



FDCC

DEFENSE LAWYERS. DEFENSE LEADERS.

An organization of distinguished defense and corporate counsel dedicated to knowledge, justice, and fellowship.

FDCC E-Newsletter

August 2016

From the President



Dear Federation Friends,

Many thanks to Steve and Lee Farrar for their outstanding leadership this past year! The FDCC has prospered and we are well positioned for the future. I appreciate all that Steve did to

leave the FDCC in great shape for me and our 2016/17 Board of Directors. It is truly an honor to serve you as President of the Federation and Carol Anne joins me in thanking you for this privilege. We are looking forward to the opportunity to expand the reach of the FDCC's reputation for excellence.

I know that all of you who were in Charlevoix join me in thanking Mike and Tricia Glascott for providing us with a wonderful week of "cool" beauty in a magnificent location. Also, congratulations to Brett Preston on a great program and many thanks to Amanda for running a smooth registration desk. We had an awesome week filled with all the fun, fellowship, and knowledge for which the FDCC is famous. I think the experience was best summed up by Past-President Wayne Mason, who said, "We are not family-



MASTERS IN MARKETING COMING SOON

We are seeking applications for the upcoming "Masters in Marketing" program which will take place in Charleston on March 6, 2017. Please nominate young partners from your firm or non FDCC firms whom you believe would benefit from developing their rainmaking skills. [Click here to submit an application to the FDCC.](#)



This coming year is dedicated to continuing our “Above & Beyond” in all that we do as the premier defense bar organization. This starts with your Board of Directors and P&O Committee who will be meeting in Philadelphia on September 17th. We will orient our new members and continue the implementation of our Strategic Plan 2015, “The Way Forward.” Our mission is to continuously improve the value proposition of our FDCC membership. If you want to get more involved, call me and I will be glad to assist.

Immediately following our P&O Meeting, our acclaimed Corporate Counsel Symposium begins on September 18th. This year’s program, “21st Century Practice of In-House Counsel,” returns to Philadelphia, one of our most popular locations. Also, for the first time ever, registration fees are waived for corporate counsel and industry members. Yes, that means your clients can attend this fabulous program for ***FREE!*** As you might imagine, registrations are already outpacing any previous year. Many thanks to: Beth Kaufman, Alan Bryan, Mike Bonasso, David Nicholas, Meryl Lieberman, and Dan Gerhan for their hard work on this crown jewel of Federation Knowledge. Defense Counsel, call your clients now and join us in Philly for a program they will thoroughly enjoy and one which will provide them with a wonderful chance to network with their contemporaries.

We have an outstanding year planned, including new and exciting programs such as Ladder Down, Masters in Marketing, and the Professional Women’s Forum. Stay tuned for more information on these as well as our existing meetings, programs, and projects.

Thanks for all you do to make the Federation, “Above & Beyond,”

Mills

2017 FDCC LADDER DOWN PROGRAM

Women are entering the practice of law in greater numbers than ever before, but are struggling to land positions as equity partners, shareholders, and top rainmakers at firms across the nation. The reason for the disparity is clear: women lawyers are not receiving effective training on how to build a book of business and how to become better leaders. In 2012, FDCC members Alison Christian and Beth Fitch created a unique year-long program called “Ladder Down” to combat the startling statistics and change the course for women lawyers.

In 2017, FDCC members Joyce Wang, Linda Moroney, and Michele Miller are launching Ladder Down in San Francisco starting in January. Plans are also underway to facilitate a 2017 Ladder Down program in Phoenix, Arizona. Both programs are looking for sponsors, [click here for information.](#)

The program is unique in both structure and content and runs year-long with monthly sessions dedicated to instruction in three key areas: leadership, business development, and mentoring. In addition to the monthly group meetings, the participants meet quarterly with small accountability groups to report on their progress and set new goals.

CORPORATE COUNSEL SYMPOSIUM

21st Century Practice of In-house Counsel

September 18 – 20, 2016 | Philadelphia

Register Now for the 2016 CCS!

September 18 – 20, 2016

Hotel Sofitel, Philadelphia

Don't miss your chance to reserve a spot for you and a corporate guest at the 13th annual Corporate Counsel Symposium beginning Sunday afternoon, September 18 at 4:00 pm and ending at noon on Tuesday, September 20 in the beautiful Hotel Sofitel located in the heart of Philadelphia's historic district. Registration fees for in-house counsel are complimentary. Outside counsel who attend with a corporate guest enjoy a discounted registration fee of \$795. This year's robust program begins on Sunday afternoon with a panel discussion addressing the 2015 FRCP Amendments and what the changes will mean to you and your clients. Panelists on Monday include **Former Pennsylvania Governor Edward Rendell** speaking about what to expect after the Presidential elections.

