

Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference 2026

(11th Annual)



January 27-30, 2026
Virtual and In-Person Options
Available to Presenters and Participants

University of Holy Cross
New Orleans, Louisiana
www.uhcno.edu



Sponsors



National Board for Certified Counselors
NBCC | National Board for Certified Counselors



Stephens College Counseling Program
Master of Education in Counseling - Stephens College

Location



Bourbon Orleans Hotel
www.bourbonorleans.com

In-Person & Virtual Options for the Conference

- The conference takes place January 27-30, 2026, with both in-person sessions at the Bourbon Orleans Hotel and live virtual sessions available on the same days.
 - Speakers and attendees can choose to participate either in person or virtually.
- In-person registrants may also attend virtual sessions, and virtual registrants can access select in-person sessions via livestream.
- All participants will have access to recorded sessions for one month following the conference to earn additional continuing education hours at their convenience.

Keynote Speakers & Conference Chair



Dr. Mary Hermann



Dr. Barbara Herlihy



Dr. Ted Remley



Dr. Warren Wright



Dr. Gerard Lawson

This annual national refereed professional conference brings together counselor educators, counseling graduate students, and counseling practitioners to review the latest trends and developments in the areas of law and ethics in counseling.

In-person attendees can earn up to 13 continuing education hours by participating in sessions held live during the conference. Virtual attendees can earn up to 19 continuing education hours through live Zoom sessions offered throughout the conference days. Additionally, all participants—whether attending in person or virtually—will have the opportunity to earn over 100 more continuing education hours in the month following the conference by viewing recorded sessions they may have missed. Those attending in person will also enjoy the added benefit of networking with fellow counselors and experiencing the sights, music, ambiance, and cuisine of New Orleans.

The National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) is proud to be a paid sponsor of this event. NBCC annually supports a keynote presentation focusing on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI).



NBCC has approved the University of Holy Cross as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 4268. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. The University of Holy Cross is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.



**St. Louis Cathedral in Jackson Square
located steps away from the Bourbon Orleans Hotel**

Conference Highlights

- Learn from leading scholars and seasoned counseling professionals specializing in law and ethics.
- Present your work at a nationally refereed conference, either in person or virtually.
- Earn numerous continuing education hours, including ethics and specialty areas such as supervision, diagnosis and treatment, telecounseling, substance use counseling, multicultural counseling, and others.
 - In-person attendees can earn **13 CE** hours during the conference and access 100+ additional hours by viewing recorded sessions afterward.
 - Virtual attendees can earn **19 live CE** hours and access 100+ additional hours through post-conference recordings.
- Join from the comfort of your home or office—or travel to vibrant New Orleans for an immersive experience.
- Enjoy the sights, music, cuisine, and culture of New Orleans while staying at the historic Bourbon Orleans Hotel in the French Quarter.
- **Extend your trip to explore everything this iconic city has to offer before or after the conference.**

Speakers and Professional Content

This conference will provide up-to-date, cutting-edge content in the areas of law and ethics in counseling. In-person participants will immerse themselves in interesting professional issues with time built in to celebrate the joy and ambiance of the New Orleans French Quarter.

Featured keynote speakers who have substantial knowledge regarding law and ethics in counseling will address the conference participants.

Dr. Mary A. Hermann is an attorney and a counselor educator. She is a professor at the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky. She will highlight recent legal cases that have implications for the practice of counselors, counselor supervisors, and counselor educators.

Dr. Warren B. Wright maintains a private practice in Austin, Texas, Transformational Counseling, Coaching, and Consulting. He is the fourth JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) keynote speaker at this conference sponsored by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC). The title of Dr. Wright's keynote presentation will be "The Burdens We Carry: Ethical Considerations of Black Professional Counselors Addressing Racial Trauma in Counseling."

