

FEDERATION OF DEFENSE & CORPORATE COUNSEL



FDCC

DEFENSE LAWYERS. DEFENSE LEADERS.

FDCC 2024 WINTER MEETING

**WALKING IN
SUNSHINE**

FEBRUARY 25 - 29, 2024

THE VINOY RESORT & GOLF CLUB,
AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

WALKING IN SUNSHINE

I am writing this while sipping a glass of champagne at Paul's Landing, a restaurant at the Vinoy Resort & Golf Club. It's about 72 degrees today, November 1, and I am watching seagulls fly over the bay. The Convention Team is wrapping up its trip to St. Petersburg to finalize our 2024 Winter Meeting plans.

In front of me is the North Yacht Basin. A dolphin-watching cruise is about to set off across the bay; if that sounds good to you, turn to page 15. Nearby sits the yacht we boarded yesterday to work out the FDCC's first-ever sailing yacht race – see page 13 for details about that. Across the basin, I can see where our deep-sea fishing tour will depart (page 13), or for those looking for a shorter trip, the bay fishing tour (page 10). And I can see St. Petersburg Pier, a 26-acre attraction on the waterfront with restaurants, art galleries, a park, and more – about a 7-minute walk from our hotel.

To my left lies the Vinoy Esplanade, a large, open lawn space where we will hold our Welcome Reception Sunday afternoon (page 7). The Esplanade fits several hundred people easily, and it has an expansive view of the basin. The Convention Team discussed décor, lighting, and most importantly, where to place the food and bartenders.

To my right is the Vinoy's renovated pool. In February 2023, the high temperatures regularly hit the low 80s, with no precipitation, so a dip might sound good. Otherwise, you can just lounge on a cabana or in a couch at the new pool bar. If for some reason you want to go indoors, the Vinoy Spa is next to the pool, so you can relax with a massage or a facial treatment. A short walk from the spa is the new health club and fitness cent... actually, let's not worry about that right now.

Behind me, on the other side of the hotel, is Vinoy Grand Ballroom, the space for our James Bond-themed casino night – Casino Vinoyale. Casino Vinoyale will feature craps, blackjack, murderous henchmen, and femmes fatales. James Bond didn't have a formal dress code, and neither will we, but you are welcome to channel your inner Sean Connery or Famke Janssen for some pictures by our themed decorations. The money will be fake, but the prizes will be real, so be sure to stick around to spend your hard-won chips.

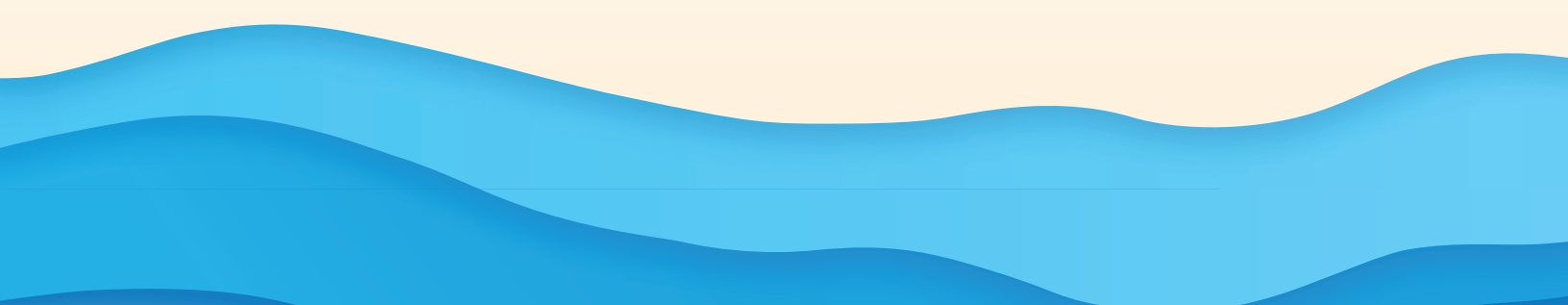
This morning, we visited the Museum of the American Arts and Crafts Movement, where we will hold Monday's President's Reception. Along the way, we passed the Dali Museum, which boasts the second-largest collection of Salvador Dali's works in the world (page 10). We also went by the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts, featuring works from nearly 5,000 years of civilization and rotating exhibits from artists around the world (page 15). We reached the reception site before we got to the world-famous Duncan McClellan Gallery, where you can take a wine-glass etching class and view world-class glass art (page 10).

We got to the museum and started planning the reception. Starting with a drink at the antique bar on the second floor, you will be able to tour five floors of American art and craftwork before heading down to the palatial atrium for dinner, drinks, and music. As we looked over the museum and made arrangements, President Craig Marvinney said "This is so breathtaking, let's do this!" and First Lady Paula McQueen spoke of her vision for the venue.

It is going to be great. The FDCC has never held a meeting in St. Petersburg, and the Convention Team is excited to make the 2024 Winter Meeting an unparalleled experience. From the gorgeous Vinoy Resort to the marine excursions to St. Petersburg beach (page 15), the 2024 Winter meeting will be four days of fellowship, learning, and excitement that you will remember for years.

