



Littler

employment intelligence

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL EMPLOYER | BOSTON, MA | OCTOBER 16, 2025

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Registration and Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Whistleblowing and Retaliation—Hot Topics and Tips for Limiting Liability Risk

In addition to the raft of new legislation arising in the last decade, which both protects whistleblowers from retaliation and incentivizes them to blow the whistle on perceived wrongdoing, the Trump administration's Department of Justice has rolled out new whistleblower programs aimed at immigration, "unlawful DEI," and antitrust violations. Moreover, retaliation remains the number one most asserted employment claim in the United States. In recent months, juries faced with claims of retaliation have awarded astronomical damage awards. This program will not only examine recent whistleblowing developments but will examine the elements of a retaliation claim: what constitutes "protected activity," "adverse action," and "causation." It will address how an employer can best defend against such allegations. The program will also focus on a number of sizzling hot topics in this space, including whether a "trusted employee" can use information gained in their job to assert whistleblower claims and whether whistleblowers can take confidential information in derogation of a nondisclosure agreement to bring a case against their employer. Finally, the program will offer tips to strengthen existing compliance programs and thereby mitigate liability in this rapidly escalating climate of risk.

Speakers:

[Gregory Keating](#) and [Vanessa M. Cohn](#)

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

No Union, No Problem? Not Quite ... Labor Law Updates That Impact Every Workplace

Labor law is evolving quickly, and no workplace is untouched. Whether you're a unionized employer or not, recent and anticipated developments from the National Labor Relations Board are reshaping the rules of engagement for workplaces across New England. This session will unpack the latest updates impacting hiring, discipline, handbooks, and more. We will highlight what's already in effect and what may be coming down the line. Designed for all employers, this timely briefing will help you stay compliant, proactive, and prepared for what's next.

Speakers:

[Valerie K. Jackson](#) and [Rachel Ring](#)

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Break

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

AI & U: The Gameshow Where Digital Dilemmas and Practical Advice Intersect

AI is revolutionizing the modern workplace, with fresh and innovative applications being unveiled each day. For in-house counsel and other corporate leaders, a deeper grasp of the risks and opportunities embedded in this transformative technology is critical. That's where our dynamic, high-octane gameshow comes in! Join us as our engaging hosts lead you through a riveting array of AI topics, including AI & the FLSA, AI & Litigation, AI & Europe, AI & Background Checks, and more. These are not your run-of-the-mill questions; we will dive into legal nuances and complexities beyond the basics you might already know to ensure that you leave with insight into new and evolving AI challenges. Given our meticulously crafted questions that frame the core issues, you need only to don your thinking cap, select your answers, and then listen as experienced Littler attorneys concisely explain the key concepts and considerations at play. Armed with this knowledge, you'll be better equipped to guide business leaders and stakeholders as your organization embarks on its AI journey. So come test your mettle with a series of progressively challenging questions and see if you have what it takes to be crowned AI Expert . . . because the future of the workplace is AI & U.

Speakers:

[Alice A. Kokodis](#) and [Niloy Ray](#)