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Governmental Liability

Including . . .

Deepfakes and the Law:
Emerging Trends and Legal
Responses Across the U.S.



Also in This Issue . . .

**Am I Behind the Curve on AI in My
Legal Practice?**

And More!

By Heather Neubauer
& Ethan Groothuis

Know your LLM models and their limitations, and you can edge out others in this ever-evolving legal landscape, while ensuring to follow the ethical oaths we all swore to uphold.

Am I Behind the Curve on AI in My Legal Practice?

AI Is a Useful Tool, Not a Replacement for an Attorney

Earlier this year I was defending a motion to dismiss I had raised for lack of personal jurisdiction over my client. Following a back and forth of briefs over weeks of motion practice, both sides were well briefed and ready to argue. But nothing could prepare us for what came next. The judge sidestepped our meticulously researched briefs and arguments and asked a question, *sua sponte*, that was not briefed by either party. This question was on a topic seemingly so foreign to the judge himself, it might as well have been in another language.

Opposing counsel and I had half a century or more of combined legal experience, but neither of us knew the answer, nor were we prepared to give one on the spot. The judge said, “Figure it out, and come back to me with an answer,” before pushing us to the end of the calendar, so he could work through his criminal docket. This meant we had 30 minutes to find an answer. An open-ended, obscure legal question direct from a judge? A billable attorney’s dream come true. Only half an hour to find an answer? Any attorney’s nightmare. I called an associate and asked him to start combing through Westlaw, while I did the same. The clock ticked down, and neither of us were finding anything remotely on point. There had to be a case, even in opposition to us, but we were not using the exact right words to get

close. We had a quickly closing window and actual leverage—but only if we could find a single case or statute that not only answered the judge’s question but could be argued persuasively for my client. With minutes to spare, I turned to a new tool: artificial intelligence. Using the AI-assisted research tools in Westlaw Precision, I searched for the question at hand, and I did not have to worry about using the exact magic language. After a minute or so of “thinking,” it had found it: a case that was on point and luckily favorable for us. With the DUIs and petty misdemeanors out of the way, it was again our turn to argue – and thanks to Westlaw’s AI-assisted research tools, I had the upper hand.