We'll be walking in sunshine. And won't it feel good!

Sean and Wendy-Nia Griffin, Convention Chairs
Frank and Ana Ramos, Program Chairs



WEEK AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY, FEB. 24

ADMINISTRATIVE
PROGRAM
ACTIVITIES
SOCIAL

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Officers' Meeting

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Executive Committee Meeting

SUNDAY, FEB. 25

7:30 am - 8:00 am

Membership Development Committee Meeting

7:30 am - 8:00 am

Membership Recruitment Committee Meeting

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Finance & Budget Meeting

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Communications Committee

9:00 am - 10:00 am

State Representative Committee Meeting

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Foundation Meeting

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Diversity Committee

MONDAY, FEB. 26

7:00 am - 9:00 am

Breakfast

The Use of a Courtesy Defense for Former Employee Depositions and Trial Testimony: An Arrow in the Quiver, an Ethical Trap, or Both? Part 1

The Curse of the Multiple Mediations: Settling Cases Post-Pandemic

Institutional to Innovative: New Arguments in Product Liability

ESG Litigation Lands in America

Changing the Narrative: Effective Representation of Law Enforcement Clients

Law Firm Technology – What to Use and How to Use It

Communicating with Your C-Suite

8:50 am - 9:00 am

Break

9:00 am - 9:10 am

Welcome

9:12 am - 9:30 am

An Introduction to the Florida Supreme Court

9:30 am - 9:35 am

Welcome by President

7:00 am - 9:00 am

TUESDAY, FEB. 27

7:00 am - 9:00 am

Breakfast

The Use of a Courtesy Defense for Former Employee Depositions and Trial Testimony: An Arrow in the Quiver, an Ethical Trap, or Both? Part 2

Posturing Your Case to Win on Appeal

All Over the Map: Leadership in Supervising National/Regional Claims Professionals with Multi-Jurisdictional Coverage

Playing defense - avoiding pitfalls and practical advice for the 30(b)(6) deposition

Alpocalypse Now: How to Protect Clients in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Crisis is Our Brand – Dealing with Surprises, Disasters, and Nightmares

8:50 am - 9:00 am

Break

9:00 am - 9:05 am

Introductions

9:05 am - 10:00 am

Fed Talks on Leadership

9:45 am - 10:00 am

Break

10:05 am - 11:00 am

Dear Plaintiff: We Know What You Did Last Summer. No More Secrets. Uncovering the Truth About Your Plaintiff

8:00 am - 8:50 am

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

7:00 am - 9:00 am

Breakfast

8:00 am - 8:05 am

Announcements

8:05 am - 9:00 am

Masters In Mediation The Flight Plan – Part III - The Negotiations

9:00 am - 9:40 am

Handling the Bet the Company Matter

Trial Masters - Fed Talks – Trial Under Fire

9:40 am - 9:45 am

Announcements

9:45 am - 10:00 am

Break

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Business Meeting

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Surviving 9/11 - The Heroic Story of Joe Torillo

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Admissions Committee Meeting	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Projects & Objectives Meeting	6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Board Reception and Dinner
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SATURDAY, FEB. 24

10:00 am - 3:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting	11:00 am - 8:00 pm Federation Express	3:15 pm - 4:45 pm New Member Orientation	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Meeting Kickoff	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Welcome Reception
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SUNDAY, FEB. 25

9:35 am - 10:20 am The Opioid Litigation	10:00 am - 5:00 pm Headshots and Makeup	10:20 am - 10:30 am Break	10:30 am - 11:00 am Resolved: Lawyers must use and understand the benefits and risks of ChatGPT, generative AI, and large language models	11:00 am - 11:05 am Announcements	11:05 am - 12:00 pm Leading through Litigation Management	1:00 pm - 5:15 pm Bay Fishing	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Wine Glass Etching at the Duncan McClellan Gallery	1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Florida Orange Groves Winery Tour	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Cocktail Tour	2:30 pm - 4:00 pm Dall Museum Tour	6:30 pm - 10:30 pm President's Reception
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MONDAY, FEB. 26

11:00 am - 11:05 am Announcements	11:05 am - 12:00 pm Leader Upheaval: A Guide to Collaboration, Client-Centricity, and Culture Creation	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm "You Write Because You Must"	1:00 pm - 5:30 pm Golf	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Sunken Gardens	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Pickleball	1:00 pm - 5:30 pm Deep-Sea Fishing	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Sailboat Racing Adventure	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm E-Bike Mural Tour	1:30 pm - 4:00 pm E-Bike Food Tour	6:00 pm - 11:00 pm Dine With Friends Diversity Dinner	9:00 pm - 11:00 pm Dessert Party
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TUESDAY, FEB. 27

12:30 pm - 4:00 pm Cooking Class	12:30 pm - 4:00 pm The Inaugural FDCC Shuffleboard Tournament	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Kayak Tour of Mangroves	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Helicopter Tour	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Museum of Fine Arts	2:15 pm - 4:30 pm Dolphin Watching	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm St. Petersburg Beach	6:30 pm - 10:30 pm Casino Vinoyale
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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28



HOTEL

The Vinoy Resort & Golf Club, Autograph Collection
501 5th Ave NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 894-1000

Since 1925, the Vinoy has graced St. Petersburg, but it joined the 21st century thanks to extensive renovations that finished in April 2023. The Vinoy added five new restaurants, an Orange Theory-style fitness center, a new pool and pool bar, a veranda, and more. Part of Marriott's prestigious Autograph Collection, the Vinoy also offers a par-71 golf course and tennis courts.

