

Battle of the Economic Experts 2026

Event

Thursday, February 19, 2026 | Networking Reception: 7:30–8:15 am CT | Panel Discussion: 8:15–10:00 am CT

[Register Here](#)

The US economy stands at a critical crossroads. Inflation has cooled, interest rates appear poised to shift, and markets continue to climb—raising a pressing question: is this sustainable growth or a market bubble in the making? As investors and business leaders look ahead, uncertainty remains the only constant.

At the same time, transformational forces are reshaping the landscape. Artificial intelligence is accelerating change across industries, redefining productivity, labor, and competitive advantage. Capital remains abundant but cautious, banks are selective, and dealmakers are watching closely for signs of both opportunity and distress.

Join us for a dynamic economic forum as our panel of leading experts debate what lies ahead—and what it means for markets, transactions, and strategy.

Key topics include:

- **Fed Independence and the “Sell America” Trade**
- **Real Estate Market Outlook**
- **Is the Stock Market Overvalued?**
- **The Economic Impact of Artificial Intelligence**
- **M&A and Distress Market Outlook**

This timely discussion will cut through the noise and deliver practical insights for navigating the year ahead.

Join us for the annual "Battle of the Economic Experts" event, co-hosted by Ravinia Capital LLC. Panelists Jack A. Ablin (Cresset Capital), Jennifer Bransfield (Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives), and Tom Goldblatt (Ravinia Capital LLC) will provide their perspectives on pertinent issues related to the

US and global economy. The discussion will be moderated by Jenner & Block Partner Michelle McAtee.

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Related Attorneys



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Event Information

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353 N. Clark St.

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Panel Discussion: 8:15–10:00 am CT

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