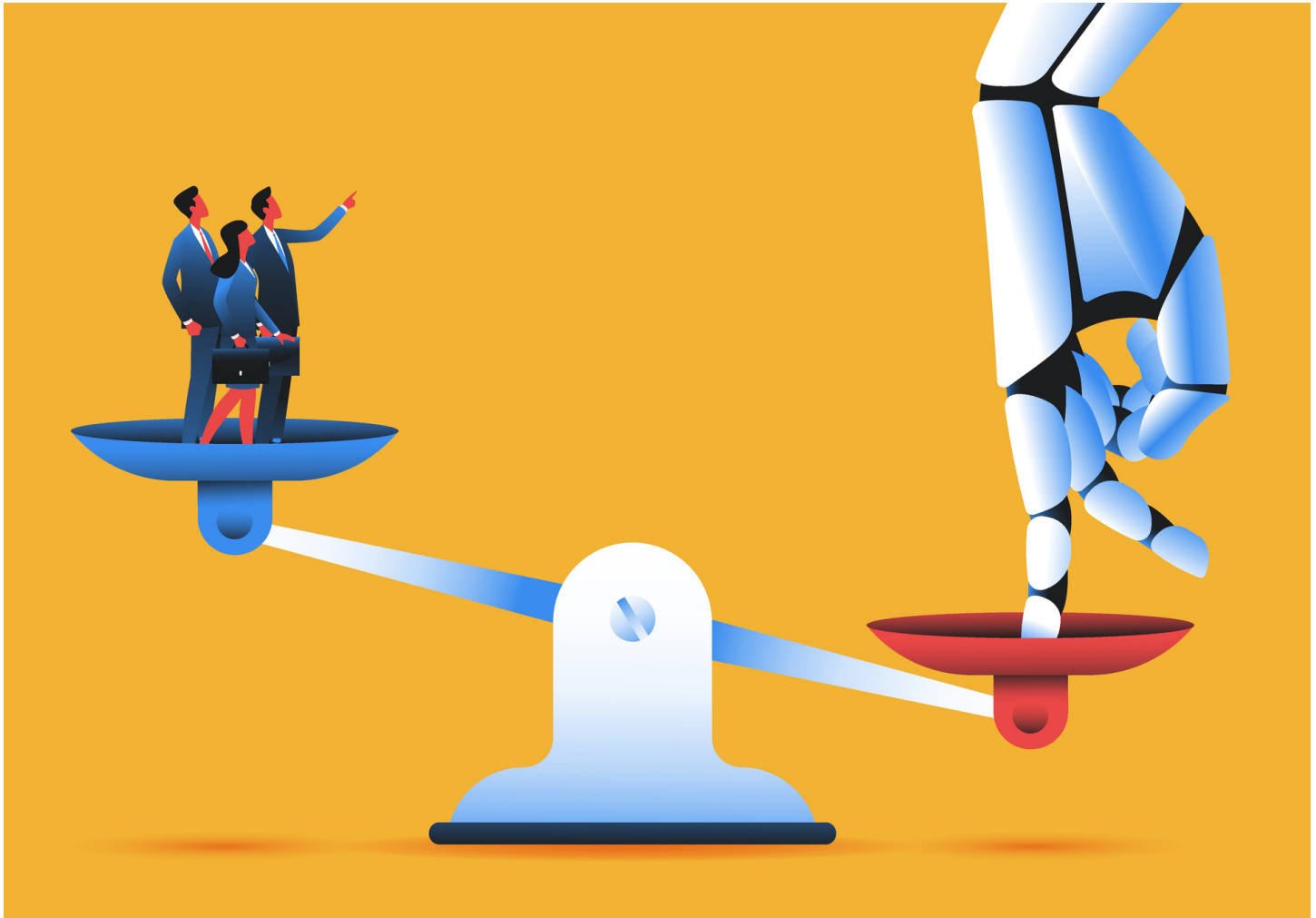
AI is everywhere. From software to medical devices and now the legal industry, tools and devices built on AI are being marketed to the masses and used widely. But, despite the scores of emails promising new AI tools to purchase or CLEs on AI use and ethics, many attorneys are still not using it. Generative AI for legal professionals: Top use cases, THOMSON REUTERS (May 13, 2025), <https://legal.thomsonreuters.com/blog/generative-ai-for-legal-professionals-top-use-cases>.

As I have talked with colleagues about the use of AI, some attorneys have asked – “Am I behind on use the of AI?” Some have mentioned seeing news articles about attorneys sanctioned for using AI and have asked: “Is AI safe or ethical for me to use?”

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Tort/Toxic Tort, Asbestos/Talc, and Safety and Environmental practice groups. She is licensed in Minnesota, Arizona, Illinois, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Heather defends manufacturers, suppliers, and installers in construction, toxic tort, and products liability cases. She is a Litigation Counsel of America Fellow and IADC member, and she has been included as a Best Lawyers of America® and in Minnesota Super Lawyers® for several years. Heather was a keynote speaker on “Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Enhanced Legal Practice,” at the November 2024 DRI Asbestos Medicine Seminar. **Ethan Groothuis** is an associate in Meagher + Geer’s Minneapolis office, where he practices primarily products liability, mass tort and toxic tort litigation. He is licensed in Minnesota, Illinois, and the District of Columbia.



For others, the question might be more basic: “What even is AI?”

For attorneys with those questions, or even those who have started to dabble in the use of AI products, this article will help show what AI tools can be used in many distinct aspects of your practice. Above all, we want to demonstrate that attorneys do not need to fear the use of AI as a tool to enhance your practice. If you know your model, and the strengths and weaknesses of any particular tool, you can avoid the pitfalls currently ensnaring uninformed attorneys.

AI – What Is It?

AI can be incorporated into many products and fields, whether it be deep learning algorithms to detect future cancers, to mass analysis of stock trades to find fraud, or even for converting family photos into Disney cartoons.

There are many terms related to AI that are often used interchangeably. See, Julia Matuszewska, What is the difference between AI and Gen AI?: MIQUIDO (Nov. 21, 2024), <https://www.miquido.com/blog/gen-ai-and-ai-difference>. General AI (also known as Artificial General Intelligence, or AGI) aims to achieve human-level intelligence, capable of understanding and learning various tasks. Generative AI is a subfield of AI that specializes in content generation, whereas AGI is a more ambitious goal of achieving broad, human-like intelligence. For the purposes of this article, we are just referring to the concept broadly as “AI,” regardless of how certain products may or may not define themselves as AGI, GenAI, or any other term.