Our room block consists of 284 of the hotel's 354 rooms. For a "run of house" room, we have negotiated a rate of \$353 per night, plus taxes and resort fees. (As I write this, rooms at the Vinoy in February 2024 start at \$529 per night, plus tax.) After you register, you will receive a link with which you can reserve a room in our room block. You must register for the Winter Meeting before you can book a room within our room block.

Our room block is guaranteed until February 1, 2024, or until all 270 rooms are booked.

Check-in time is 4:00 p.m., and check-out is 11:00 a.m. Download the Marriott app now to expedite your check-in. The less time you spend checking in, the more time you can spend checking out St. Petersburg.

The Vinoy has a valet service for \$39/day. The hotel also offers electric car charging facilities. Please note that the garage cannot accommodate vehicles over 6 feet 8 inches tall, so please leave your hammerhead crane at home.

The hotel's bars and restaurants will close at 10:00 p.m. Obviously, this was unacceptable, so we have arranged to open a speakeasy on the Fifth Avenue side of the Vinoy's Lower Level. Sean's Café Americain will be open from 10 p.m. to midnight Sunday and Monday. (Tuesday is the Dessert Party, and Wednesday you'll be at Casino Vinoyale.)

GETTING TO ST. PETERSBURG

Commercial airline service began in the St. Petersburg area, when pioneer aviator Tony Jannus flew the inaugural flight of the St. Petersburg-Tampa Airboat Line on January 1, 1914, from St. Petersburg to Tampa -- the first scheduled commercial airline flight in the world using a heavier-than-air airplane. With this pedigree, how could travel to St. Petersburg be anything but great?

Indeed, getting to the Winter Meeting will be easy. From 72 American cities and 81 cities worldwide, you can fly



direct to Tampa International Airport – the Best Large Airport in the country according to both Forbes and J.D. Power. From there, the Vinoy is only a 30-minute ride away.

Alternatively, you could fly to the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport, which offers direct flights to and from over 60 cities. The St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport is about 22 minutes away from the Vinoy.

WEATHER AND DRESS CODE

St. Petersburg holds the Guinness World Record for most consecutive days of sunshine – 768 days. The average February high is 72 degrees, but in late February 2022 and 2023, the weather regularly reached the low to mid 80s, with lows in the mid 60s, with only four days of precipitation.

For the program and business meetings, we recommend business casual. Few, if any of the area restaurants have a dress code.

We recommend cocktail attire for the President's Reception.

For Casino Vinoyale, wear something James Bond or one of his companions would wear. For example...



CHARM – V FOR VINOY

The FDCC started selecting gold charms to commemorate its meetings in 1960. Over the years, we have made it a tradition to select a specially designed charm to remind you of the fond memories of the venue or the meeting's theme. This year, President Craig Marvinney and First Lady Paula McQueen have selected a stylized "V" representing the Vinoy Hotel. Charms are specifically ordered, so be sure to purchase your charm when you register.



FDCC FEDNOW APP

WE RECOMMEND DOWNLOADING THE FEDNOW APP

During the meeting, the app will open directly to the meeting schedule, and you can use the app to keep track of meetings and excursions, including last minute changes. You can also report your CLE through the app.

The app is also fun! You can connect and communicate with members through the app, and you can share pictures, like an FDCC Facebook!

MEETING REGISTRATION

The early bird conference registration rate is \$1,995 for Defense Counsel members and \$850 for guests. Early bird registration ends on February 1, 2023. After that date, the rate is \$2,145 for Defense Counsel members and \$850 for guests.

The rate for Corporate and Industry members is \$695

The rate for guests is \$850

The rate for Emeritus Members and their guests is \$800.

The registration rates for children are tiered based upon age. Children 3 and under are complimentary. Children 4 to 11 are \$260, children 12 – 17 are \$425, and children 18-20 are \$650.

We urge you to register online promptly to guarantee your selection of afternoon activities. Visit the FDCC website for the online link. You may also use the "hard copy" registration form which was included with this brochure or that can be downloaded from the FDCC website. Registrations that are mailed will be processed in the order that they are received, and selected activities may not be available. Registrations may also be faxed or scanned and emailed with credit card payment.

CANCELLATION POLICY

For cancellations received before January 25, 2024, a full refund, minus a \$100 credit card charge, will be processed.

For cancellations received after January 25, 2024 but before February 12, 2024, a refund of registration fees will be processed, minus a \$100 credit card charge and a \$500 fee.