Dr. Barbara Herlihy is the national authority on counseling ethics in the United States. She is a professor emerita at the University of New Orleans. Each year Dr. Herlihy addresses an emerging issue in counseling ethics in her keynote address. In 2026, Dr. Herlihy's keynote address will be entitled, "Surviving and Thriving in Tough Times: Maintaining Your Moral Compass Amidst Ongoing Moral Injury and Moral Distress."

Dr. Gerard Lawson is a professor in the counselor education graduate program at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. He serves on the Virginia Board of Counseling and is the immediate past-president of the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB). He was the 66th president of the American Counseling Association (ACA) and is a past president of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES). The title of Dr. Lawson's keynote address will be "Ethics Complaints and Sanctions: A Licensing Board Perspective."

Dr. Ted Remley, the conference chair, is a professor of counseling at the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Remley is both an attorney and counselor and is widely published in the area of legal and ethical issues in counseling.

Specialists in counseling law and ethics will attend the conference and offer presentations and roundtables related to their particular areas of expertise.

Participants will receive a program before the conference with the following information for each presentation: program content description and learning objectives; name and qualifications of each program presenter; and the number of NBCC hours offered for each workshop.

Call for Program Proposals for 2026 Conference

Deadline for Submitting Proposals:

October 25, 2025

Participants planning to attend the conference—either in person or virtually—are invited to submit proposals for one-hour presentations or roundtable discussions, delivered either in person or via Zoom. The Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference is a refereed national conference; a scholarly committee will review and select all submissions.

- All proposed programs must be directly related to law or ethics in counseling.
- Presenters are required to register as paid participants for the conference—no exceptions will be made.
- If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please carefully review the instructions provided in the official Call for Program Proposals, available at: <https://uhcno.edu/academics/ways-to-learn/index.php> (click on *Continuing Education*). Copy and paste the URL into your browser if the link does not work directly. You may also request the guidelines by emailing Dr. Sarah Irvin at sirvin@stephens.edu.
- Submit your proposal electronically at <https://forms.gle/KbwWrezAmn8hnabn6>. If the link does not work directly, copy and paste the URL into your browser.
- Questions? Contact the Conference Committee Chair, Dr. Sarah Irvin, Assistant Professor of Counseling at Stephens College, at sirvin@stephens.edu. All proposal submitters will receive confirmation and follow-up correspondence regarding the status of their submissions.

Cost

The in-person registration fee for the conference includes an opening reception, coffee breaks, lunch on Wednesday, use of the hotel conference facilities, and the opportunity to earn NBCC-approved continuing education hours during the conference and to earn many more viewing recordings of presentations during the month after the conference. The virtual registration fee includes access to all presentations, and the opportunity to earn NBCC-approved continuing education hours during the conference and to earn many more viewing recordings of presentations the month after the conference.

\$100 Early Bird Discount for Full Conference Registration until November 15, 2025, for In-Person and Virtual Participants. No discounts are available for in-person full-day or half-day registrations.

In-Person Conference Rates

In-Person Conference in New Orleans

\$415 Full conference (early bird fee is \$315 until November 15, 2025)

- \$279 One full day on Wednesday, January 28, 2026
\$219 One half-day on Thursday or Friday, January 29 or 30, 2026

In-Person Student Rates in New Orleans (for students registered in a degree program)

- \$295 Full conference (early bird fee is \$195 until November 15, 2025)
\$199 One full day on Wednesday, January 28, 2026
\$159 One half-day on Thursday or Friday, January 29 or 30, 2026

Virtual Conference Rates

Virtual Conference

- \$275 Full conference (early bird fee is \$175 until November 15, 2025)

Virtual Student Rates (for students registered in a degree program)

- \$155 Full conference (early bird fee is \$55 until November 15, 2025)

Access to Recorded Sessions Only for One Month After Conference Has Ended

- \$275 All recorded conference sessions

Refund Policy

Cancellation requests must be submitted to the Conference Director, Dr. Ted Remley, by email at tremley@uhcno.edu no later than December 27, 2025. A processing fee of \$75 will apply. **No refunds will be issued after December 27, 2025.**

Registration

Registration for the in-person conference is limited. Those who register early will be confirmed. After the in-person capacity is reached, no further registrations will be accepted. A waitlist will be established once the conference is full. If a registered participant cancels, individuals on the in-person conference waitlist will be notified and given an opportunity to register. Registration for the virtual conference is not limited.