The most prominent use of AI, at least what has been driving most of the recent excitement, is the uses of generative AI, such as Large Language Models (LLM), like ChatGPT. LLMs are trained on datasets

curated from diverse sources, which may include public-domain content, proprietary datasets, and web-scraped information depending on the model and its creators. At its core, an LLM is using its troves of collected human language – from novels, to newspapers, to social media posts – to create an answer or generate text that sounds like what a human would say. How CHATGPT and Our Foundation models are developed, OPENAI, <https://help.openai.com/en/articles/7842364-how-chatgpt-and-our-foundation-models-are-developed>; Alex Reisner, The unbelievable scale of AI’s pirated-books problem, THE ATLANTIC (March 20, 2025), <https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2025/03/libgen-meta-openai/682093>. Do not mistake an LLM for an expert or its answers to contain definitively true information. While answers can often be correct because they have been fed correct and factual information, an LLM’s core function is

taking what it has learned from other sources to mimic human language. This means an LLM will also pass off information that it has been fed from any online source, from salacious rumor blogs to the political rants and drivels of your recluse uncle on Facebook, and treat them as real answers, so long as it looks and sounds like a human answer. LLMs can even get basic grammar wrong because answers are based on common usage, not correct usage. For example, when asked which article should precede “LLM,” separate searches through Google’s AI gave confident, yet direct opposite, answers. (The answer is “an.” See, ‘A’ or ‘an’? An

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Indefinite Article Guide, MERRIAM WEBSTER, www.merriam-webster.com/grammar/is-it-a-or-an).

LLMs do not distinguish between fact or fiction in their source information, as long as it looks and sounds correct. While this has led to often-funny instances such as Google’s AI suggesting that you use non-toxic glue in a recipe for cheese pizza, or that humans should eat one rock every day for health benefits, attorneys who do not realize this limitation can use AI to their detriment. Liv McMahon, Google Ai Search tells users to glue pizza and Eat Rocks, BBC NEWS (May 24, 2024), <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cd1lgzejgz4o>.

If an LLM has not been taught on proprietary information, like the case law and motions that are exclusively hosted by vLex, Westlaw or LexisNexis, an LLM will not be able to learn from it for use



in an answer, and instead will create an answer that merely sounds pleasing to you, because it sounds like a human response. This is how invented case law, called “hallucinations,” have started finding their way into legal filings. What are AI Hallucinations?, IBM THINK BLOG (Sept. 1, 2023), <https://www.ibm.com/think/topics/ai-hallucinations>.

“Hallucinations” and Sanctions

The first prominent misuse of AI and the law collided in 2023, when a judge in the Southern District of New York discovered at least six fake cases to show precedent in a legal filing. Molly Bohannon, Lawyer Used ChatGPT in Court—And Cited Fake Case. A Judge is Considering Sanctions, *Forbes*, (June 8, 2023), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/mollybohannon/2023/06/08/lawyer-used-chatgpt-in-court-and-cited-fake-cases-a-judge-is-considering-sanctions>. A member of the legal team admitted that he used ChatGPT in his legal research, and was assured that ChatGPT “could make legal research obsolete.” And then, when asked by the court for more information on the fake cases, the team once again

used ChatGPT to get copies of the case, believing that it was a search engine and not an LLM creating answers about case law from thin air.

This was the first of now many instances across the country – from New York to Wyoming and states in between—of attorneys getting caught citing to hallucinations. See, e.g., *Benjamin v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, No. 24-cv-7399 (E.D.N.Y., April 24, 2025); *Bevins v. Colgate-Palmolive Co.*, No. 25-576 (E.D. Pa., April 10, 2025); *Wadsworth v. Walmart Inc.*, No. 23-cv-118 (D. Wyo., Feb. 24, 2025). Hallucinations occur when a model lacks understanding or is relying on incomplete and inferior training data. If you have not used an LLM before, it may be hard to understand how easy it is to fall for these mistakes.

