



Colin S. Levy

The Legal Tech Ecosystem: Innovation, Advancement & the Future of Law Practice

Foreword by Bjarne P. Tellman, *general counsel, Haleon*

Afterword by Stéphanie Hamon, *Norton Rose Fulbright*



“Colin Levy’s book is a ground-breaking exploration of the intersection of law and technology. A testament to his profound insights, this book offers an enlightening exploration of technology’s transformative power in the legal industry, from automating routine tasks to pushing the boundaries of innovation. He courageously embraces adaptation, innovation, and technology, challenging the conventional ‘This is the way it has always been done’ mindset. The insights and lessons, especially the emphasis on collaboration for success and technology’s potential to enhance rather than replace legal practice, are critical. His book deftly debunks myths and invites the reader to embrace change with an empathetic approach. It’s not just a book; it’s an essential guide for every 21st-century legal practitioner seeking to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of law practice. An unmissable read!”

—Robert Hanna, founder & CEO, KC Partners,
host of the Legally Speaking Podcast

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What Readers Are Saying

“Colin Levy has written a thoughtful, wide-ranging, and invaluable guide to the increasingly important field of legal tech.”

—David Lat, founder, Above the Law

“This book is an excellent step-by-step guide to all things’ legal tech! It’s a must-read for anyone interested in remaining competitive in the legal industry.”

—Julie Savarino, chief client officer, Business Development Inc.

“Because standing still in this market is essentially choosing to fall behind, this book makes sure that won’t happen to you.”

—Chad Aboud, founder, Chad Aboud Consulting

“[Colin Levy’s book] is an indispensable tool for those bold enough to reshape the legal landscape.”

—Mitch Jackson, 2013 California Litigation Trial Lawyer of the Year

“A timely and much needed survey of the legal tech landscape and how innovation and change are disrupting legal practice.”

—Bjarne P. Tellman, general counsel, Haleon

“Readers will walk away armed with the belief that technology can enhance, not replace, the human touch in the business of law.”

—Tommie Tavares-Ferreira, head of Legal Operations, Cedar

“Colin brings a unique and exceptional knowledge to all things Legal Operations and Technology.”

—Justin Vergara, Corporate and Commercial Solutions @ UnitedLex



“The Legal Tech Ecosystem is a vital companion for anyone steering firms’ innovation and information technologies, business’s legal departments, or just interested in technology’s impact on the practice of law.”

—Zack Barnes, director of IP Operations—
Fox Factory and legal tech aficionado

“Levy’s emphasis on bold experimentation and learning-by-doing encourages readers to embrace change and adapt to the evolving legal landscape.”

—Mitchell E. Kowalski, author, The Great Legal Reformation: Notes from the Field

Book Synopsis

The legal landscape is evolving at an unprecedented pace, with the seismic shifts of recent years demanding a fresh perspective on the role of technology and innovation within the legal profession. The **Legal Tech Ecosystem** delves into this essential transformation, shedding light on the crucial interplay between law and technology in today's complex world.

At its core, this book addresses the profound changes unfolding in the legal domain, driven by macro-economic forces. These changes have placed an ever-increasing burden on legal departments to accomplish more with fewer resources. A quartet of pillars—the explosive growth of regulations, the challenges posed by globalization, the convergence of risk dimensions, and the pressure on corporate profits—has created an environment where legal professionals must adapt swiftly to succeed.

Author Colin S. Levy, an esteemed legal practitioner with diverse experiences spanning publishing, education, technology, and cyber security, serves as an invaluable guide through this dynamic landscape. His unique insights, honed across industries and organizational scales, offer readers a deep understanding of the intricate nexus where law, technology, and business converge.

While emerging legal technology has provided effective solutions to these challenges, **The Legal Tech Ecosystem** emphasizes that technology alone is not sufficient. Legal departments must undergo a fundamental digital transformation, rethinking their structures, processes, and approaches to truly capitalize on the benefits technology brings. The real value lies in data—capturing it, analyzing it, and deriving transformative insights from it.

Colin has emerged as a leading thinker in this space, sharing his perspective through podcasts, writings, and insightful commentary. His expertise illuminates the path forward for legal professionals seeking to thrive in this era of change. Agility, flexibility, and innovation will define success, and this book is the perfect companion for those seeking to embrace the future with confidence.



As the legal profession evolves, those equipped with the knowledge and insights provided by **The Legal Tech Ecosystem** will be at the forefront of this transformation. The changing legal environment demands proactive engagement, and this book, curated by one of the field's luminaries, offers the guidance needed to navigate the exciting journey ahead.

The Legal Tech Ecosystem: Innovation, Advancement & The Future Of Law Practice

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The Legal Tech Ecosystem: Innovation, Advancement & the Future of Law Practice offers 13 blockbuster chapters:

CHAPTER 1: Lawyers and Technology Are Quickly Becoming Inseparable

CHAPTER 2: Disrupting the Legal Industry

CHAPTER 3: What Is Legal Technology?

