



# FOUNDATIONS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONALS . . . BUCKLE IN!

ACEDS Midwest Chapter Series – AI For Real

Session 1 of 6

March 25, 2026

# UPCOMING SESSIONS IN THE SERIES

March 25, 2026	Foundations in AI for Legal Professionals: ...Buckle in	Educational Session
April 22, 2026	AI in Action: Lessons from Legal Practitioners	Practitioner Panel
May 27, 2026	Interactive Workshop: AI for Real or Fake???	Workshop
June 24, 2026	Vendor Demonstration: AI Tools Across the Legal Technology Landscape	Vendor Showcase
July 22, 2026	Judicial Perspectives on Artificial Intelligence	Judicial Panel
August 19, 2026	Final Interactive Workshop: Implementing AI in Legal Practice	Workshop

Register for all sessions here: <https://ediscovery.aceds.org/aceds-midwest-ai-series#sessions>





# SPEAKERS



**Jeff Chivers**

*CEO & Head of Product  
Syllo*



**Julie Brown**

*Director of Practice Innovation  
Vorys*



**Paul O'Hagan**

*Sr. Director of AI Product  
Management  
Epiq*



**Mike Quartararo**

*President  
ACEDS*

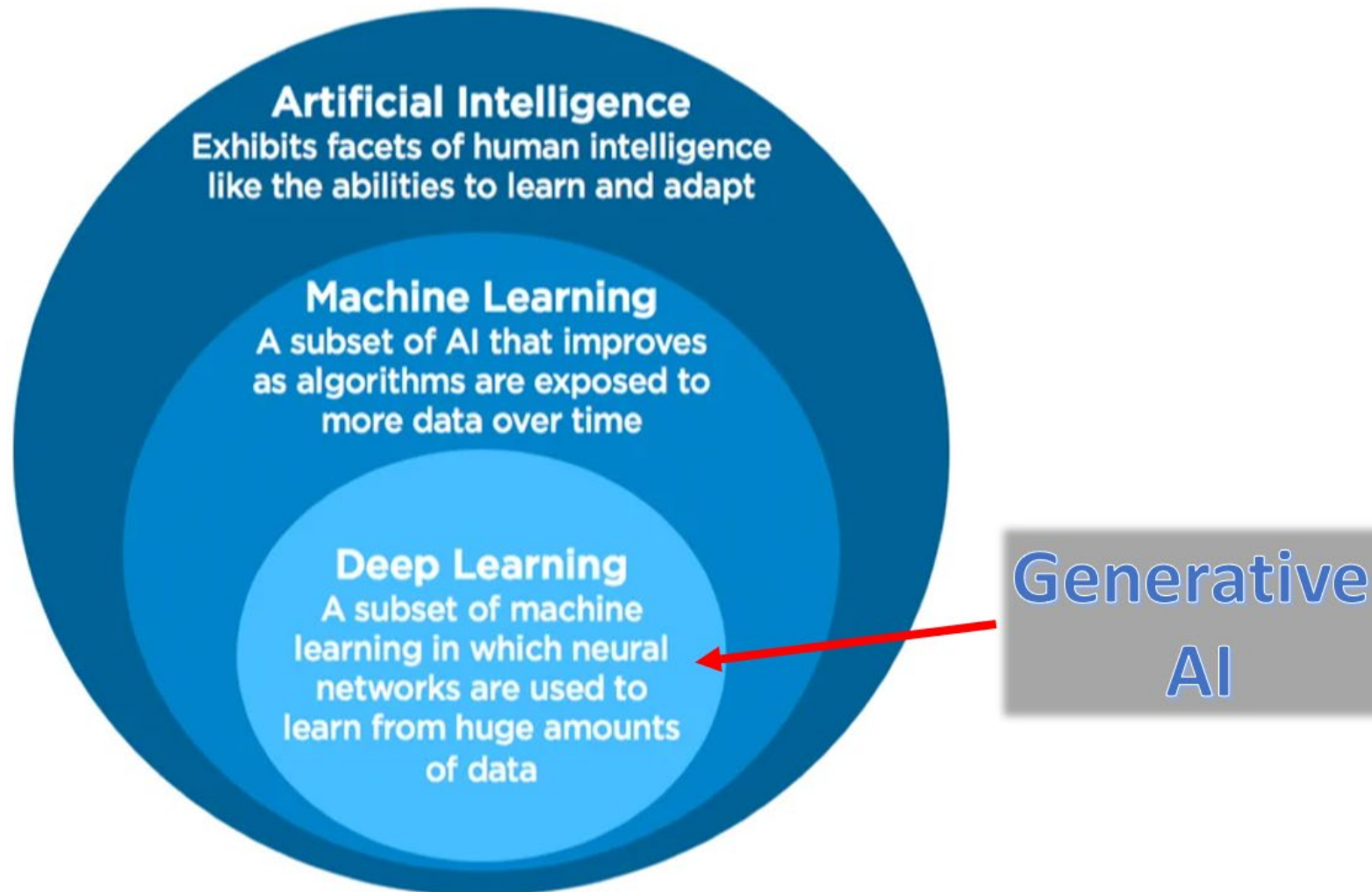


# AGENDA

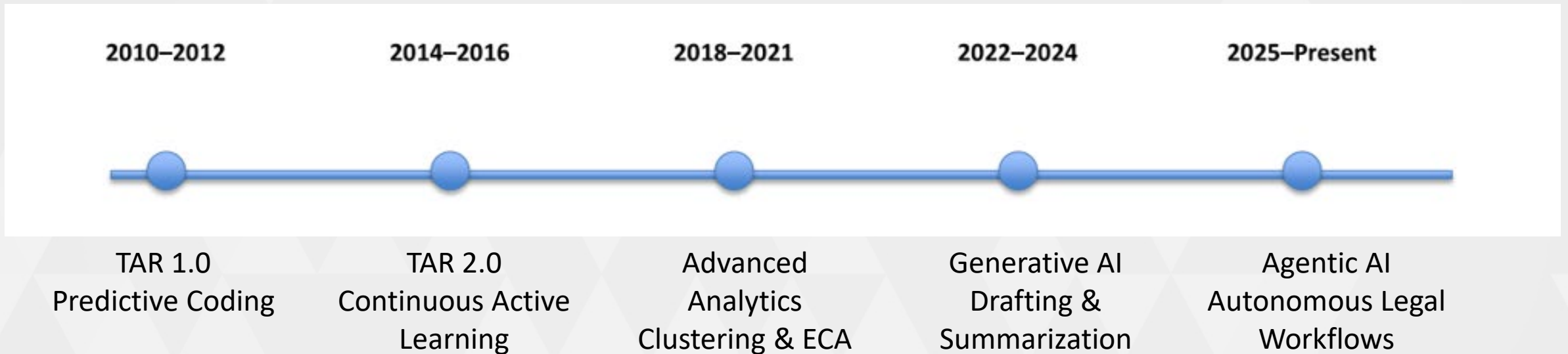
- Introductions
- Defining artificial intelligence
- Understanding agentic AI
- Use cases for legal professionals
- Using AI responsibly
- Closing thoughts and takeaways



# DEFINING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



# AI EVOLUTION IN THE LEGAL SECTOR



# Legal AI Maturity

1

## Standalone LLM

*GPT 3.0 / Original ChatGPT*

Text tokens go into a language model which uses next-word prediction to generate an output, and the output is displayed to the user.

No connected databases of primary source materials or cite checking processes embedded in software operation.

Rife with hallucination and other weaknesses.

2

## Prompt + Documents to LLM

*Document-grounded LLM responses*

User prompt and document(s) are inputted into LLM context.

LLM generates responses to questions and summaries based on the documents provided.

Less hallucination (grounded in documents) but limited in scope of application because of relatively small context.

Requires manual prompt at every step by the user and cannot complete legal workstreams.

3

## Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG)

*RAG*

User prompts guide search, summarization, and question answering.

Retrieval system identifies potentially relevant documents from larger corpus, brings them into a working set of documents, feeds them along with prompts to incorporate the documents into the LLM's context for summarization and question answering.

Expanded scope (millions of documents) but greater risk of false negatives introduced at retrieval stage.

4

## Domain Specific AI

*Guided Workflows*

Built with legal-specific UI and training data.

Introduces scripted workflows for defined tasks (contract review, legal research), but are limited to rigid, pre-determined paths.

Useful for boilerplate output with little variability.