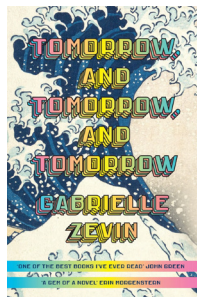




BOOK CLUB

Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

New York Times Best Seller: Sam and Sadie—two college friends, often in love, but never lovers—become creative partners in a dazzling and intricately imagined world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, duplicity, and, ultimately, a kind of immortality. It is a love story, but not one you have read before.



FUN RUN

Wednesday, February 28

Set against the picturesque backdrop of St. Petersburg's beautiful beaches and vibrant cityscape, the FDCC Fun Run promises a scenic route catering to seasoned runners and casual joggers. Every participant will receive some swag, and top finishers will receive prizes at the Dessert Party. Join us for an opportunity to enjoy the Florida sunshine while staying active!

ON SITE MEETING CHECK-IN AND REGISTRATION

The FDCC Registration and Hospitality Desk will be open for registration and information on the Palm Court floor during the following hours:

Saturday, February 24	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Sunday, February 25	8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Monday, February 26	7:00 am - 4:00 pm
Tuesday, February 27	7:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday, February 28	7:00 am - 12:00 pm

NAME BADGES REQUIRED

Your FDCC name badge is required for all FDCC events, both on and off site.

FDCC Alcohol Policy

The FDCC's policy provides that alcohol shall be served at FDCC functions only to those attendees who are 21 years of age and older. FDCC members and/or guests who bring individuals to the Convention who are below the age of 21 will be expected to cooperate in the enforcement of this policy and to further assure that such underage individuals understand this policy.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

The FDCC is proud to accommodate all of its members. If you require any accommodations, including ADA access, special meals, or anything else, please let the FDCC staff know before the meeting, and we will do everything we can to accommodate you.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

The FDCC reserves the right to change the schedule, location, topics, speakers, and/or activities due to unforeseen circumstances.

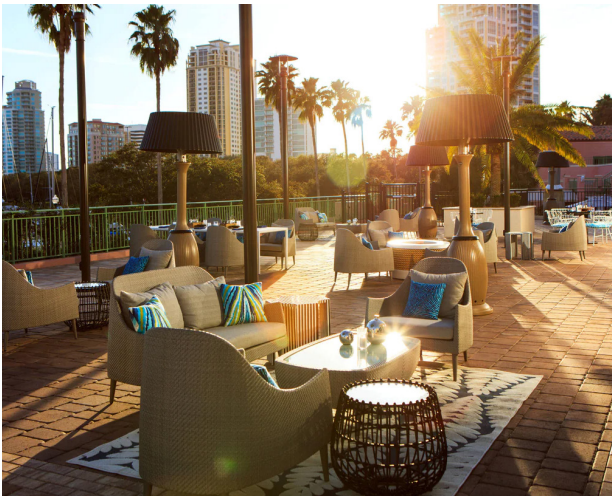
EXCURSIONS

We have planned lots of fun and exciting afternoon activities. Except where noted, all prices are per person, and at least one FDCC host will accompany groups and the activity group.

Group sizes are limited, so you will want to book early. If your preferred activity is booked, you can apply to be a stand-by, in which case you should meet at the time and location for the activity, and we will accommodate you if a space becomes available.

Cancellations or changes can only be made in accordance with FDCC policy.





SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Officers' Meeting
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Admissions Committee Meeting
- 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Projects & Objectives Meeting
- 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Board Reception and Dinner

SUNRISE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

11:00 am - 8:00 pm Federation Express

For our newer members, we are excited to offer Federation Express – a one-day program showcasing what the FDCC is all about. Fly in Sunday morning for our CLE panel on client management skills, featuring in-house and outside counsel describing how to become your clients' favorite attorney through effective communication. Then we'll have lunch (with cookies!), a community service/networking project, and an overview of the FDCC. President Craig Marvinney, the Officers, and Board members will officially welcome you to the FDCC, then you'll head to the Welcome Session where you will meet the FDCC's Past Presidents. You'll end the day with our Welcome Reception, featuring cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Federation Express is included in the Winter Meeting registration price. If you can't attend the entire Winter Meeting, you can register for the one-day Federation Express program for \$495, which will include CLE, lunch, additional programming, our Welcome Session, and the Welcome Reception.

- 7:30 am - 8:00 am Membership Development Committee Meeting
- 7:30 am - 8:00 am Membership Recruitment Committee Meeting
- 8:00 am - 9:00 am Finance & Budget Meeting



- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Communications Committee
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am State Representative Committee Meeting
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Foundation Meeting
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Diversity Committee
- 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting
- 3:15 pm - 4:45 pm New Member Orientation
- 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Meeting Kickoff
- 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Welcome Reception



WHEN THE SUN SHINES, WE'LL SHINE TOGETHER

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7:00 am - 9:00 am **Breakfast**

8:00 am - 8:50 am

The Use of a Courtesy Defense for Former Employee Depositions and Trial Testimony: An Arrow in the Quiver, an Ethical Trap, or Both? Part 1

This two-day presentation focuses on the benefits and practical and ethical issues of using a courtesy defense to represent former employees in litigation against your client. Industry and attorney members will discuss the challenges of providing a courtesy defense to a former employee being deposed or testifying at trial in health care, transportation, employment, and premises liability. The first day's presentation will focus on best practices, potential issues, pitfalls, etc. The second day will focus on ethical issues that may arise.

