of the hard work conducted in the past in providing continuing education resources to our members.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce my fellow Board of Trustee members elected for the 2023-2025 Term:

- Cathy Krane, SCLA - Executive Vice President
- George Wilson, SCLA Gold - Vice President Administration
- Shawn Phillips, SCLA Gold - Treasurer

The Society is excited to announce our new partnership with the National Association of Subrogation Professionals (NASP). Beginning in 2024 we will be partnering with NASP at their annual conference to bring some fantastic technical claims speakers and host our annual Designation Conferment Ceremony. I would like to thank Carl Van and his team at the International Insurance Institute for many years of offering the wonderful Claims Education Conference.

I want to extend a huge thank you to the Society's Immediate Past President, my friend, Laura Stengl, SCLA Gold, for all of her hard work and leadership during her term as President. The organization has become stronger because of your dedication and I look forward to continuing the standard of excellence you established.

If you are not an SCLA member yet, please click [here](#) for a membership form and click [here](#) for member benefits. Membership is \$70 a year. Thank you for your continued support, enthusiasm and commitment to the Society. I look forward to working with you all!

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2024 SAVE THE DATE!

[NASP 2024 Annual Conference](#) / Phoenix, AZ / October 27-30, 2024

AEI students & designees will receive a registration discount!

More information coming soon!

Follow SCLA on
LinkedIn @
The Society of
Claim Law
Associates
(SCLA)
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FUTURE

Next newsletter
will be Spring
2024. More info
on the new
format of the
2024 Annual
Conference!

New Digital Badge for Senior Claim Law Associate Designees!

SCLA pyramid replaced by exciting new digital badge allowing you to share your accomplishment with the world.



With the new realities of work-from-home, shared office space, and electronic communications, AEI is now awarding a new digital badge to all those who earn a Senior Claim Law Associate (SCLA) designation. The digital badge identifies you as an accomplished claims law professional and allows you to share your significant achievement with all of your colleagues and contacts.

As of September 2022, all new SCLA designees receive the digital badge, and the desk-top pyramid has been discontinued. Along with the digital badge, designees will still receive an SCLA certificate suitable for framing.

The SCLA Digital Badge will:

- Allow designees to share their accomplishment via an email signature & social media
- Provide employers and peers concrete evidence of what you had to do to earn your SCLA
- Verify your designation in a simple and trusted way in real time

We are excited about this new way of designation verification and feel it will be beneficial for our designees to promote their accomplishment digitally.

***SCLA designees prior to September 2022 can purchase a badge for a one-time fee of \$10, click [here](#) for downloadable form and frequently asked questions.*

Refer A Friend!

You know firsthand the quality of AEI programs and how claims professionals benefit from coursework. This is why we created the AEI Refer a Friend program to help streamline the referral process and reward our designees who help to spread the word about our programs.

If you know someone interested in coursework, please click the link below for the referral form. The Marketing Department will then contact the person you refer with more information and mention you referred them. Click [here](#) for referral form & more information.

AEI Designees Honored & Awards Presented

Over 140 attended the Claims Education Conference in New Orleans

AEI designees were in New Orleans from May 2-5 for the Annual Claims Education Conference. Claims professionals who between January 1, 2022 and April 10, 2023 earned an AEI designation were recognized at the Designation Conferment Ceremony on Wednesday, May 3rd. During the ceremony we also honored the 2020 and 2023 Distinguished SCLA Award Winners, TJ Roland and Melissa Perry. The Distinguished SCLA Award is a prestigious honor and many talented professionals are considered for this award each year.

The 2020 award winner, TJ Roland, SCLA Gold, is a Senior Special Investigator at Sentry Insurance. "Since achieving the designation, I have found that my voice is heard more often in round table discussions, one on one with adjusters, and working with attorneys. The SCLA designation has absolutely allowed me to garner more respect when I'm involved with a claim. My voice is heard because of the skill set and knowledge I gained from these programs. Now, I am usually the most knowledgeable person at the table instead of the least. I've been able to provide information that has assisted in handling claims that I would never have been able to provide prior to taking these courses," according to TJ.

TJ has spent the last fourteen years working in Special Investigation positions, as well as in law enforcement and has earned his SCLA Gold, as well as other industry designations, including a CIFI, CFE, CPCU, AIC and an AINS. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology from the University of South Carolina and Master of Arts degree in Executive Leadership from Liberty University.

The 2023 award winner, Melissa Perry, SCLA, is a Complex Claims Unit Manager at Frontline Insurance. "I think the biggest benefit to the SCLA designation is the law aspect. I don't pretend to be an attorney and the designation hasn't turned me into one. However, I think there is a level of respect that comes from attorneys that I didn't have before. The SCLA designation shows that I not only have an interest in the claims, but also the law and litigation side to them, even though I work on the pre-suit side. When I talk with my team of adjusters on furthering their education, I always point to the SCLA first because it is ALL about claims and that is what we do all day. There isn't a better designation for my career than the SCLA," according to Melissa.

Melissa has spent the last nine years working in claims and has earned her SCLA, as well as other industry designations including an AIM, AIC-M, AINS, along with completing California Earthquake Adjuster Training. Prior to claims, Melissa spent a decade as a software analyst. She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Organizational Management from Indian River State College and is in pursuit of a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership from Trevecca Nazarene University.

The Society of Claim Law Associates would like to congratulate TJ and Melissa again on their accomplishments and recognize all of the hard work and dedication of all of the designees honored at the 2023 Designation Conferment. Your commitment to claims law education is second to none.



Distinguished SCLA Award Winners
2023-Melissa Perry & 2020—TJ Roland



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Board for their
dedication and
hard work!

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2023 Claims Education Conference Speaker Sponsors

Some of the best experts in claims law spoke at the Claims Education Conference this past May. We greatly appreciate all of their hard work and continued support and encourage you to learn more about their expertise by clicking [here](#) to access links to their biographies and services .

For your information...

- Are your annual Society dues up to date? Yearly dues are \$70. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Customized frames are available for your SCLA certificate. To order your frame, click [here](#).
- SCLA designees can earn the SCLA Silver Award by completing a fifth program and the SCLA Gold Award by completing a sixth program. There is a \$100 discount on the full tuition for any program taken beyond the SCLA.
- Counselors are available to assist students as they progress through their programs. If students have questions or are looking for help in understanding the materials, our counselors are available by phone (toll-free 1-800-631-8183) Monday through Friday.
- If significant time has gone by and you have not completed your coursework, please call our office at 800-631-8183 and ask to speak about the "Reinstatement Process." For a small fee you can return to your coursework and complete your designation.
- The Claims Law Guide includes relevant claims law information for each state and the District of Columbia. The Guide is revised annually by the professional staff of American Educational Institute and is only accessible to dues paid SCLA members.