Here is an example of what a hallucinated case may look like. Let’s pretend I was helping defend someone in my Minneapolis office for citing to hallucinated cases in a filed motion, like the attorneys in the prior examples. I asked ChatGPT to draft a standard of review section for a case about getting sanctioned in Minnesota for the use of ChatGPT in legal briefs. ChatGPT

complied, and in under a minute gave me this paragraph:

This Court reviews decisions regarding sanctions for an abuse of discretion. See *State v. Bahtuoh*, 770 N.W.2d 626, 630 (Minn. 2009). A trial court abuses its discretion when it makes a decision that is against logic and the facts on the record, or when it fails to consider a relevant factor or imposes an unreasonable sanction. See *Eich v. Lubeck*, 527 N.W.2d 349, 352 (Minn. 1995).


Glancing at these citations, nothing looks obviously wrong. They follow BlueBook citations properly, and it sounds like a basic standard of review. But neither of these cases are correct. In the absence of an answer it could find that was accurate, the LLM was trying to give me an answer I wanted to hear, but without the benefit of real case law or a law degree to interpret them correctly. “*State v. Bahtuoh*” is a Minnesota case, but it is from 2013 and about an appellant challenging his conviction of a first-degree felony murder while committing a drive-by shooting. 840 N.W.2d 804, (Minn. 2013). And the case citation, 770 N.W.2d 630, is in the middle of an analysis by the Nebraska Supreme Court about the use of the “rescue doctrine” in the case of a motorist who was injured trying to rescue another motorist. *Rasmussen v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 770 N.W.2d 619, 630 (Neb. 2009). Certainly not a case about AI, let alone about sanctions. The second case is even more of a hallucination. “*Eich v. Lubeck*” does not appear to be a case name in any jurisdiction, let alone in Minnesota. The citation, 527 N.W.2d 352, is a 1994 Wisconsin case about the right to effective assistance of counsel. *State v. Flynn*, 527 N.W.2d 343, 352 (Wis. Ct. App. 1994). In this particular search, ChatGPT lucked out in that one of the stated holdings it ascribed to the fake case was at least correct, but often the holding can be mistaken as well. See, e.g., *Gibson v. Coldwell Banker Burnet*, 659 N.W.2d 782, 787 (Minn. App. 2003) (stating that a decision to impose sanctions is an abuse of discretion). If I were to rely on this paragraph in a brief solely because it looked, at a glance, like it was proper and sounded correct, I would be the next attorney in line for a sanctions hearing.

While I used ChatGPT for this example, you should consider that every LLM is susceptible to giving hallucinated cases or incorrect information. While general-purpose LLMs were found to have a higher hallucination rate than legal-driven LLMs for legal citations, a Stanford study found that the legal research tools developed by LexisNexis and Westlaw each hallucinated between 17 and 33 percent. Varun Magesh, et al., *Hallucination-Free? Assessing the Reliability of Leading AI Legal Research Tools*, J. EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUD. (forthcoming 2025). Since an LLM is focused above all on giving an answer that sounds human, it can even argue with you if you ask it if something it just stated is correct. Like a teenager trying to evade curfew, an LLM can lie because it similarly wants you to agree it is right. Prompt engineering can help you avoid, or at minimum, better detect false answers. Unlike standard search engines, your conversations with an LLM can evolve like an actual dialogue. Like talking with an associate in your office, ask follow-up questions about the sourcing of the information, or let it know when it is getting on the wrong track. Remember, the LLM is actively learning from you. If an LLM is giving you information that you know is incorrect, you can tell the LLM that it is wrong, to help train the model so future answers are also closer to what you are looking for.

The pitfalls of AI should not scare you away from using AI in your practice. Attorneys have gotten into trouble by not only failing to proofread their own AI-driven briefs before filing them, but by also using AI as a full replacement for being an attorney. An attorney asking an LLM to add a section to their brief on the law is asking it to both research and draft simultaneously. When doing that, the LLM, which may not have been fed the case law about that specific topic in your jurisdiction, is not only trying to find an answer where it cannot, it is still going to give you something that looks and feels like a correct, human-drafted answer.

Instead, here is how an attorney trying to draft their brief should use AI. Ask Westlaw Precision’s AI to find cases about sanctions and holdings in your jurisdiction. After verifying the cases are correct, take

the verified holdings and ask ChatGPT to compile a standard of review section using all of the cases you researched and vetted. Then, after drafting your analysis section based on your client-specific facts, ask your closed system Copilot, which is integrated into your Microsoft365 Tenant, to analyze



LLMs do not distinguish between fact or fiction in their source information, as long as it looks and sounds correct.

your brief to see where you could be more persuasive. While this hypothetical workflow is using three different AI products, it is using each product in the way it is best designed to be used, while still using your knowledge and skills as an attorney to know that you are applying good law. You still likely saved time, found on point case law, and made accurate, if not compelling, arguments. If you know the strengths, and most importantly the weaknesses, of any AI product, you can use these products in appropriate and effective ways to enhance your practice and your results.

