Effective Legal Writing Using AI, Storytelling and Graphics

ORIGINAL PROGRAM DATE
June 17, 2026

REPORTING YOUR CREDIT

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DESCRIPTION

Effective legal writing is often resource-intensive, and the results do not always guarantee that decision makers or other legal practitioners will integrate the details. Expanding the tools and approaches available to legal writers can help bridge this gap. Efficiency through ethical AI use, the power of persuasion through storytelling, and the strategic use of graphics all strengthen the ability to convey a compelling legal narrative.

AGENDA

1 AI in Legal Practice: Ethics and Attribution
This session provides an overview of ABA Formal Opinion 512 on Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools and offers practical guidance on citing AI-generated content under the Bluebook and other leading style guides, equipping attorneys with the tools to use AI responsibly and transparently in their legal writing.
Amanda Stephens – University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA

2 Prompting as a Legal Skill: How Lawyers Can Get Better Outcomes from AI Tools
Prompting is becoming a core competency for lawyers, much like legal research or contract drafting. The quality of AI output is directly tied to how well a lawyer communicates with the tool, and lawyers are actually well-positioned for this because legal training emphasizes precision, structured thinking, and anticipating ambiguity. This session provides an overview of this process.
Colin Levy – Malbek, Great Barrington, MA

3 Visualized Legal Writing – A Whole New World of Persuasion
We all know that a picture is worth a 1,000 words. But tradition has us separate out images where they do little or no good-as attachments. During this session, participants learn how to harness the proven power of combining words and images in their legal writing.
William Bailey – University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA

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4 Narrative Advocacy in Legal Writing: Telling Your Client's Story Within the Bounds of the Law

This session examines how attorneys can use storytelling techniques to enhance the persuasiveness and clarity of legal writing while remaining accurate, ethical, and professional. Participants explore narrative structure, thematic framing, and effective use of facts in briefs and motions, with a focus on integrating storytelling into legal analysis without overstating the record or undermining credibility. This session offers practical tools attorneys can immediately apply to strengthen written advocacy before courts and other decision-makers.

Vincent Hooks – King County Department of Public Defense, Seattle, WA

5 Drafting with Copilot

This session summarizes using Copilot to create content in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, and more. Participants explore some tricks for creating and editing text quickly and effectively. Copilot can get you from a blank page to a first draft in seconds, or act as a writing partner to help you improve your existing content.

Ben Schorr – Affinity Consulting Group, Seattle, WA