Those who wish to attend must complete the registration form and submit it on the Eventbrite webpage for the conference located at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/law-ethics-in-counseling-conference-2026-in-person-or-virtual-tickets-1334028939469?aff=oddtcreator>

Instructions for Conference Registration:

To register, click on the link above. Click on the red **Get Tickets** box and then choose the registration type you wish to purchase. Enter the number of registrations you wish to purchase under **Quantity**, then click on the red **Check Out** box. If the checkout does not load, look for a notice at the top of your laptop indicating that a pop-up is being blocked and then allow the pop-up. On the Checkout page, type in the information requested. Information with a red asterisk (*) is required. At the bottom, select to pay by PayPal. You do not have to have a PayPal and you do not have to create a PayPal account to pay. You can use a credit card. If you cannot use a credit card to pay for your registration due to agency policy, select the Pay by invoice option. After selecting pay by Paypal, click on the red **Place Order** box. If you wish to pay with a credit card, when you get to the PayPal payment page, select the Pay in full option, and below that, select Pay with credit card. Enter your credit card information.

Registration is referred to on the Eventbrite website as a *ticket*. You will receive an email receipt once you have registered and paid. If you are attending the conference in-person, you do not need to bring a hard copy of your "ticket" to the conference. Registration desk personnel will have a record of your registration.

Hotel

The conference is held in the Bourbon Orleans Hotel, a beautiful historic facility located in the heart of the French Quarter, a block from Jackson Square, St. Louis Cathedral, and Café du Monde (famous for café au lait and beignets).

See the hotel website located at <http://www.bourbonorleans.com>. Read the fascinating history of this fabulous hotel at <https://ghostcitytours.com/new-orleans/haunted-places/haunted-hotels/bourbon-orleans-hotel>.

Reservations for rooms at the Bourbon Orleans Hotel are discounted at a rate of \$201 per night until the discounted rate deadline of December 27, 2025. Click this link to reserve a room at the discounted conference rate: <https://be.synxis.com/?adult=1&arrive=2026-01-26&chain=6255&child=0¤cy=USD&depart=2026-01-30&group=2601LAWAND&hotel=37318&level=hotel&locale=en-US&productcurrency=USD&rooms=1>

Rooms are available at the conference rate of \$201 the nights of January 26, 27, 28, and 29, 2026.

If you wish to reserve a room before the night of January 26, 2026 or after the night of January 29, 2026, you should reserve for the dates available on the website and then call the hotel at (855) 771-5214 to extend your reservation to the nights before or after the conference that you wish to stay. Rates probably will be higher before or after the conference.

The deadline date for making reservations at the conference rate of \$201 per night is December 27, 2025. After that date, the conference discounted rate will no longer be available, but it is possible rooms in the hotel might still be available and could be booked through the regular hotel reservation website.

Summary of Conference Daily Schedule **(All Times Listed are in Central Time Zone Time)**

IN-PERSON CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

4:30 – 6:00 pm: In-Person Conference Opening Session + Keynote

6:00-7:15 pm: In-Person Conference Reception

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

8:30 am – 5:15 pm: In-Person Sessions + Keynote

Thursday, January 29, 2026

8:30 am – 12:15 pm: In-Person Sessions + Keynote

Friday, January 30, 2026

8:30 am – 12:30 pm: In-Person Sessions, Keynote, + Closing

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

8:35 am – 4:00 pm: Welcome and Virtual Presentations

4:30 – 6:00 pm: Broadcast of In-Person Conference Opening Session + Keynote

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

8:30 am – 5:15 pm: Broadcast of In-Person Sessions + Keynote

Thursday, January 29, 2026

8:30 am – 12:15 pm: Broadcast of In-Person Sessions + Keynote

Friday, January 30, 2026

8:30 am – 12:30 pm: Broadcast of In-Person Sessions, Keynote, + Closing

**SCHEDULE TO VIEW RECORDINGS OF SESSIONS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT:
Friday, February 6, 2026 - Monday, March 9, 2026**