CHAPTER 4: The Legal Technology–Legal Innovation Connection

CHAPTER 5: Technology and Its Seductive Nature

CHAPTER 6: Innovation in Action

CHAPTER 7: Types of Legal Technology

CHAPTER 8: Teaching Legal Technology

CHAPTER 9: Leading Through Change: A Tale of Collaboration and Empathy

CHAPTER 10: Managing People and Managing Change

CHAPTER 11: Artificial Intelligence

CHAPTER 12: The Marketplace and the Evolving State of Play

CHAPTER 13: Dealing with Change



Book Excerpt (Chapter 12)

The Marketplace and the Evolving State of Play **LOOKING FOR TRANSFORMATION**

Jack Newton's identification of cloud computing as transformative, Susan Hackett's distinction between sustaining and transformative change, as well as the experience of daily disruptions in many areas of life—let alone in law—are among the things that speak to what is perhaps an understated search for transformative change.

Long-time legal tech innovator Maya Markovich, who is currently executive in residence at Village Capital and executive director at the Justice Technology Association, has a necessary passion for transforming the practice of law. She is currently focused on building momentum for innovation within the ecosystem of Dentons, the largest multinational law firm in the world. I sat down with her to discuss modernization and the business of law, asking, first, how she would define modernizing the legal profession. Her reply touched on some common themes:

"The legal profession is feeling a broad urgency to rise to modern standards, leveraging current tools, available data, and processes. Since the law hasn't really benefited from these advances as other industries have, lawyers can look at modernization as leveraging the lessons others have learned about operating in a global economy, with all the constraints and benefits of today's world. Clients are often more advanced in this area, pushing their lawyers' firms to eliminate outdated processes and adopt the standards of flexibility, efficiency, and transparency that clients are already using.

"Innovation—constantly trying new things, consciously avoiding preconceived notions or biases, and thinking expansively and creatively about ways to solve problems—is a much more difficult, messier mandate than modernization. But it's nec-

essary to focus on applying new methods to existing workflows and adapting existing workflows to new demands. For substantive progress toward growth, improved efficiency, and increased access to justice, we have to make this tectonic shift as an industry. Law has been essentially static for generations, and we must be looking for opportunities to find new, better ways to work and think."

While technology continues to advance rapidly in so many areas of society, resistance to technology within the legal space remains formidable, driven in large part by fear. However, clients are not hesitant to learn more about how technology can help them stand out on the business front and are starting to demand more from those they turn to for legal support and guidance. "To remain competitive, we need to increase productivity while enhancing the quality of legal processes against an ever-decreasing cost base. To achieve this, there is no other solution than to embrace technology," notes Johan Huizing, associate general counsel for Europe, the Middle East, and Africa at Itron.

Gartner, a leading research firm, predicts the following for the future of the legal technology space and legal departments: Legal departments will increase their spending on legal technology five-fold by 2025; and even earlier, by 2024, legal departments will have replaced 20 percent of their generalist lawyers with non-lawyer specialists.

On the law firm side, firms that want to retain and enlarge their client base will continue to meet their clients where they are, enabled by technological solutions and driven by data and analytics. Yet, for all of technology's effects, if I were to make one prediction about the future of the legal tech space, it would be this: technology will not be the key driver of innovation and change within the law—people and culture will. The more legal culture embraces technology, the more change will happen.

Colin S. Levy

Medium Bio (100 words)

A lifelong student, always seeking knowledge and on a continuous path of education, legal tech attorney Colin Levy is a highly respected expert in this specialized area. Following two passions, the law and the rapidly evolving world of technology, Colin has explored myriad ways in which technology can enhance and assist the legal process.

Already an in-demand speaker and prolific writer, Colin has recently completed his first industry book on the subject, ***The Legal Tech Ecosystem: Innovation, Advancement & the Future of Law Practice***. In this comprehensive, "story-based" book Colin shares examples of how effective technology can be when used in the legal arena. Removing the intimidation and fear, he explores the many avenues legal professionals might implement high-tech tools to assist in the quality and efficiency.

Short Bio (60 words)

Recognized for both his understanding and utilization of technology within the legal arena, legal tech attorney Colin Levy's most recent endeavor is an exciting new industry book, ***The Legal Tech Ecosystem: Innovation, Advancement & the Future of Law Practice***.

Following his lifework, Colin demonstrates how to bridge the gap between the world of high tech and the law in this highly readable publication.

Two-Line Bio (200 characters)

Celebrated legal tech attorney Colin Levy premieres his industry savvy book, ***The Legal Tech Ecosystem***, effectively bridging the gap between high tech and the law.

Speaker Introduction (300 words)

A lifelong student, always seeking knowledge and on a continuous path of education, legal tech attorney Colin Levy is a highly respected expert in this specialized area. Following two passions, the law and the rapidly evolving world of technology, Colin has explored myriad ways in which technology can enhance and assist the legal process.

