

The Race of Our Lives: Leveraging Our Diverse Resources to Build a Better Law Firm or Agency

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

by order of presentation

Chris Osborn

REEL Time

Charlotte, NC

In addition to his ongoing work with ReelTime CLE, Chris Osborn is the founding principal of Osborn Conflict Resolution, which provides mediation and conflict resolution coaching services throughout North Carolina. He is also a member of the Charlotte panel of Miles Mediation and Arbitration, one of the leading providers of dispute resolution services throughout the southeastern United States.

Chris has been certified by the N.C. Dispute Resolution Commission as a Superior Court mediator since 2009, and has assisted the vast majority of his clients over the years to reach amicable resolutions in a wide variety of litigation matters, including construction and employment law disputes, business breakups, and will caveat disputes. In 2021, he was certified as a Family Financial mediator as well.

From 2012-2015, Chris served as an Assistant Professor at the Charlotte School of Law, where he taught “Interviewing, Client Counseling, and Negotiations,” Civil Procedure, Contracts, “Problems in Practice: Commercial Transactions,” and “Intro to the Study of Law.” While on the faculty, Chris’ scholarly research focused on ethics and professional responsibility, and particularly the interrelationship of both with mental health and substance abuse issues.

Upon graduating from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1995, Chris began practicing litigation in Charlotte. He served as a career law clerk to former U.S. Magistrate Judge Carl Horn III before joining Horack Talley Pharr & Lowndes, PA, in 2001. During his 11 years as an associate and a shareholder with the firm, Chris handled construction and real estate litigation, business litigation, and employment disputes in Superior and District Courts, as well as in all three North Carolina federal district courts.

Michael Kahn

REEL Time

Charlotte, NC

Michael Kahn holds a J.D. from the Dickinson School of Law, and practiced law with the Attorney General’s Office for the State of New Jersey for 6 years. Although he left the practice of law in 1991, his work thereafter has kept him involved in the lives of lawyers in various capacities. Following a stint as Assistant Director of Career Services with the Tulane University School of Law, Michael obtained his M. Ed. in Counseling from UNC-Greensboro in 1994, and shortly thereafter became a Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of North Carolina. Michael’s

areas of focus in his psychotherapy practice have included anxiety, depression, grief/loss, career satisfaction, and men's issues, and he has worked with adolescents and adults in individual and group therapy settings. In 2012, he relocated to Oregon, where in addition to continuing his speaking career, he served as an Adjunct Professor at the Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Education & Counseling and co-facilitates grief groups for lawyers.

Michael currently resides in Vancouver, BC, where he serves part-time on the counseling staff of the Lawyers Assistance Program of British Columbia. He continues to present training seminars and workshops on ethics, grief, wellness, diversity and inclusion, and other topics for lawyers and mental health professionals throughout the U.S., including for the U.S. military.