Moderator

Luke P. Sbarra - Hedrick Gardner Kincheloe & Garofalo, LLP

Speakers

Tarush R. Anand – McGlinchey
Thayla Painter Bohn – American Fidelity
Max H. Brusky – Bulkmatic Transport Company
Jacqueline Genesisio – Cascadia Healthcare
Lashawnda K. Jackson – Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell
Robert C. Lockwood – Lockwood & Associates

The Curse of the Multiple Mediations: Settling Cases Post-Pandemic

This presentation will discuss the dynamics of resolving claims and lawsuits in our post-pandemic landscape. Why are cases more challenging to settle? Why are cases being mediated multiple times? Does it seem like no one is prepared to mediate anymore (mediators, lawyers, and clients)? Are court backlogs having a positive or negative impact on mediation resolution? Are more contracts requiring mediation as a prerequisite to litigation or arbitration? Are there new challenges in preparing for mediation and dealing with opposing counsel? Are mediation opening statements worthless or worthwhile? What impact have windfall verdicts had on the valuation and resolution of cases? What do you see as obstacles to achieving a mediated resolution?

Have carriers' interests and participation changed in the last few years? Are subject matter mediators essential to a successful outcome? Are two mediators or co-mediators needed? What is the new gold standard in mediation preparation?

Moderator

Mike F. Pipkin - Weinstein Radcliff Pipkin LLP

Speakers

Teresa J. Dumire – Kay Casto & Chaney PLLC
Elizabeth A. Fitzpatrick – Island International Industries, Inc.
John C. Trimble - Lewis Wagner, LLP
Cara Peterson, Adolfson & Peterson Construction

Institutional to Innovative: New Arguments in Product Liability

This panel will explore a combination of tried-and-true defenses and innovative legal tactics in product liability law to help you determine how to use your jurisdiction's law to your advantage. Join us as we discuss strategies for avoiding comparing products, incidents, and accidents to others in your product suit, seeking summary judgment on design defect claims, and analyzing defenses to recently proffered product theories in new contexts, such as claims against social media and tech industry clients.

Speakers

Nicole J. Benjamin – Adler Pollock & Sheehan P.C.
Kelly Brilleaux – Irwin Fritchie Urquhart Moore & Daniels LLC
Sherry Ortiz – U.S. Aircraft Insurance Company
Liz Rhode Motley – Gillaspay Rhode Faddis & Benn

ESG Litigation Lands in America

A federally regulated Canadian teachers' pension fund invested in a Midland, Texas, oil and gas company focused on acquiring, developing, exploring, and exploiting unconventional, onshore oil and natural gas reserves in the Permian Basin in West Texas. That company was having difficulty arranging financing with its traditional bank due to that entity's need to decarbonize its lending portfolio. To increase its access to finance, the company pledged to be net zero by 2050. However, an NGO has alleged that the plan to reach that target has no credibility. This allegation has impacted the Canadian pension fund's ESG metrics. The fund is threatening a greenwashing lawsuit against



the Texas company. The Texas company has retained an ESG consultant American and Canadian counsel seeking advice on the potential litigation risks.

Moderator

Heather Sanderson, Sanderson Law

Speakers

Vicki Smith, Partner, Chinn Smith Winters LLP

John Peiserich, J.S. Held

David Zuber, Zuber & Co. LLP

Changing the Narrative: Effective Representation of Law Enforcement Clients

With more police departments equipping their officers with body cams, this video has become crucial in alleged excess force cases. The panel will discuss how lawyers representing police department clients can better represent our clients in the courtroom, the media, the community, and the legislature.

Mary Erlingson – Erlingson Banks, PLLC

David J. MacMain – MacMain Leinhauser

Monte Williams – Steptoe & Johnson

Law Firm Technology – What to Use and How to Use It

The panel will discuss the newest and most valuable platforms, applications, and software for law firms, how to use them, and how to make your firm tech-savvy and friendly.

Moderator

Jody E. Briandi - Hurwitz Fine PC

Speakers

Stephen Embry – EmbryLaw LLC

Jimmy B. Wilkins – Watkins & Eager PLLC

Communicating with Your C-Suite

This panel will discuss how in-house counsel can effectively and persuasively communicate with their C-Suite to ensure their message is heard and their goals are achieved.

Kelley J. Barnett - AmTrust Financial Services, Inc.