Ethical Obligations and AI

The use of AI in legal work can very quickly run afoul of ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

In 2024, the ABA released a formal opinion regarding the use of AI in the practice of law, and noted several model rules that were implicated, including the obligation to provide competent representation. ABA issues first ethics guidance on a lawyer’s use of AI tools, ABA (July 29, 2024), <https://www.americanbar.org/news/abanews/aba-news-archives/2024/07/aba-issues-first-ethics-guidance-ai-tools>.

Lawyers using AI also must be cognizant of the duty to keep confidential all information relating to the representation of a client. See Model R. Prof. Conduct 1.6

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(ABA 2025). Certain LLMs will protect client information by not storing it or training on it, but often that is not a feature of the free versions. This requires that attorneys know what their versions will do with the information in order to comply with ethical obligations. You have an obligation to protect your client's information. If I inadvertently feed an open-system LLM (referring to the system architecture, not source code) information about my client because I asked it to summarize all of my client's data I provided it, that information has been retained by the open-system LLM, and you have just inadvertently disclosed attorney-client or work-product privileged information. Do your research on LLMs, use closed-system LLMs for information that is confidential, and be wise what tasks you use open-system LLMs for.

You also have a duty to check your local rules about the use of AI. Several Courts around the country have created standing orders on the uses of AI, including implementing sanctions for misuse. Litigation, Comparison Table – Federal Court Judicial Standing Orders on Artificial Intelligence, BLOOMBERG LAW, <https://www.bloomberglaw.com/external/document/XCN3LDG000000/litigation-comparison-table-federal->

[court-judicial-standing-order](#). This ranges from jurisdictions like the U.S. District Court of New Mexico, which effectively just asks attorneys to be careful in the use of AI, to the U.S. District Court of Hawaii, which requires that an attorney filing a document utilizing AI “must disclose in the document that AI was used and the specific AI tool that was used.” C.J. Kenneth Gonzales, Use of Artificial Intelligence in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico, (May 9, 2025), <https://www.nmd.uscourts.gov/news/use-artificial-intelligence-united-states-district-court-district-new-mexico>; HI R USDCT Order 23-1. Keep on top of rule changes. Just because there is not a rule today does not mean there will not be one next week in your Courts.

Beyond the written rules, know your client's guidelines and discuss all use of AI with your clients. Some clients are simply not going to be okay with the use of AI right now, or maybe ever, which means you need to also remember how to practice law without fully leaning on these tools. You should also consider that there is a social cost to using AI. Some people consider their colleagues' use of AI negatively, and others have raised legitimate concerns about the environmental impact of frequent AI use. Benj Edwards, AI use damages professional reputation, study suggests, ARS TECHNICA (May 8, 2025), <https://arstechnica.com/ai/2025/05/ai-use-damages-professional-reputation-study-suggests>; Adam Zewe, Explained: Generative AI's environmental impact, MIT NEWS (Jan 17, 2025), <https://news.mit.edu/2025/explained-generative-ai-environmental-impact-0117>. The American public at large considers AI more harmful than good, and this likely will include some of your clients. Colleen McClain, et. al, How the U.S. Public and AI Experts View Artificial Intelligence, PEW RESEARCH CENTER (April 3, 2025), <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2025/04/03/how-the-us-public-and-ai-experts-view-artificial-intelligence>. You should be having explicit conversations with your clients about the use or nonuse of AI and document your agreement with them. The use of AI should also be addressed in your retainer agreements, so everyone involved

understands what tools are going to be used while the period of representation exists.

Suggestions for AI Uses

Analyzing Briefs and Drafting Clauses

One use of AI includes reviewing briefs and asking the AI models to find any weaknesses. As a test, you can use your firm-integrated Microsoft 365 Copilot to review a finalized brief. Ask Copilot to analyze it for weaknesses, or to read it with the eye of the opposing counsel and how they could attack your brief. Even your best polished work could have an argument that might need strengthening, and Copilot or other LLMs can review and give critiques of your brief in minutes. This helps take the brief to the next level in no time!

