ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION

alsca virtual learning series
vls26: ethics edition
06.10.2026

AGENDA

7:50 - Waiting Room Opens | 8-10 - Session 1 (2 CE Hours) | 10-10:10 - Break
10:10-12:10 - Session 2 (2 CE Hours) | 12:10-12:45 - Lunch | 12:45-2:45 - Session 3 (2 CE Hours)

Carolyn Stone
EdD
Professor Emerita,
University of North Florida

Session 1: The Big Ten Court Cases

Counselors who work in schools must negotiate the competing interests of the overregulated school environment, students' need for confidentiality, and the legal rights of parents to be the guiding voice in their children's lives. Updates on these competing interests will be discussed through 10 primary court rulings that guide counselors' legal work in schools. Legal rulings will be highlighted in areas such as sexually active students, bullying, academic advising, child abuse, educational records, sexual harassment, First Amendment rights, cyber speech, and transgender youth. The goal is to facilitate participants' legal literacy and provide guiding principles to support best ethical practice.

After this session, the participant will be able to:
1. Understand the principles of legal behavior for school counselors through the application of court cases.
2. Examine their values/philosophies in ethical decision-making and develop a tolerance for ambiguity.
3. Demonstrate through case studies how to avoid negligence lawsuits, administrative hearings, and criminal proceedings.

Session 2: AI in School Counseling: Ethical Considerations and the Self Efficacy of Counselors

This session shares findings from a national study of school counselors and counseling graduate students on their attitudes, perceptions, and self efficacy related to ethical AI practice. Presenters will examine how AI can support administrative efficiency, communication, and program development, while addressing concerns such as data privacy, equity, loss of human connection, and overreliance on technology. Through research insights and discussion, attendees will explore how to balance innovation with professional integrity and counselor preparation. Participants will leave with an understanding of how to responsibly and ethically integrate AI to enhance, rather than replace school counselors' essential human work.

After this session, the participant will be able to:
1. Identify ethical considerations and privacy concerns related to the use of AI in educational and school counseling settings.
2. Apply practical strategies and resources for the responsible and ethical integration of AI into counseling practice.
3. Evaluate scenarios to determine when AI can be an appropriate tool and when human expertise is essential.

Malti Tuttle
PhD, LPC (GA), CPCS (GA), ATS, NCC, NCSC
Associate Professor and School Counseling Program Coordinator,
Auburn University

John McCall
PhD
Assistant Professor,
Auburn University

David Marshall
PhD
Associate Professor of Educational Research.
Auburn University

Katelyn Nelson
PhD
Academic Innovation & Emerging Technologies Specialist. The Biggio Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning,
Auburn University

Session 3: Bringing It Home: Ethical and Legal Issues in Alabama Schools

This session examines ethical and legal challenges specific to Alabama school counselors. Participants will explore key state statutes, parent rights considerations, confidentiality limits, and emerging pressures impacting practice. Through guided discussion and practical application strategies, attendees will strengthen their ability to navigate complex situations while protecting students, their professional identity, and their practice within Alabama schools.

After this session, the participant will be able to:
1. Identify key Alabama policy and law that impacts school counseling practice.
2. Discuss ethical dilemmas through a state-specific legal lens.
3. Apply practical decision-making strategies to ethically and legally complex situations in Alabama schools.

Amy Upton
PhD, NCC, NCSC
Assistant Professor of Instruction,
University of South Alabama

This workshop is approved for 6 Ethics CE Hours.
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