Everything from government regulations to law firm metrics and analytics, data privacy, and ethical issues facing in-house and outside counsel will be explored by leaders in their fields. A not to miss event is our lively and informative corporate counsel roundtable where your clients tell you what is really on their minds. Our receptions and dine around afford a wonderful opportunity to network with the top corporate counsel in the country. Don't miss this unique opportunity.

To register for the CCS, [click here](#). Space is limited and this event always sells out. Looking forward to seeing you there.

For hotel room reservations and more information,

Ladder Down programs, click on the location

[SAN FRANCISCO](#)
[ARIZONA](#)



Robert (Bob) A. Babcock, a Past President of the FDCC in 1988 – 1989, passed away on August 10th. He will be greatly missed. Please keep Donna and family in your thoughts and prayers.

NEW MEMBERS

Russell S. Buhite

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.
Tampa, FL

Rayma J. Church

Emerson Church
Fresno, CA

Eric G. Ciesielski

State Farm Insurance Mutual Automobile Co.
Bloomington, IL

Kiera O. Goral

QBE North America
Frisco, TX

Kimberly A. Salmon

United Insurance Holdings Corp. d/b/a UPC Insurance
St. Petersburg, FL

George Gregory Schuetz

Linde North America, Inc.
Bridgewater, NJ

John C. Sciacotta



After Charleston was named the 2016 Best City in the World by *Travel + Leisure* magazine, Charleston's *The Post and Courier* newspaper ran a poll asking respondents for their reaction to the award. The results? Of the hundreds of people who responded, the number one response was, "Shhh . . . stop telling everyone!" We can't help it, though, and we're telling all of our Federation friends about the 2017 FDCC Winter Meeting, which will be held in Charleston, South Carolina.

This meeting will be shorter, so please note the following when making your travel plans. Most administrative committee meetings, including the board meeting, will take place on Monday, March 6, 2017. Join your Federation family for a fabulous welcome reception at the William Aiken House that evening. Trial Masters kicks off the program on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 7. Follow that with cocktails, the dine-around, and a dessert party in the Riviera Theater. On Wednesday, you'll want to rise early for section meetings and the start of Clark Hudson's knock-out plenary program.

Wednesday evening will be our President's Reception and Bow Tie Ball featuring The Voltage Brothers. Our theme party at Lowndes Grove on Thursday evening will feature a traditional South Carolina Low-Country Oyster Roast, but no worries as we will have plenty of other seafood and non-seafood fare for all. We wrap up the Winter Meeting with our business meeting and keynote speaker on Friday, March 10, 2017, which leaves everyone the opportunity to plan a weekend stay on Kiawah or one of the other barrier islands.

You'll love where we are staying: the Belmond Charleston Place Hotel. Located in the heart of the downtown historic district, the hotel is walking distance from much of the dining, history, shopping, art, and architecture for which Charleston

Larry D. Smith
Southern Trial Counsel PLC
Orlando, FL

Travis W. Smith
Burns White LLC
Pittsburgh, PA

Cheri K. Trites-Versluis
EMC Insurance Companies
Des Moines, IA

Ronald A. Van Wert
*Etter, McMahon, Lamberson,
Van Wert & Oreskovich, PC*
Spokane, WA

Heidi L. Vogt
von Briesen & Roper, s.c.
Milwaukee, WI

FDCC PUBLICATIONS

[Hot Cases](#)

[E-Newsletters](#)

[Insights](#)

[Federation Flyer](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 18-20, 2016
**Corporate Counsel
Symposium**
Hotel Sofitel
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

October 20, 2016
5:00 – 6:30pm
**FDCC Cocktail Reception at
the DRI Annual Meeting**

we arrive. To reserve your room, call the Belmond Charleston Place Hotel at 800-831-3490. Be sure to reference the FDCC to receive our group rates, and please note that the last night of our room block rates is Thursday evening.

Stay tuned for the brochure later this fall, which will have more details about what will surely be a very special meeting. In the meantime, ignore Ghostbusters star and Charleston resident Bill Murray's advice to foodie show host Anthony Bourdain, "I'm right on the edge here of telling people this is a really nice place to come . . . really, I don't want anyone else to come. I like it the way it is."

We promise Charleston really will live up to its reputation!

Lee and Michael Scott
Convention Chairs

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