

WISBAR NEWS

JUNE 22, 2022

AMC Round-up: In-Person Gathering for the First Time Since 2019

For the first time in three years, judges, lawyers, and other legal professionals gathered in person last week in Lake Geneva for the State Bar of Wisconsin's Annual Meeting and Conference.

JEFF M. BROWN

[Comments \(0\)](#)

SHARE THIS:



Executive coach and author Alonzo Kelly (center) gave a presentation on the power of diversity and inclusion. Visit the [State Bar's Facebook page](#) for more photos of this event.

June 22, 2022 – For the first time in three years, judges, lawyers, and other legal professionals gathered in person last week in Lake Geneva for the State Bar of Wisconsin's [Annual Meeting and Conference](#) (AMC).

The State Bar's Board of Governors kicked off the three-day event on June 15 with its [final meeting of FY2022](#). In a ceremony held that evening, Margaret Hickey was [sworn in as the 67th president of the State Bar](#).

Following opening day, AMC hosted nearly 30 sessions, a legal expo, and numerous featured speakers, including [Dr. Sharon Meit Abrahams](#), [Megan Phelps-Roper](#), and [U.S. Supreme Court Litigator Paul Clement](#), and [CNN Senior Legal Analyst Laura Coates](#).

COVID and Legal Recruiting

Dr. Meit Abrahams, a legal talent expert with three decades of experience working with law firms, delivered the opening plenary.

Meit Abrahams led a panel discussion with three legal talent professionals – one each from a law firm, a corporation, and a government agency.

"COVID has changed the way we practice law, changed the way people come to work, it has changed the way people show up as themselves," Meit Abrahams said. "It has actually changed the way we recruit."





Dr. Sharon Meit Abrahams, a legal talent expert, led a panel discussion on the challenges of legal recruiting during the COVID pandemic.

A Change of Heart

Author Megan Phelps-Roper gave the luncheon plenary on June 16.

Phelps-Roper discussed how her use of Twitter sparked an awakening that led her to forsake her the Westboro Baptist Church, in which she'd been raised.

The small Kansas-based church adheres to a virulent homophobic and anti-Semitic theology and stages protests around the U.S.

Phelps-Ropers said while managing the church's Twitter account and responding to critics, she found herself "learning a new story about my adversaries."

The key to bridging ideological divides, Phelps-Roper said, is "to assume good intent, even with those you passionately disagree with."



Author Megan Phelps-Roper shared lessons for bridging ideological divides.

'Scennie Boy

Paul Clement, a Cedarburg native and one of the nation's leading U.S. Supreme Court advocates, delivered the closing plenary on June 17.

Clement fielded questions from Marquette University School of Law Dean Joseph D. Kearney and University of Wisconsin Law School Dean Daniel P. Tokaitis, as well as audience members.