5

## Agentic Legal AI

*Flexible Purpose-specific Agents*

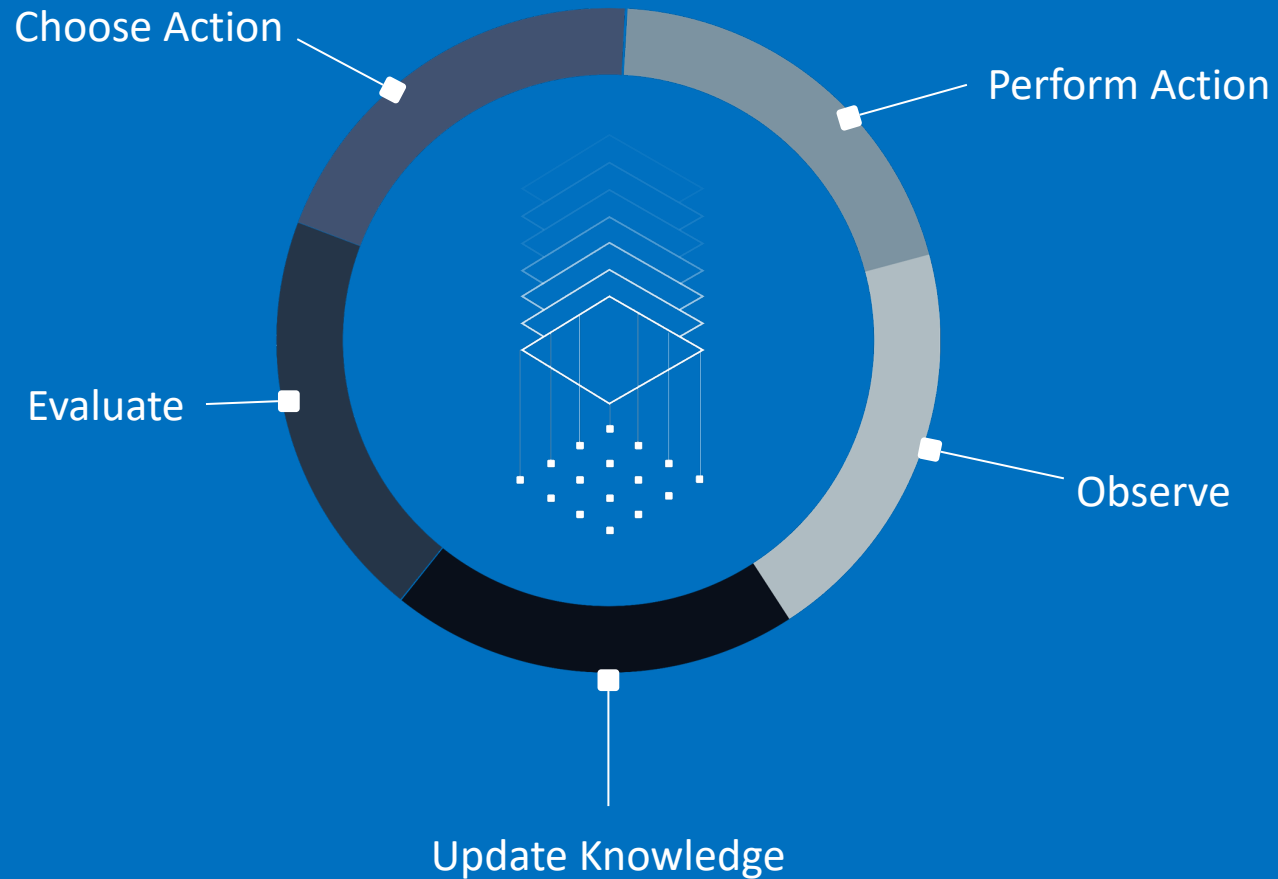
Single or multiple AI agents that can plan and execute multi-step legal tasks with human oversight at specific checkpoints.

Adapts to complex, non-linear workflows across data sources.

Nearly Autonomous for minutes or hours and perform ongoing recursive analysis.



# What Makes AI Agentic?



# LET'S MAKE SENSE OF THE MANY ACRONYMS & DESCRIPTORS!

- AI – Artificial Intelligence
- AGI – Artificial general intelligence
- LLM – Large language model
- ML – Machine learning
- DL – Deep learning
- NLP – Natural language processing
- RAG – Retrieval Augmented Generation
- TAR – Technology assisted review
- Neural network
- Agentic AI
- Generative AI
- Hallucinations



# CONTEXT MATTERS: HOW USING AI DIFFERS IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

- In House
- Law Firm
- Service Provider



# RESOURCES: HOW DO I KNOW WHAT TO USE AND WHEN?

## TEXT GENERATORS:

- OpenAI – Chat GPT 3.5 and 4
- Google – Gemini (formerly Bard)
- Microsoft – Copilot (formerly Bing AI)
- Anthropic - Claude
- Meta - LLaMA

## IMAGE GENERATORS:

- DALL-E 3 (OpenAI)
- Midjourney
- Leonardo.ai
- Adobe Firefly
- Canva Magic Media
- Stability AI

# RISKS

- Privacy – data you submit can be leaked
- Accuracy and validation – it may sound very convincing while being wrong (context window)
- Bias – can inherit bias based on training data
- Safety – bad guys can use it for malice
- Ethical implications for legal professionals

**CAUTION!**

# DEEP FAKES

- After the content is created, and it is SO good, how are you identifying that the content is fake.
  - Ex. Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise fighting
    - <https://x.com/RuairiRobinson/status/2021394940757209134>
    - <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/02/16/movies/tom-cruise-brad-pitt-artificial-intelligence-seedance.html>
- Tune in for our upcoming workshop on distinguishing real and AI-generated content on May 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Register here: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9gblaEupRIqPD6-InJX7Qw#/registration](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9gblaEupRIqPD6-InJX7Qw#/registration)



# USE CASES

- Initial document drafting
- Contract analysis
- Legal research
- Clause extraction & comparison
- Summarization & digestion
- Document classification/analysis
- Chronology generation
- Privilege flagging
- Timekeeping
- Translation
- Early case assessment
- Issues list generation
- Risk analysis
- Cite checking
- Compliance monitoring
- Deal terms analysis
- Legal intake & triage
- Case strategy analysis
- Predictive analytics
- Business operations support

# CLOSING THOUGHTS & TAKEAWAYS

Where are we going next?



# THANK YOU!

And thank you to our partner [Nextpoint](#) for coordinating and sponsoring CLE credit for this session

