The Supervision Standard

What a firm should demand of any AI it lets near a client file — named review, matter binding, source provenance, and an audit trail that survives scrutiny.

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Firms adopting AI do not need another manifesto. They need a short list of non-negotiables — demands that any tool must meet before it touches a client file.

Named review before release

No output leaves the firm without a named, authorised reviewer. A checklist without a person is not supervision. The record must show who approved what, on which matter, and when.

Matter binding

Work product is bound to a matter, not a free-floating chat. If the system cannot show the client and matter context that constrained the draft, it is not ready for practice.

Source provenance

Claims that matter to advice must point to retrievable material. Unsourced confidence is not a feature.

An audit trail that proves judgment

Logs of clicks are not enough. The trail must preserve the decision to release, the version released, and the supervisor who accepted the risk.

How to use this standard

Treat these four demands as a procurement filter. If a vendor cannot demonstrate them in a live matter workflow — not a slide deck — do not put the tool near client work.