Already an in-demand speaker and prolific writer, Colin has recently completed his first industry book on the subject, ***The Legal Tech Ecosystem: Innovation, Advancement & the Future of Law Practice***. In this comprehensive book, Colin shares

examples of how effective technology can be when used in the legal arena. Removing the intimidation and fear, he explores the many avenues legal professionals might implement high-tech tools to assist in the quality and efficiency.

As a member of Fastcase 50 (2022), Colin has found his ideal niche, which has provided him with the perfect environment and abundant challenges. The dynamically progressive company called Malbek is where he holds the distinction of being the sole attorney.

Long Bio

Blessed with a keen and inquisitive mind, native Bostonian Colin Levy has felt the driving need for “more” as long as he can remember. More books, more classes, more information, more opportunities to learn.

This voracious appetite for knowledge did not wither or weaken with age, but rather, seemed to gather momentum. As he puts it, “It seems the more I learn, the more I realize how much more I still have to learn.”

As a boy while his classmates bemoaned the amount of homework, Colin’s only complaint was that each subject seemed to move excruciatingly slow. Anxious to know what’s next, what’s new, what more can be discovered, he frequently moved forward in his studies independently, unable to wait for the next installment.

Closely linked to this constant craving for knowledge is Colin’s equally powerful need to be intellectually challenged. Seeking the next theorem, historical fact, or mathematical formula, his quest is never-ending.

This restless need to continuously learn and discover led him to his career in law. But here too, it wasn’t long before he realized a large, corporate firm was not where he belonged. Oh, yes, he was a strong and productive member of such firms where he assisted with litigation, depositions, and discovery through elaborate data systems. While he did expand upon his existing knowledge and acquire real world experience, this was not where he was best suited.

For someone as ambitious and thirsty for constant refilling of the input of facts, figures, and general knowledge, combining his legal prowess with the rapidly growing, constantly evolving world of technology seemed like the perfect marriage.

Happily finding his niche, Colin quickly earned the reputation as a legal tech expert and is in perpetual demand as a coach, speaker, and author on the topic.

“I didn’t just wake up one day and realize that I love legal tech,” says Colin. “My passion for legal tech grew and grows one conversation at a time. It’s those conversations that I have had and I continue to have that sustain my passion.”

His latest endeavor is a brilliant book on the subject, *The Legal Tech Ecosystem: Innovation, Advancement & the Future of Law Practice*. Within these pages, Colin continues to champion his efforts to bridge the gap between the worlds of technology and the law, advocating the myriad ways high-tech tools can make a positive impact within the legal arena.

“I had been thinking about writing a book for quite a while,” he says, “I just didn’t know when I’d find the time or what exactly I wanted to write about. Once I embarked on the actual writing, I quickly realized it was an even larger project than I could have imagined.

But Colin finds writing enjoyable and therapeutic. “It’s a great way to get the many thoughts out of my head; it seems like there’s always so much going on inside my brain and this helps clear my head.”

With such a broad range of interests, it wasn’t immediately clear to Colin precisely what he wanted to write about until he realized the ideal topic was right in front of him.

“As I thought more about it, it occurred to me that the law I’ve been practicing for several years would provide a lot of the material for a solid industry book. I finally decided to give it a shot because I believe there is something here that will help people navigate and understand just what legal tech is and understand other tech things that are being done in this space. I believe that one of the best ways to learn is through stories being told.”

Always a highly organized and extremely focused person, Colin found that even his rigid discipline was put to the test as he set about writing this comprehensive, yet highly readable book while continuing to practice law full time.

Colin S. Levy

His ideal niche, which has provided Colin with the perfect environment and abundant challenges, is with a dynamically progressive company called Malbek where he holds the distinction of being the sole attorney.

"They are in contract lifecycle management, and they basically provide software to legal departments and firms to help manage everything having to do with their contracts," he explains. "They are a startup so there's always a lot to do. It's not my first time being the only lawyer for a startup company, so I feel very comfortable in my role. I love it. Not only do I love the company and the people, but the challenging work keeps me stimulated and engaged, something I just never found working for law firms."

Although it didn't happen overnight and took a bit of trial and error, Colin is quick to share what he considers his good fortune to have found the perfect spot.

"It's something I talk a lot about with others," he says. "It takes time, and sometimes it's difficult, but once you find it you know it and everything in your life feels better and you're happier."

Colin and his partner are the parents of two rather demanding but extremely loveable cats, and the family enjoys a quiet but active life. Both men love to travel; and because of their professions, they are free to do so.



Fun Facts

- Colin is a paternal twin. He and his brother slightly resemble each other but are quite opposite in their interests and personalities.
- Colin loves animals that most people avoid, such as snakes and spiders (especially tarantulas); and his favorite animal is the sloth.
- Colin loves the outdoors and has embarked on many adventures including a multi-week hike through the Rockies, the Pyrenees, and Southern Alps, and is especially fond of intrepid activities such as white-water rafting.

Need a keynote speaker for your next event? Guest blogger? Podcast guest?

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