# American Council of the Blind 2021 Legislative Seminar Agenda

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## Day 1: Monday, February 22, 2021

### 12:00 – 1:00 pm: General Session

Welcome and Political Outlook for 117th Congress – Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA (Moderator); Charles Cooper, Managing Director, Chair of Advocacy at Signal Group, Washington, DC; & Jeff A. Lovitky, Attorney at Law, Washington, DC.

### 1:00 – 1:15 pm: Connection Show 1

### 1:15 – 3:45 pm: Breakout Session 1

#### Breakout A: Transportation (Broadcast on ACB Radio Mainstream)

* 1:15 – 2:00 pm: Safe Air Travel for Passengers and Service Animals - DOT/FAA Update: Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA (Moderator); Livaughn Chapman, Jr., Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Office of Aviation Consumer Protection, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC; Alexander Taday, Director of Civil Rights Advocacy, Office of Aviation Consumer Protection, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC; & Maegan Johnson, Senior Attorney, Office of Aviation Consumer Protection, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC
* 2:05 – 2:55 pm: Safe Air Travel for Passengers and Service Animals - Airline Industry Panel: Sheila Styron, Chair, ACB Transportation Committee (Moderator); Sarah Calhoun, President, Guide Dog Users, Inc. (co-Moderator); Ray Prentice, Consumer Advocate, Alaska Airlines, Seattle, WA; Todd Green, American Airlines, Dallas, TX; Dana Folsom, Manager, Disability Programs, Delta AirLines, Atlanta, GA; & John Kirn, Manager - International Planning, Regulatory Affairs & Accessibility Programs, United Air Lines, Chicago, IL
* 2:55 – 3:00 pm: Break
* 3:00 – 3:45 pm: Autonomous Vehicles (AV) Industry Panel: Ron Brooks, ACB Member, Phoenix, AZ (Moderator); Eric Danko, Director of Federal Affairs, Cruise, Washington, DC;, George Ivanov, Head of International Policy & government Affairs, Waymo, San Carlos, CA; & Dave Furukawa, co-Founder, Foresight Augmented Reality, Atlanta, GA

#### Breakout B: Live, Learn, & Earn with Vision Loss (Broadcast on ACB Radio Live Event)

* 1:15 – 2:00 pm: Education - Debbie Grubb, Chair, ACB Special Education Committee, Bradenton, FL; Lori Scharff, ACB Member, Waynesboro, VA; Mark Richert, ACB First Vice President, Falls Church, VA; Tara Armstrong, Parent Advocate, Louisville, KY
* 2:00 – 2:05 pm: Break
* 2:05 – 2:55 pm: Rehabilitation - Doug Powell, Chair, ACB Rehab Issues Task Force, Falls Church, VA (Moderator); Lee Nasehi, President & CEO, VisionServe Alliance, Winter Park, FL; Kelly Buckland, Executive Director, National Council on Independent Living, Washington, DC; & Bill Robinson, President, National Council of State Agencies for the Blind, Lansing MI
* 2:55 – 3:00 pm: Break
* 3:00 – 3:45 pm: Services for Older Americans with Vision Loss - Jeff Thom, President, Alliance on Aging and Vision Loss, Sacramento, CA (Moderator); Mark Richert, ACB First Vice President, Falls Church, VA; Pris Rogers, co-Chair, Funding & Policy Goal Committee, National Coalition on Aging and Vision Loss, Rogersville, TN

### 3:45 – 4:00 pm: Connection Show 2

### 4:00 – 5:30 pm: General Session 2

Voting & Day 1 Wrap Up

* 4:00 – 4:45 pm: Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA (Moderator); Donald Palmer, Vice Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Washington, DC; Lisa Schur, Professor, Co-director, Program for Disability Research, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; & Douglas Kruse, Distinguished Professor, Co-director, Program for Disability Research, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
* 4:45 – 5:30 pm: Panel of state and local election officials: Christine (Chris) D. Walker, Clerk, Elections Office, Jackson County, Medford, OR; Amelia Powers Gardner, Clerk, Utah County, UT; & Lisa Lewis, Election Director, Volusia County, FL

## Day 2: Tuesday, February 23, 2021

### 12:00 – 1:00 pm: Welcome & General Session 3

Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA (Moderator); & Sachin Pavithran, Executive Director, U.S. Access Board,  Providence, UT

### 1:00 – 1:15 pm: Connection Show 3

### 1:15 – 3:45 pm: Breakout Session 2

#### Breakout A: Digital Inclusion

* 1:15 – 2:00 pm: FCC Disability Rights Office: Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA (Moderator); Diane Burstein, Deputy Bureau Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC; Will Schell, Attorney Advisor, Disability Rights Office, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC
* 2:00 – 2:05 pm: Break
* 2:05 – 2:50 pm: Broadband Access: Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA (Moderator); Cindy Hollis, ACB Membership Services Coordinator, Flat Rock, MI; Zachary Bastian, Manager, Strategic Alliances, Verizon Communications, Washington DC; Jacquelyn “Jackie” Puente, Executive Director, External Affairs, Comcast NBCUniversal, Washington, DC; & Troy Otillio, CEO, Aira, San Diego, CA
* 2:50 – 2:55 pm: Break
* 2:55 – 3:45 pm CVAA 2.0: Kim Charlson, Immediate Past President, ACB, Watertown, MA (Moderator); Blake Reid, Director of the Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law & Policy Clinic, Boulder, CO; Carl Richardson, co-Chair, Audio Description Project, Brighton, MA; & Karen Peltz Strauss, National Disability Advocate, Washington, DC

#### Breakout B: Health & Wellness

* 1:15 – 2:00 pm – Pat Sheehan, ACB Board Member, Silver Spring, MD (Moderator); & Badar Tareen, Civil rights Analyst, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC
* 2:05 – 2:50 pm: Low Vision Devices – Jeff Thom, ACB Advocacy Steering Committee Chair (Moderator); & Joseph Nahra, Director of Government Relations, Powers Law Firm and Coordinator, Independence Through Enhancement of Medicare and Medicaid (ITEM) Coalition, Washington, DC
* 2:55 – 3:45 pm: Diabetics’ Bill of Rights: Tony Stephens, ACB Director of Development, Baltimore, MD (Moderator); Jeff Bishop, ACB Board Member, Kirkland, WA; Brian Charlson, President, Baystate Council of the Blind, Watertown, MA

### 3:45 – 4:00 pm: Connection Show 4

### 4:00 – 5:30 pm: General Session 4

Blindness Partners & Conclusion – Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA (Moderator); Stephanie Enyart, Chief Policy & Research Officer, American Foundation for the Blind, Arlington, VA; Paul W. Schroeder, Vice President of Government and Community Affairs, American Printing House for the Blind, Silver Spring, MD; Rick Webster, Vice President, Public Policy, National Industries for the Blind, Alexandria, VA; John G. Paré Jr., Executive Director for Advocacy and Policy, National Federation of the Blind, Baltimore, MD; Barbara Raimondo, Executive Director, Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf, Washington Grove, MD; Sara D. Brown, MPA, Director of Government Affairs, Prevent Blindness, Washington, DC; & Eve Hill, Attorney, Brown Goldstein Levy, Baltimore, MD

### 5:30 – 6:30 pm: Legislative Imperatives Open Discussion: Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA

## Wednesday, February 24 — Friday, February 26: Affiliate Virtual Capitol Hill Visits