Detailed In-Person Conference Daily Schedule
(All Times are in Central Time Zone)

The schedule below is tentative and is subject to modifications.

The in-person conference begins at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, and ends at 12:30 pm on Friday, January 30, 2026. In-Person participants can also attend virtual sessions during the in-person conference if they wish to do so. Recordings of all in-person and virtual sessions (except in-person roundtable sessions) will be available by video between February 6, 2026 and March 9, 2026.

Tuesday January 27, 2026	
4:30-6:00 pm	In-Person Conference Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome by Dr. Ted Remley, Conference Chair• Greetings from the University of Holy Cross by Dr. Stanton F. McNeely, III, President• Greetings from the President and CEO of the National Board for Certified Counselors Dr. Kylie Dotson-Blake• Keynote Address by Dr. Mary A. Hermann, Professor at the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky
6:00-7:15 pm	In-Person Reception <i>Celebrate New Orleans with a Brass Band</i> <i>hor d'oeuvres and cash bar</i>
Wednesday January 28, 2026	
7:45 am – 5:30 pm	In-Person Conference Registration
8:30-9:30 am	In-Person Presentations
9:30-10:00 am	Coffee Break for In-Person Participants
10:00-11:00 am	In-Person Presentations
11:00-11:15 am	Break
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	In-Person Keynote Address by Dr. Warren Wright, Owner of Transformational Counseling, Coaching, and Consulting in Austin, Texas
12:15-1:45 pm	In-Person Light Lunch Provided
1:45-2:45 pm	In-Person Presentations
2:45-3:00 pm	Break
3:00-4:00 pm	In-Person Presentations
4:00-4:15 pm	Break
4:15-5:15 pm	In-Person Presentations

5:15 pm	In-Person Presentations End for the Day
Thursday January 29, 2026	
7:45 am – 12:30 pm	In-Person Conference Registration
8:30-9:30 am	In-Person Presentations
9:30-10:00 am	In-Person Coffee Break
10:00-11:00 am	In-Person Presentations
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	In-Person Keynote Address by Dr. Barbara Herlihy, Professor Emerita at the University of New Orleans
12:15 pm	Afternoon Free for In-Person and Virtual Participants
Friday January 30, 2026	
7:45 am – 12:30 pm	In-Person Conference Registration
8:30-9:30 am	In-Person Presentations
9:30-10:00 am	In-Person Coffee Break
10:00-11:00 am	In-Person Presentations
11:15 am – 12:30 pm	In-Person Keynote Address by Dr. Gerard Lawson, Professor of Counselor Education at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia
	Conference Closing by Dr. Ted Remley, Conference Chair
12:30 pm	In-Person and Virtual Conference Ends

Detailed Virtual Conference Daily Schedule **(All Times are in Central Time Zone)**

The schedule below is tentative and is subject to modifications.

The live portion of the virtual conference begins at 8:35 am on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, and ends at 12:30 pm on Friday, January 30, 2026. Virtual participants will be able to attend broadcasts of in-person sessions during the conference. Recordings of all in-person and virtual sessions (except in-person roundtable sessions) will be available by video between February 6, 2026 and March 9, 2026.

