



# 2026 Top 50 Program

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

June 3-4, 2026

## Wednesday – June 3, 2026

Time	Event	Address
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Networking Reception & Dinner	

## Thursday – June 4, 2026

Philadelphia Free Library - Skyline Room		
Meet in the hotel lobby at 7:45AM to walk to the meeting space/breakfast.		
Time	Session	Speaker(s)
8:00 AM – 8:45 AM	Breakfast	
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Federal Priorities Impacting Large Cities/Counties</b> We will have several panels during the morning that will explore how the Trump administration's priorities are impacting large cities / counties and legal strategies associated with those federal priorities. After 1.5 years, we will have an opportunity to discuss these changes in more depth. Topics will include immigration, federal / local relations, deployment of the National Guard, ICE agent surges in cities, DEI policies and litigation, federal funding, infrastructure projects, among others. We will also discuss how we can protect the sovereignty of local governments in the face of federal overreach.	Irene Kao, David Chui, Julie Kriegh, Andrea Leslie-Fite & Hydee Feldstein Soto
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Coffee Break	
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	<b>Law Office Management</b> This panel will discuss building / maintaining team culture; orienting early career attorneys; managing office morale / burnout; teaching managers to lead; and key performance indicators / data to support budget requests and performance reviews. Other topics including AI use and how the technology is shaping your office may be discussed.	Kim Rehberg, Heather Ferbert & Renee Garcia
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	Coffee Break	
2:45 PM – 3:45 PM	<b>Advising Elected Officials</b>	James Benjamin & Dawn McIntosh
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<b>Benchmarking the Future: How Local Government Attorneys Are Navigating Workload, Technology, and Service Delivery Challenges</b> Local government legal departments face unprecedented pressure: expanding service demands, staffing constraints, evolving technology expectations, and increasing scrutiny from both city leaders and the public they serve. Yet many city attorneys operate in	Thomson Reuters (Moderators) + Group Discussion

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	<p>isolation, unsure whether their challenges are unique or systemic—and uncertain about which solutions are working for similarly situated peers. This session creates a rare opportunity for Top 50 city attorneys to benchmark their operations against peers through data-driven insights and facilitated peer exchange. Pre-event, attendees will complete a brief 10-question survey on technology adoption, staffing challenges, workflow bottlenecks, and service delivery priorities. At the conference, Thomson Reuters will present aggregated survey results and facilitate four concurrent roundtable discussions, enabling attendees to: 1) Validate their own experiences against peer benchmarks; 2) Discover innovative approaches peers are using to address shared challenges; 3) Explore emerging best practices in legal department operations; 4) Build relationships with city attorneys facing similar pressures.</p>	
5:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Dinner	

**Please Note:** This is not a CLE event. We generally meet in a large room with round tables large enough for ten. We expect attendees to change tables with each session and join other attendees to get to know each other better. Attendees from the same office should not sit together and use the experience as a way to network.

This is a tentative schedule (subject to change) and we will adjust to the interest of the attendees. Timing for each topic is tentative, and we plan to be flexible depending on the interests of the attendees.

**Contact:**

Amanda Karras – [akarras@imla.org](mailto:akarras@imla.org) or (202) 742-1018