April Y. Berman – Asurion

Kendra A. Jones – United States Steel Corporation

8:50 am - 9:00 am

Break

9:00 am - 9:10 am

Welcome

Color Guard

American Legion Post 273

National Anthem

Micalann C. Pepe - Jaburg Wilk

O Canada

Jeff Kelsey – FedEx

9:12 am - 9:30 am

An Introduction to the Florida Supreme Court

John D. Couriel - Florida Supreme Court Justice

9:30 am - 9:35 am

Welcome by President and Convention Chair

Craig Marvinney, Bricker Graydon

Sean Griffin, Robinson + Cole

9:35 am - 10:20 am

The Opioid Litigation

Judge Dan Aaron Polster, who presides over the multi-district litigation involving opioid litigation (MDL 2804 Opiate Litigation), will provide an overview of the MDL, significant decisions, outcomes, and lessons learned.

Moderator

Craig Marvinney, Bricker Graydon

Speaker

Judge Dan Aaron Polster

10:20 am - 10:30 am

Break

10:30 am - 11:00 am

Resolved: Lawyers must use and understand the benefits and risks of ChatGPT, generative AI, and large language models.

A lively debate of the pros and cons of lawyers using ChatGPT. Why must lawyers know and understand ChatGPT, generative AI, and large language models? Are these tools here to stay? Should lawyers use them? Why and why not?

Moderator

Debra Tedeschi Varner – Varner & Van Volkenburg

Speakers

Stephen Embry – EmbryLaw LLC

David T. Vanalek – Richmond National

11:00 am - 11:05 am

Announcements

11:05 am - 12:00 pm

Leading through Litigation Management

Kyle Dreyer developed the only LL.M. litigation management program in the U.S., which will teach us how to apply litigation management principles to assist our firms and legal departments by developing and implementing a holistic approach to managing our caseloads.

Kyle Dreyer, Executive Program Coordinator of the Baylor Law Executive LL.M. in Litigation Management



MONDAY EXCURSIONS

The best thing about the FDCC is the people, and Monday's activities feature plenty of opportunities to fellowship with your old friends and meet some new ones.

10:00 am - 5:00 pm **Headshots and Makeup**

We will have a professional photographer at the hotel to take headshots for social media all day Monday. We'll also have a touch-up makeup artist available as well, just in case you want to look even more glamorous. You'll look great for the President's Reception.

Price: Complimentary

1:00 pm - 5:15 pm **Bay Fishing**

Join the FDCC's first-ever Bay fishing excursion. The St. Petersburg inshore waters are teeming with jacks, mackerel, and permit. Afterwards, come to the President's Reception and tell us all about the one that got away. \$145 per person

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm **Wine Glass Etching at the Duncan McClellan Gallery**

Artists at the Duncan McClellan Gallery will present a class on wine glass etching. While you're there, you'll also have a chance to view the gallery's 3,000 feet of exhibition space showcasing nationally and internationally recognized glass artists, or wander through the 5,000 square feet of outdoor courtyards and lushly planted sculpture gardens. Wine and small bites will be served. \$85 per person

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm **Florida Orange Groves Winery Tour**

If you are looking to take your sangria to the next level, head over to this homey, family-owned winery/country store, which just happens to produce Florida's only ultra-premium tropical, citrus and berry wines. During this 90-minute excursion, you can learn how wines are made from oranges, blackberries, mangoes, and other fruits. No groves here, but the winery will offer free samples of their bestselling wines at the end of the tour. \$50 per person

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm **Cocktail Tour**

Take a walking tour of St. Petersburg's best cocktail spots. \$80 per person



2:30 pm - 4:00 pm **Dali Museum Tour**

The Dali Museum in St. Petersburg boasts the world's second-largest collection of Salvador Dali's work. The museum has also opened a new immersive digital exhibit called Dali 360. Join our docent-led tour to learn more about this transformative artist. \$50 per person

6:30 pm - 10:30 pm **President's Reception**

For our President's Reception, we will take over the entire five-story, 137,000 square foot Museum of the American Arts and Crafts Movement -- the world's only museum dedicated exclusively to the American Arts and Crafts movement and St. Petersburg's newest museum. We will begin our tour on the second floor, at the antique Mont Oro bar from 1900, then proceed through the Collector's Gallery to peruse 75 rare art pieces from the Two Red Roses Foundation Collection and will be opened specially for us. From there, you can make your way through the museum's five floors to view works by Frank Lloyd Wright, Gustav Stickley, and other American artists. When you are ready, make your way down to the first-floor atrium, a lofty space that rises five stories and terminates in a dramatic array of skylights. There, we will have dinner, drinks, music, and fellowship.

Buses will leave from the Vinoy to the Museum beginning at 6:15 pm. Dinner will begin at 7:30 pm. Return buses will begin leaving at 9:00 pm and run every 20 minutes.



ETERNAL SUNSHINE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:00 am - 9:00 am

Breakfast

8:00 am - 8:50 am

The Use of a Courtesy Defense for Former Employee Depositions and Trial Testimony: An Arrow in the Quiver, an Ethical Trap, or Both? Part 2

This two-day presentation focuses on the benefits and practical and ethical issues of using a courtesy defense to represent former employees in litigation against your client. Industry and attorney members will discuss the challenges of providing a courtesy defense to a former employee being deposed or testifying at trial in health care, transportation, employment, and premises liability. The first day's presentation will focus on best practices, potential issues, pitfalls, etc. The second day will focus on ethical issues that may arise.