Tuesday January 27, 2026	
8:35-8:45 am	Welcome to Virtual Participants
8:45-9:45 am	Virtual Presentation
9:45-10:00 am	Break
10: 00-11:00 am	Virtual Presentations
11:00-11:15 am	Break
11:15-12:15 pm	Virtual Presentations
12:15-12:30 pm	Break
12:30-1:30 pm	Virtual Presentations
1:30-1:45 pm	Break
1:45-2:45 pm	Virtual Presentations
2:45-3:00 pm	Break
3:00-4:00 pm	Virtual Presentations

4:00-4:15 pm	Break
4:30 pm	In-Person Conference Begins
4:30-6:00 pm	Broadcast of In-Person Conference Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome by Dr. Ted Remley, Conference Chair • Greetings from the University of Holy Cross by Dr. Stanton F. McNeely, III, President • Greetings from the President and CEO of the National Board for Certified Counselors Dr. Kylie Dotson-Blake Keynote Address by Dr. Mary A. Hermann, Professor at the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky
Wednesday January 28, 2026	
8:30-9:30 am	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
9:30-10:00 am	Break
10:00-11:00 am	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Broadcast of Keynote Address by Dr. Warren Wright, Owner of Transformational Counseling, Coaching, and Consulting in Austin, Texas
12:15-1:45 pm	Break
1:45-2:45 pm	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
2:45-3:00 pm	Break
3:00-4:00 pm	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
4:00-4:15 pm	Break
4:15-5:15 pm	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
Thursday January 29, 2026	
8:30-9:30 am	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
9:30-10:00 am	Break
10:00-11:00 am	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Broadcast of In-Person Keynote Address by Dr. Barbara Herlihy, Professor Emerita at the University of New Orleans
Friday January 30, 2026	
8:30-9:30 am	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
9:30-10:00 am	Break
10:00-11:00 am	Broadcasts of In-Person Presentations
11:00-11:15 am	Break
11:15 am – 12:30 pm	Broadcast of In-Person Keynote Address by Dr. Gerard Lawson, Professor of Counselor Education at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia Conference Closing by Dr. Ted Remley, Conference Chair
12:30 pm	In-Person and Virtual Conference Ends

New Orleans Tourist Information

For information on things to do in New Orleans, visit these websites:

- <http://www.neworleanscvb.com>
- https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60864-Activities-New_Orleans_Louisiana.html

- [Magazine Street | Shopping, Dining & Things To Do In New Orleans](#)
- [The Scout Guide | New Orleans](#)

Tentative Future Conference Dates

The Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference, held by the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans, Louisiana, is sponsored by the National Board for Certified Counselors, and is held at the Bourbon Orleans Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. The conference also is broadcast virtually. The dates change yearly because the conference is scheduled to avoid conflicting with Carnival and Mardi Gras dates in New Orleans. To plan ahead, please mark your calendars for the tentative future dates for the annual Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference.

February 23-26, 2027 (12th annual conference)

February 1-4, 2028 (13th annual conference)

January 23-26, 2029 (14th annual conference)

Questions?

If you have questions regarding the conference, please contact the Conference Director, Dr. Ted Remley, Professor of Counseling at the University of Holy Cross, at tremley@uhcno.edu. If you have conference program questions, contact the Conference Committee Chair, Dr. Sarah Irvin, Assistant Professor of Counseling at Stephens College, at sirvin@stephens.edu.



Mardi Gras Parade

Keynote Presentations and Presenter Bios

Dr. Mary A. Hermann

Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 5:00 pm (Central Time Zone)

Update on Legal Cases Involving Counselors

This keynote session will address recent legal cases related to the counseling profession. The session will provide information on the impact of these cases on counselors, supervisors, and counselor educators. The session will further clarify the role of ethical codes as they relate to these cases. Suggestions for minimizing legal liability will be provided.

