

Annual Alaska Employment and Labor Law Seminar 2026 | Agenda

8:30– 9:00 AM	**Breakfast and Registration**
9:00 – 9:05 AM	**Opening Remarks** **Speaker:** Mike O'Brien, Partner
9:05 – 9:35 AM	**Navigating the Last Frontier of Labor Relations** An overview of significant changes and standards overturned by the current administration, NLRB, its General Counsel and the courts. **Speakers:** Mike O'Brien, Partner and Kristal Graham, Associate
9:35 – 9:40 AM	BREAK
9:40 – 10:30 AM	**Legal Update: What's Changing in Employment Law?** Presenters will provide an up-to-date review of changes to Alaska and federal law, along with agency decisions and predictions regarding future trends employers need to be aware of. **Speakers:** Jack Day, Associate; Mackenzie Olson, Associate; and Zoë Wise, Associate
10:30 – 10:35 AM	BREAK
10:35 – 11:05 AM	**Tips and Traps: A Practical Guide to Managing Leave** Multiple laws, often in multiple cities and states – improve your risk management in one of the most litigated areas of employment law. **Speakers:** Elizabeth Hodes, Partner
11:05 – 11:10 AM	BREAK

11:10 AM – 12:00 PM

Conducting Effective Investigations

Learn how to conduct workplace investigations that are thorough, fair, and legally defensible without creating unnecessary risk. This practical session will cover when a duty to investigate is triggered, how to conduct effective witness interviews, assess credibility, evaluate evidence, and document findings. Attendees will leave with practical guidance they can apply immediately to investigate workplace concerns with confidence.

Speakers: Patti Vecera, Of Counsel

12:00 – 1:30 PM

Closing Remarks and Networking Lunch