Moderator

Luke P. Sbarra - Hedrick Gardner Kincheloe & Garofalo, LLP

Speakers

Tarush R. Anand - McGlinchey
Thayla Painter Bohn - American Fidelity
Max H. Brusky - Bulkmatic Transport Company
Jacqueline Genesisio - Cascadia Healthcare
Lashawnda K. Jackson - Rumberger Kirk
Robert C. Lockwood - Lockwood & Associates

Posturing Your Case to Win on Appeal

Win or lose, your case may go on appeal. This fast-paced panel, composed of appellate specialists and trial counsel, will provide practical tips on what to do and what mistakes to avoid to ensure your case is postured for victory in the appellate courts.

Moderator

Lawrence S. Ebner - Capital Appellate Advocacy PLLC

Speakers

Angela Flowers - Kubicki Draper
Elissa Haynes - Freeman Mathis & Gary LLP
Caryn L. Lilling - Mauro Lilling Naparty LLP
Miranda L. Soto - Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
Ann E. Trivett - Keating, Bucklin & McCormick, Inc., P.S.

All Over the Map: Leadership in Supervising National/Regional Claims Professionals with Multi-Jurisdictional Coverage.

An interactive discussion on the coordination of claims professionals with expanding jurisdictional coverage. How to keep consistency and accuracy in jurisdictions with different legal applications, standards, and guidelines, and what happens when you do not.

Moderator

Michael K. Kiernan - Traub Lieberman Strauss & Strawberry LLP

Speakers

Christina M. Bolin - Christian & Small LLP
Jeffery Guillory - Acceptance Insurance
Samuel J. Weisgarber - Sentry Insurance



Playing defense- avoiding pitfalls and practical advice for the 30(b)(6) deposition

The program will give practical advice for picking the appropriate corporate representative deponent, preparing the witness, and defending the deposition. It will include a discussion of the rule, whether only current employees can be deponents; what documents to provide to the witness; the extent of counsel involvement necessary to educate the witness about the case; proper objections to the notice; how best to limit the deposition; and properly defend questioning.

Russell S. Buhite - Olgetree Deakins
C. Bailey King - Bradley Arant Boulton
Charles Scarminach - Cox Enterprises
Robert E. Summer IV - Butler Snow LLP



Alpocalypse Now: How to Protect Clients in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to significantly change the way we live, work, and interact with technology. However, AI poses significant legal risks, such as data bias, data breaches, privacy violations, financial losses, unintended consequences (like making up cases to support legal arguments), and ethical concerns around privacy, transparency, and accountability. Effectively managing these risks is essential to ensure that AI remains a force of positive change. This panel will explore these cutting-edge issues associated with AI and guide clients in avoiding an Alpocalypse.

Moderator

Anita Modak-Truran – Butler Snow LLP

Speakers

Dr. Derek F. Amanatullan – Stanford Medicine

Kelly S. Crawford – Riker Danzig LLP

John Sinnott – Erwin Fritchier Urquhart Moore, & Daniels, LLC

Crisis is Our Brand – Dealing with Surprises, Disasters, and Nightmares

The panel discusses how in-house counsel can lead the company through unwanted and unexpected crises, addressing messaging, the business proposition, and legal pitfalls and challenges.

Jacqueline Genesio – Cascadia Healthcare

Jeff Kelsey - FedEx

Laura Zaroski - Gallagher

8:50 am - 9:00 am Break

9:00 am - 9:05 am Introductions

9:05 am - 10:00 am Fed Talks on Leadership

Several of our members will share their Fed Talks on various aspects of leadership at their firms, companies, and communities.

Speakers

Claire E. Parsons - Wood + Lamping LLP

John Rahoy – Brown & James P.C.

Geneau M. Thames – Harford Mutual Insurance Group

Mohamed N. Bakry – Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, P.C.

Jill Cranston Rice – Dinsmore & Shohl LLP

Kendra Jones – United States Steel Corporation

Larry Smith – Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell

9:45 am - 10:00 am Break

10:00 am - 10:05 am Announcements

10:05 am - 11:00 am

Dear Plaintiff: We Know What You Did Last Summer. No More Secrets. Uncovering the Truth About Your Plaintiff

Know what your plaintiff is doing: A panel discussion with industry experts regarding types of information and data available on your plaintiff, including vehicles, smart devices, and electronics, including Apple watches, phones, and health applications.

Moderator

Erik Crep - Wicker Smith

Speakers

Robert Draper - Relevant Data Technologies

Dr. Scott McLean - Exponent

Stephen O'Malley - JS Held LLC

11:00 am - 11:05 am Announcements

11:05 am - 12:00 pm

Leader Upheaval: A Guide to Collaboration, Client-Centricity, and Culture Creation

Michele DeStefano, a legal futurist, will speak on the future of the practice and how lawyers can lead their companies and firms into the brave new world of legal innovation.

