



PRESS RELEASE

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Commercial Law League of America Celebrates New Presidential Leadership

The Commercial Law League of America (CLLA) proudly announces the installation of its 2025-2026 Board of Governors during the 131st CLLA National Convention held on May 16, 2025. In a historic moment for the organization, Theodore J. Hamilton of Wetherington Hamilton P.A. officially “passed the gavel” to Richard Payne of Payne Law, Barristers and Solicitors, marking Richard as the first Canadian to assume the presidency of the CLLA.

Richard Payne brings a wealth of experience to his new role. He holds a Bachelor of Arts and an LL.B from Dalhousie University and was called to the Bar of the Province of Ontario in 1987. As the Principal of Payne Law, he specializes in Commercial Litigation, focusing primarily on Debtor-Creditor matters, including collections for legal professionals. With nearly four decades of experience in Collections Law, Richard has successfully represented both unsecured and secured creditors in various collection proceedings. He is an active member of the Law Society of Ontario and the Toronto Lawyers Association.

In a statement reflecting on this significant milestone, Mr. Payne expressed his enthusiasm: “I have always felt that the strength of the Commercial Law League lies in the relationships and the support that we receive as members. I am personally delighted with the opportunity to bring a Canadian perspective to the League while also maintaining the qualities that have had us prosper for the past 133 years.”

The CLLA welcomes both members and non-members to participate in its events. For more information about upcoming events or to register, please visit www.ccla.org/events.

About the CLLA

Since 1895, the not-for-profit Commercial Law League of America has connected experienced attorneys with credit grantors, lending institutions and other commercial credit, bankruptcy and general finance industry members through networking, education, legislative advocacy and specialized legal services. The association’s members include attorneys, collection agencies, judges, accountants, trustees, turnaround managers and other credit and finance experts. For more information on the CLLA, please visit www.CLLA.org.

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