Dr. Mary A. Hermann is a professor at the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky. Prior to this position, she served on the faculty of Loyola University New Orleans, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Mississippi State University. Dr. Hermann is a licensed attorney, a licensed professional counselor, a national certified counselor, and a certified school counselor. Her research has focused on legal and ethical issues in counseling and women's experiences. She has authored over 75 publications and more than 200 presentations. She has served as a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA) Ethics Committee as well as the ACA 2014 Ethics Revision Task Force. She co-chaired the ACA Gender Equity Task Force, and she is the founding director of the Women's Lifespan Development Research Lab. She has earned numerous awards for her teaching, scholarship, and leadership, including being named an ACA Fellow.

Dr. Warren B. Wright

Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 11:15 am (Central Time Zone)

The Burdens We Carry: Ethical Considerations of Black Professional Counselors Addressing Racial Trauma in Counseling

Dr. Warren B. Wright is the fourth JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) keynote speaker sponsored by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC). His presentation explores the ethical dimensions of racial trauma work through the lived experiences of Black professional counselors. Grounded in Dr. Wright's dissertation research, *The Burdens We Carry: A Transcendental Phenomenological Exploration of Black Professional Counselors Working With Clients Who Experienced Racial Trauma*, the presentation delves into five central themes that emerged from the narratives of Black counselors on the frontlines of racial healing: Bearing Witness, Collective Woundedness, Barriers and Challenges, Healing-Focused Approaches, and Counselor Preparation and Development. Through the integration of research, personal testimony, and ethical inquiry, this keynote challenges the counseling profession to move beyond performative equity efforts and engage in ethically sound, justice-oriented practice. Attendees will critically examine how Anti-Blackness, institutional silence, and systemic harm show up in clinical spaces and what it means to respond in an ethical manner. Moreover, this keynote is a call to action for professional counselors, counselor educators, supervisors, and leaders to examine their ethical responsibilities in addressing racial trauma while honoring the labor and legacy of those who carry its burden daily. Dr. Wright's book, *S.A.C.R.E.D. Strategies to Heal Racial Trauma Workbook*, is available at <https://warrenbwright.gumroad.com>.

Dr. Warren B. Wright is a licensed professional counselor (TX) and a national certified counselor. He obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees from Georgia Southern University and received his PhD in Counselor Education from Sam Houston State University. Dr. Wright is a 2021 Doctoral Mental Health Counseling fellow for NBCC's Minority Fellowship Program. In his tenure as a professional counselor, Dr. Wright has won several awards including Outstanding Supervisor from Sam Houston State University and the Diversity Service Staff Award from Texas A&M University. Dr. Wright is the author of *A Dose of Motivation: Taking ownership of your life, tapping into your potential, and stepping into your purpose* who brings over a decade of experience and served in various roles such as college counselor, assistant residential director, counselor educator, and clinic director. In addition, he is the proud owner of Transformational Counseling, Coaching, and Consulting in Austin, Texas, where he supports adults navigating transitions in family, relationships, career, and education. Now focused on scaling his impact and influence, Dr. Wright has refined his coaching and mentorship services to aspire and guide counselors-in-training across the country in his signature program, *Counselor Preparation Academy*. His mission is to lead with cultural awareness, educational excellence, and transformative care. Dr. Wright blends clinical expertise with culturally responsive strategies to foster healing, resilience, and professional growth as a counselor, counselor educator, coach, and consultant.

Dr. Barbara Herlihy

Thursday, January 29, 2026, 11:15 am (Central Time Zone)

***Surviving and Thriving in Tough Times:
Maintaining Your Moral Compass
Amidst Ongoing Moral Injury and Moral Distress***

Each year in this keynote session, Dr. Barbara Herlihy addresses an emerging topic in counselor ethics. In 2026, Dr. Herlihy returns to a topic she presented in 2020 – moral injury/moral distress – focusing on these phenomena as experienced by counselors, counselor educators and supervisors, and students over the past year. Faced with persistent and ongoing attempts to erode the basic principles and values on which the counseling profession rests, each of us has been challenged to maintain our moral compass while striving to survive professionally. How can we best take care of ourselves and support each other as we struggle with these challenges?