If you are using an open-system LLM, you do not want to feed any proprietary or protected information, but you can still use it for non-confidential purposes to help you find the needle in a haystack. Let's say you need a clause in a release that you do not typically draft. It might take you a long time to hunt through examples of releases in your firm's document management system for the extremely specific clause you are looking for. But you can ask ChatGPT, for example, for several kinds of non-disparagement clauses. You are not risking giving up any client information by doing this, and you save yourself time hunting for the specific clause you want in your contract (of course, after you review and edit it).

Preparing/Summarizing Depositions

After taking hundreds of depositions, I may know the general goals of my questioning and basic answers I seek in every deposition. But there are still questions I may not have considered based on the specific facts of the case. You can ask ChatGPT to brainstorm and generate deposition questions with those specific facts in mind. Asking via your prompt: “Prepare deposition questions for defending a products liability case,” is bound to give you some basic questions that might yield useful information. But this is not like a basic Google search of old – you can give it more direction. Consider adding to your prompt: “Prepare 50 deposition cross-examination questions for a



defense attorney to use against a plaintiff homeowner witness in a products liability case involving a water heater fire in a home with no personal injuries.” I guarantee you the time to craft this detailed prompt only costs you an additional minute, yet it is much more likely to result in cross-examination questions you did not think of, even if you are an experienced products liability attorney.

Now the deposition is over, and you asked the questions you needed of the deponent. Take the additional step and ask for a deposition report based on the notes you took. But remember, an LLM does not know what is important in a given case—you do. However, you can give LLMs plenty of instructions to get the end product you want. Instead of just saying “Look at these notes and summarize them,” you can instead add “Give me a summary with eight paragraphs. The first paragraph is background information. The second paragraph is alleged damages. The third paragraph is the allegations specifically against my client,” etc.

Let’s say you have to report to multiple clients after a deposition. One is legal

counsel, and one is a new board member of the company you are defending. The voice for a report when there is a knowledge gap in the intended audience can be challenging. However, you can just ask your firm-integrated Copilot to redraft a report and request that the voice be for a layperson or any other level of expertise. Now your report, which may be necessarily complex or technical for a reader who needs that knowledge, can be quickly converted to a readable, accessible version for someone who just needs the basics, or vice versa.

Improved Marketing

While the bulk of the discourse in legal circles has been around the use of AI for research and drafting, the other uses of AI in an attorney’s practice are nearly endless.

One major category is the use of AI for marketing. Take a look at your bio or the description of your practice group on your firm’s website. Be honest—how many years has it been since it has been changed? And is it really a description that is going to excite a potential client, or is it a rudimentary recitation that just

checks off the boxes of what you do? You can use AI to suggest edits to your bios. You can keep all the same information but ask for suggestions for better word choice, for featuring certain skills, and other efficiencies. You might be shocked at how a handful of changes by ChatGPT or Copilot can spruce up an outdated bio and practice group pages.

Managing the Team

You can better manage your team through your firm-integrated Copilot to set meetings without reading through numerous emails from your team and looking at their several calendars. You can ask Copilot to review all of your team’s calendars for a meeting time that will work for everyone. You can also ask Copilot to show you the last emails that were sent between team members on a given topic, so you can be reminded of what the team has already covered to avoid rehashing topics and wasting time in meetings.

Slideshow Presentations

If you’ve ever had to give a presentation, whether within your firm or to potential

clients, you know the hassles and tedium that a slideshow presentation can cause. It might seem simple at first, but as the slide count grows, hours evaporate and you're still far from done. Even if you are lucky to have support staff create it for you, you often end up spending more time tweaking the presentation than you'd like because you know best how the final result should look.

I've started using Beautiful AI and it's a game-changer for creating polished slideshows efficiently that I'm happy to attach my name to. By providing the key information I want to include and sharing details like the tone, audience, and overall goals, Beautiful AI generates a complete presentation in minutes compared to many hours. Sure, I still need to make a few edits here and there, but the structure and visuals are already handled, leaving me free to focus on the finer details. Plus, I am always impressed by how well it captures the personality and style I want to convey. For those who do not want a full panoply of AI products, the standard-use LLMs, like ChatGPT and Copilot, can also make slideshows based on your direction, but without the same visual panache.

