



**SLR Members Business Meeting
October 4, 2025
11:15 AM ET**

**Westin Portland Harborview
Eastland Grand Ballroom**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Meghan Conrad (ID) called the meeting to order at 10:38 am ET.

II. Review of Minutes from May 17, 2025 *Attachment A*

A motion was made to approve the minutes from May 17, 2025. The motion was SECONDED and APPROVED.

III. SLR Awards

Meghan presented the 2025 SLR awards.

- a. SLR Referral Award - Frost Brown Todd (IN)
- b. SLR Participation Award - Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O'Gara LLC (RI)
- c. SLR "Peck Fox" President's Award - Raymond Bell (AL)
- d. Outgoing Board Member Awards

Warren Coleman (VT), Matt McKinney (IA), and Brooke Robertson (KY) were presented with awards to thank them for their service on the Board of Directors.

IV. Marketing Report

a. Website / Social Media Report *Attachment B*

Hannah Webster provided an update on SLR social media and the website. We continue to be active on three social channels. Members were reminded that they can share any recent activity or awards they have received, and we can repost. The website continues to be used by members and outside parties.

C. Edward “Eddie” Watson (KS) emphasized that social media is a way to reach other younger generations, particularly young associates and lawyers. Having consistent activity shows that we are active as an organization, despite engagement on our page being low.

b. Referral Report ***Attachment C***

Erin Murphy reported that we had 60 more referrals reported to SLR this year than last year. Members were reminded to BCC staff on referrals or forward an email. Some members have found that having their assistants send a report at the end of the month was a helpful way to stay on top of tracking both inbound and outbound referrals.

c. Regional Meetings

TJ Kaplan (GA) reported on the Southern Regional Committee meeting in Atlanta in August. They had good conversations with clients and discussed important regional issues.

Brian Jordan (RI) reported on the recent virtual meeting of the Northeastern Regional Committee. The group had productive conversations about issues including budget issues, PFAS, and upcoming sessions.

Greg Lestini (OH) reported on the Midwestern Regional Committee. They are looking to host a regional meeting in the summer of 2026 in Minneapolis, MN. They discussed regional issues including energy and data centers.

Aimee Grmoljez (MT) reported that the Western Region was looking to host a regional meeting in Las Vegas, NV January 9-10, 2026. They will focus discussion on energy issues related to data centers and nuclear power, and healthcare.

d. SGAC

Erin reported that SLR was a sponsor of the SGAC Late Night event at NCSL this summer. There was quite a bit of interest from SLR members who were going to be in attendance, and sponsorship allowed for additional wristbands to the event.

Erin reminded the membership that SGAC has many events, resources, and regional training opportunities available to them. The Fall Leader’s Policy Conference is coming up in November. As SGAC Members through SLR, members are entitled to discounts and resources.

Meghan announced that the SLR community support funds this year will be used to make a charitable contribution to [Legal Services for Maine Elders](#). This is an organization that Charlie Soltan (ME) has been heavily involved in for many years. Additional information and a link to make a personal donation will be shared after the meeting. Charlie spoke to the membership about the organization and their mission to provide free, high quality legal services to elder Mainers when their basic human needs are at stake and advocate for people facing challenges accessing Medicare benefits.

V. SLR Practice Group Reports

Mihoko Ito (HI) reported that the Government Contracts and Procurement Practice Group had met recently. Mihoko is the new chair and is recommending that the name is simplified to “Government Contracts Practice Group.”

Charlie reported on the Insurance Practice Group call. The group had discussed a few panel ideas for the Spring Meeting. They discussed current issues in the insurance space, which included: health insurance, property insurance, and climate resilience.

It was reported that the EENRG Practice Group met recently and had robust discussion about energy issues.

VI. SLR Membership Report

Meghan reported that the Board had moved to accept a new Virginia member, Seven Hills Strategy Group and Tennessee member, MNA Government Relations effective immediately.

The Membership Committee is continuing efforts to fill openings in Wyoming and Puerto Rico.

VII. SLR Financial Report ***Attachment D***
- Financials as of August 31, 2025

Erin reported on the financials. The majority of SLR income comes from membership dues and helps to subsidize meeting costs. The attendance at the Fall Meeting exceeded the budget, but that also increases food and beverage costs. Most Fall Meeting expenses will be posted after the meeting in the coming weeks.

Erin reported that there was a financial audit completed on 2024 financials. SLR policy is to conduct an audit every four years. The audit came back clean, and there were no concerns presented. The audit firm also prepared our tax documents that are reviewed by the Board.

VIII. SLR Upcoming Meeting Locations

Matt McKinney (IA) reported that the Site Selection Committee will meet later this fall, and reviewed plans for the upcoming 2026 meetings.

a. Spring 2026 – May 14-17 – The Waldorf Astoria, Atlanta, GA

Members were invited to share ideas for the Spring meeting with TJ and the Planning Committee.

b. Fall 2026 – September 24 - 27 – AC Hotel Bozeman Downtown, Bozeman, MT

Members were invited to share ideas for activities or sites that they would like to see or do in Montana with Aimee or the Planning Committee.

c. Future Meeting Locations

Erin reported that there were no contracts in place yet for 2027. At the last business meeting, the membership discussed trying to meet in DC for the Spring Meeting in odd years due to lower attendance. The Fall 2027 meeting would take shape as two “super” regional meetings, one in Hawaii later in the fall, and one in a central location such as Chicago in early fall.

Meghan reported that there had been some discussion around the timing of the Hawaii meeting, and it would be discussed further by the Site Selection Committee and Board.

Aimee read a proposal on behalf of Levi Andrist (ND) for a meeting in Medora, ND in 2028.

IX. SLR 2025 – 2026 Election ***Attachment E***

The membership reviewed the Officer and Board of Directors Slate. A motion was made to approve the slate. The motion was SECONDED and APPROVED.

Meghan passed the gavel to Eddie. Eddie thanked Meghan for her service as President and gave remarks.

X. New Business from the Floor

Patrick Paul (AZ) told members know he would not be able to attend the Spring meeting, and reminded members that they can attend regional meetings, even if it is not your region. Particularly if you cannot attend a national meeting due to a conflict, regional meetings are a great way to stay connected and engaged to the organization.

XI. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

XII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 am ET.