

*To Our EASL Community:*

As I begin my tenure as EASL Chair, I want to take a moment to introduce myself and express my sincere gratitude not only for the opportunity, but also for the support I have received throughout my time with EASL.

For those of you who I have not had the pleasure of meeting yet, my name is Joey Coleman. I was born and raised in Naples, Florida. I grew up playing classical trumpet, and I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music from FSU. After college, I graduated from law school at FSU, and went to work at a boutique civil litigation firm in Southwest Florida. I became an EASL member shortly thereafter, and I have been a member ever since. With the help of my incredible wife, I opened my own firm, Coleman Litigation, in 2022, specializing in commercial litigation, and copyrights and trademarks. Since learning to first play trumpet, I have loved music and the arts, and being able to combine my interests in the arts and the law is truly a great gift and blessing.

I am incredibly excited to take on the role of Chair, as we work together to continue to create a supportive, creative community within the entertainment, arts, and sports law fields. I must say that while I am excited to take on the role, I also acknowledge the significant responsibility that it brings, as EASL plays a crucial role in supporting our legal community and working to shape the future of our section.

Throughout my legal career, I have often considered the EASL community to be a key place for support and camaraderie, in addition to a source for information and resources through continuing legal education opportunities. It is in part because of the knowledge I have gained and the relationships I have made through EASL that I decided to take the plunge and open my own practice. While it is not luck that I chose to join EASL, I feel lucky to be part of such a strong community that is incredibly passionate about both our work and creating genuine relationships.

My career has not only culminated in a variety of legal opportunities, culminating in starting my own law firm two years ago, but it has also served as a dedication to service within the Florida legal community. As EASL Chair, it is my goal for our section to foster and create these legal opportunities, both for our experienced members, as well as for our new members and law students.

It is important to note that our entire EASL community is an amazing force when it comes to uplifting our standards, and our community. I am honored to just be part of the EASL section, let alone serving as the chair – I admire the tenacity and creativity that our membership has, and recognize that we all have something special to bring to the table. I hope that over the course of my term as chair, I have the opportunity to get to know even more of our membership as we come together to increase participation, outreach, and connection.

I want to end by reiterating the honor that it is to have been selected to serve as your chair. This is a role that while inhabited by one is embodied by all of you – I am proud that I get to represent some of my most esteemed colleagues, many of whom I can call mentors, role models, and friends, within our legal sphere. Thank you for trusting me with this important position; I am looking forward to all that we accomplish this year.



*EASL Chair, 2024-2025*