Dr. Barbara Herlihy is a Professor Emerita at the University of New Orleans. She is the co-author of four current textbooks and numerous book chapters and articles, primarily on the topics of ethics, feminist therapy, and social justice. She is a past recipient of the Southern Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (SACES) Courtland Lee Social Justice Award and the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES) Outstanding Mentor Award. In 2023, she received the Chi Sigma Iota-International Thomas J. Sweeney Professional Leadership Award, and in 2025 she was honored with the ACA David K. Brooks Distinguished Mentor Award. Dr. Herlihy has served as Chair of the ACA Foundation and ACA Ethics Committee. She is a Past President of Chi Sigma Iota - International and is an Associate Editor for *Counseling and Values*. She has presented seminars and workshops on ethical issues and other topics across the country and internationally.

Dr. Gerald Lawson

Friday, January 30, 2026, 11:15 am (Central Time Zone)

Ethics Complaints and Sanctions: A Licensing Board Perspective

There are numerous venues for ethics complaints to be heard and addressed, and investigations and sanctions by licensing and regulatory boards are high stakes for clients and counselors. State regulatory and licensing boards are charged with protecting the public and ensuring client welfare, which tends to highlight the critical need for counselors to follow the appropriate codes of ethics, standards of practice, laws, and regulations. This keynote will center on research conducted by the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) examining the frequency and variation among complaints and sanctions that were imposed by state counseling boards. What emerges is a pattern of violations similar to those observed in previous studies, with some minor shifts in the order of the most frequently occurring ethical violations. And, in terms of sanctions, there is great variety in what sanction is imposed for what types of violations, by state, and by type of licensee. Information from this keynote will deepen the understanding for counselors, counselor educators, supervisors, and other stakeholders in how Boards manage complaints in service of protecting the public and ensuring client welfare.

Dr. Gerard Lawson is a Professor in the Counselor Education program at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, where he has taught since 2002. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor and a Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioner in Virginia. Dr. Lawson serves on the Virginia Board of Counseling, and is immediate past-president of the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB). He was the 66th President of the American Counseling Association (ACA), and is a past-president of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES). He was awarded the inaugural Martin Ritchie Award for Advocacy in 2015, in 2017 he was awarded the Virginia Tech College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Land-Grant Scholar Award, and in 2019 he was among the inaugural recipients of the ACES Legacy Awards. He is an American Counseling Association fellow, one of the highest professional recognitions in the counseling profession.

Dr. Ted Remley Conference Director

Dr. Theodore P. Remley, Jr. (Ted) is a counseling professor at the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Remley holds a PhD in Counselor Education from the University of Florida and a law degree (JD) from Catholic University in Washington, DC. He is a National Certified Counselor (NCC) and a member of Chi Sigma Iota. He is licensed as a Professional Counselor (LPC) in Louisiana and Mississippi and is licensed to practice law in Virginia and Florida. Dr. Remley is the author and co-author of several articles, books, and book chapters related to legal and ethical issues in counseling. For 20 years, he has organized very popular counselor institutes in Italy and Ireland, and in cooperation with the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC), in Bhutan, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Malawi, Africa, and France. Dr. Remley has been a school counselor and a college counselor and practiced law for seven years. In the past, Dr. Remley has held full-time counseling faculty positions at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia; Mississippi State University; the University of New Orleans, and Old Dominion University. Dr. Remley is a former Executive Director of the American Counseling Association. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from The Chicago School for Professional Psychology. He has been named a fellow in the American Counseling Association, and he received the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016 from the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES). He also received the Past President's Lifetime Membership Award from the American Association of State Counseling Boards.



**Conference Director Dr. Ted Remley
at lunch with 2025 Keynote Speakers Dr. Brendan Hargett
and Dr. Jennifer Stover, and her husband**



**Conference Program Chair
Dr. Sarah Irvin**