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TECHNOLOGY ISSUE

Years ago, one of the practice sections of the State Bar of Georgia would hold a seminar each year on the latest technology. And annually it was called “what can you get for \$2000?” It focused on hardware. Of course, at this point, the only software for lawyers was WordPerfect, though some apostates would use Microsoft Word (then as now a dramatically less user-friendly product; I mean, seriously, how many times in the history of type-setting has anyone centered text on a line and then included a “Tab” on the same line.) Nowadays, hardware is almost never the concern, and between the market dominance of Microsoft products and the necessity of specialized software for business, there is little room for software options once a particular vendor’s business or collection suite is selected.

Meanwhile, computers have gone from being a tool for the office to being carried around in our pockets and the bulky monitor has become a sleek screen. What’s new in technology is no longer about hardware or software. Technology issues today are how to best use it in remote environments, how to integrate remote use with the mothership, and security for all these remote but hyperconnected screens.

Along the way to publishing this issue, though, we have been swept into the Brave New World of artificial intelligence and its most public and publicized entry-point, ChatGPT. So this issue is about remote work and security, and ChatGPT.

In keeping with the spirit of the exercise, I asked ChatGPT to write the rest of this introduction. The response was four paragraphs of platitudes, which is my experience with most ChatGPT-generated content – all the words are in the right order but there is clearly no one with a point of view writing them. So I then did my favorite thing to do with ChatGPT, which is to have it write using a particular writing style. This approach is pretty much a bad idea for actual business, but a lot more fun to read. An introduction to the CLW Technology Issue, as a sonnet by Billy Shakespeare:

O thou divine readers of our noble quill,
Hearken and lend thy ears to wondrous tale,
Where law and technology doth intertwine,
In harmony, an innovation unveiled.

A magazine we bring forth to thy gaze.
A tapestry of knowledge, rich and rare,
Marrying two realms in such bewitching ways,
Law and technology, a match so fair.

Within these pages, ChatGPT takes its stage,
A creation born of genius and might,
A language model, wise and filled with sage,
Bestowing answers, guided by its light.

O, join us, seekers of this radiant blend,
Where Shakespeare's pen meets AI's transcend

A BRAVE NEW WORLD?

Or if the Bard of Avon is not your cup of tea, how about as The Grinch Stole Christmas:

Every lawyer and technophile down in Lawville liked technology a lot, But the Grinch who despised change and progress, did not!

The Grinch hated technology, the whole digital revolution, He didn't understand its purpose, its use or its solution.

But the lawyers and techies didn't let the Grinch's attitude bring them down, For they knew of a magical tool that could turn his frown upside down!

It was called ChatGPT, a wondrous AI program, A genie in a bottle, a legal wizard, a digital acumen!

With ChatGPT, lawyers could now write like never before, No more endless research and late nights that left them feeling sore.

And technology enthusiasts could now explore, The limitless possibilities that awaited them and more!

So join us, dear readers, as we delve into the world of law and tech, With ChatGPT by our side, there's no problem we can't wreck!

We'll explore the latest advancements, the newest trends, And show you how ChatGPT can be your legal best friend!

So sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride, As we explore the world of law and tech, with ChatGPT as our guide!

(Notice how ChatGPT managed to put itself front and center. Soulless, but with a touch of narcissist.)

Enough silliness. We are pleased to present the Technology Issue of the CLW, and hope that you find some value along with the occasional quote by the new AI. ■



Beau Hays
Co-Chair of the Board of Associate Editors

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beau".



16

PRACTICING LAW AS A DIGITAL NOMAD ADVENT OF REMOTE LEGAL PRACTICE PROTOCOLS: REMOTE PRACTICE IN AND OUT OF U.S.



24

THE REMOTE COLLECTION INDUSTRY: WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



28

IF YOU "DON'T DO EDISCOVERY" PLEASE READ THIS...



32

CAN THE CREDIT PROFESSION BE REMOTE?



34

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL, BUT IT IS NOT PERFECT! [A BEGINNER'S EXPERIENCE WITH AI]



38

CHATGPT IN A NUTSHELL



42

HOW CHATGPT IS REVOLUTIONIZING THE ROLE OF LAWYERS



44

RUMINATIONS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ITS ETHICS

LEAGUE VIEWS

- 8 VIEWPOINT
- 9 HEARD & OVERHEARD
- 10 FAREWELL ADDRESS JIM KOZELEK
- 11 MESSAGE FROM BILL THRUSH
- 20 129TH NATIONAL CONVENTION PHOTOS
- 31 SOUTHERN REGION CONFERENCE



48

A ROADMAP FOR MINIMIZING CYBERSECURITY THREATS AT COLLECTION AGENCIES AND LAW FIRMS



54

SOFTWARE COMPLIANCE FOR EMAIL

INDUSTRY INFORMATION

- 7 TALES FROM THE FRONT
- 45 MUCH ADD ABOUT NOTHING