Verdict Research

When I am trying to determine the potential damages in a case, I have to turn to previous settlement and verdict histories in the jurisdiction I am practicing in. Before, I would have to scan through droves of verdicts, including many that are not analogous to a factual scenario I'm trying to compare to. My searches used to be limited to exact word matches. For example, in the past if I was working on a slip and fall case involving a broken leg, I would have to search individually for other leg injuries like a sprained ankle, torn Achilles, etc., that are factually different medically, but similar enough to kick off my verdict analysis. Now I can ask Westlaw Precision's AI to analyze verdicts for any leg injury, and all of those verdicts are pulled without me needing to think through a whole menagerie of related injuries.

Or if I'm working on a case with fewer similar verdict examples, I might be stuck with verdicts from over a decade ago. I can also ask ChatGPT to look through government data and statistics to tell me

how that jurisdiction has changed in ten years. However, unlike drafting contract terms or basic legal research, be mindful of the bias that creeps into LLMs when using one for questions about groups of people. Where scanning and analyzing labor statistics from the government may seem neutral, the LLMs themselves are a tool built by humans—biases included. James Manyika, Jake Silberg & Brittany Presten, *What Do We Do About the Biases in AI?*, HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW (Oct. 25, 2019), <https://hbr.org/2019/10/what-do-we-do-about-the-biases-in-ai>. Particularly for models that are built on the open internet including message boards and social media posts, stereotypes and bigotry can easily be provided in the LLM's response to your prompts.

Stanford researchers found that results from some searches in LLMs would use extreme racist stereotypes dating from the pre-Civil Rights era. Katharine Miller, *Covert Racism in AI: How Language Models Are Reinforcing Outdated Stereotypes*, STANDARD UNIVERSITY HUMAN-CENTERED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (Sept. 3, 2024), <https://hai.stanford.edu/news/covert-racism-ai-how-language-models-are-reinforcing-outdated-stereotypes>. Other biases found in LLMs include biases about gender as well. A study by MIT found that LLMs think that "flight attendant," "secretary," and "physician's assistant" are feminine jobs, while "fisherman," "lawyer," and "judge" are masculine. Rachel Gordon, *Large Language models are biased. Can logic help save them?*, MIT NEWS (March 3, 2023), <https://news.mit.edu/2023/large-language-models-are-biased-can-logic-help-save-them-0303>. When asking questions about a potential jury pool, issues like race, gender, class, and religion—topics that can be fraught with stereotypes or biases—can quickly come to the forefront. If you are not careful about how you are searching, you will have violated your ethical duties to eliminate any biases in your work.

Work/Life Balance

The use of AI does not need to stop at the office doors. I know I will need a break by the end of the summer, so I decided to plan a trip to Washington state. But

every member of the family had different priorities of what they wanted to see. How do we incorporate the landmark sites my husband wants to visit, the big mountains my son expects to see, and also the scenic shots designed for Instagram that my daughter is craving? Instead of plotting out every location and searching for the best routes and hotels between them all, I asked ChatGPT to give me an itinerary for a seven-day trip, including all of my family's priorities. After 15 minutes of tweaking with follow up requests to ChatGPT, I have an itinerary for a logistically complicated vacation winding around mountains, without spending hours on it.

But for some of us, it is hard to completely turn off from work, even on vacation. Without fail, I will have a deposition scheduled no matter what week of the year I take a vacation. Through tools like Depo CoPilot by Filevine, a real-time AI-powered transcription tool, I can set the goals for a deposition before I have left. Depo CoPilot can then analyze live how my associate is handling the deposition by not only keeping track of the goals I have set, but by flagging the witness's contradictory answers or questions that were essentially evaded by the deponent. Instead of fretting all day while the deposition is occurring and I am supposed to be relaxing, I can briefly step in and monitor how my associate is handling the deposition by seeing the witnesses' responses as they are provided and information about what additional areas need to be covered after the next deposition break.

Conclusion

While I can't agree with the AI "experts" that are promising a complete rehaul of society and the legal profession as we know it through AI, I would go so far as to say that a smart use of AI as a tool can help your practice through creating efficiencies and finding information quickly that was once out of your grasp. Know your LLM models and their limitations, and you can edge out others in this ever-evolving legal landscape, while ensuring to follow the ethical oaths we all swore to uphold.

This is not an endorsement of any specific AI or LLM product.