Speaker

Michelle DeStefano - Professor at the University of Miami Law School and Harvard Law School

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

"You Write Because You Must"

There is a creative writer in all of us - or, at least, most of us. The written word could be fiction - short stories, plays, novels; or non-fiction - biography, history, personal reflections, and a host of creative endeavors that defy category. Great writers needn't be "published," and many published writers are anything but superb. The threshold for all is picking up a pen, tapping on a typewriter or word processor, or even dictating a first sentence. Lawyers are natural writers. Come and share your ideas, experiences, and questions with a panel of your peers who have experienced the bumpy road of being published.

Moderator

Ned Currie

Speakers

Lewis Collins – Butler Pappas

Mills H. Gallivan – Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A.

Stephen Pate – Cozen O' Connor

Tim Pratt

Brett Preston – Hill Ward Henderson

Gerald Toner – O'Bryan, Brown & Toner



TUESDAY EXCURSIONS

Tuesday will feature extended excursions, to allow you to take full advantage of all the sunshine St. Petersburg has to offer. When the sun sets, go out on the town to dine with friends, then come back for the Dessert Party in the Vinoy's Tea Garden.

1:00 pm - 5:30 pm Golf Tournament

We will hold the FDCC Golf Tournament Tuesday, February 26, at the Vinoy Golf Club. Designed by famed course architect Ron Garl, the Vinoy's golf course features beautiful ponds, lush trees, and other features you will enjoy hitting your ball into. A box lunch will be served, and while you play, we have arranged to have complimentary beverage carts to keep you properly motivated while you look for your ball. (It's about 20 yards behind where you're looking.) \$310 per person.



1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Sunken Gardens

This family friendly roadside attraction features more than 50,000 exotic tropical plants and birds from around the world and is St. Petersburg's oldest living museum. Meandering paths guide visitors through a living collection of more than thousands of plant species, tropical plants and flowers with lush demonstration gardens, cascading waterfalls, a flock of flamingos, and a colorful array of rehomed tropical birds including macaws, cockatoos, and more. \$35 per person

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Pickleball

Pickleball is one of the fastest growing, most popular sports in the country, and we have reserved courts at The Racquet Club of St. Petersburg for an FDCC Pickleball Tournament. We will have racquets and balls for you to use – unless you're a ringer and have your own. And if you get too tired, the Club has restaurants and bars with which you can refresh yourself. \$45 per person

1:00 pm - 5:30 pm Deep-Sea Fishing

The FDCC has never before hosted a deep-sea fishing expedition during a Winter Meeting. Take to the high seas in our chartered boat and try your luck on this six-hour excursion. And if you don't catch anything, well, come back to the Dessert Party and tell a few fish stories anyway. \$295 per person

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Yacht Racing Adventure

Your adventure will start with a catered lunch before your boat captain introduces you to basic sailing maneuvers, boat handling, and a few sailing drills. Then, you're off for a highly physical competition to race the other FDCC boat around the water. Afterwards, take some time to savor your victory or forget your defeat while you relax on the boat, sun yourself on the boat's sun deck, or maybe take a dip in the bay. \$170 per person

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm E-Bike Food Tour

Taste of the 'Burg tour! You get to try 4-5 different foods from all around the globe. The chefs are incredible hidden gems and create authentic cuisines. The tour cost is \$75/person and includes all the foods, fascinating info along the way and of course water! \$80 per person

Dine With Friends

Tuesday night offers your opportunity to sample the incredible restaurants in St. Petersburg. We have included a list of some of the best restaurants in the area, many of which are within easy walking distance of the Vinoy.

6:00 pm – 9:30 pm Diversity Dinner

As a dine-around option, we are reviving the Diversity Dinner tradition. Set at the Carter G. Woodson Museum, we will offer cocktails, food, and lively discussion regarding issues of diversity at the FDCC. \$125 per person.



9:00 pm - 11:00 pm Dessert Party

After your day of exercise and excitement, you will want to wind down in the Vinoy's cozy outdoor Tea Garden. If you played in the golf or pickleball tournaments, come by to pick up your trophy. We will serve high-end desserts, drinks, and apertifs. And ice cream because everyone loves ice cream.

CHASING THE SUN

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7:00 am - 9:00 am **Breakfast**

8:00 am - 8:05 am **Announcements**

8:05 am - 9:00 am **Masters In Mediation
The Flight Plan – Part III - The Negotiations**

The panel will discuss best practices during the mediation, such as dealing with frustration, anger, fatigue, disappointment, obstinacy, breaking through apparent impasse, getting past “last and final,” dealing with a great divide too late in the day, and last minute “add-ons” such as confidentiality, non-disparagement, a lien that was not disclosed that should have been, etc.

Moderator

Marc Harwell – Harwell & Hurst PLLC

Speakers

Amanda Cialkowski – Nilan Johnson Lewis P.A.

Mills H. Gallivan – Gallivan, White & Boyd P.A.

Jean M. Lawler – Lawler ADR Services, LLC

9:00 am - 9:40 am

Handling the Bet the Company Matter

It’s more than just a feeling that high-risk, high-value cases are rising – it’s a fact. In this session, In-House Attorneys will peel back the curtain on their life when a crisis arises and describe, from their point-of-view, high-profile matters and the impact and role of the Law Department:

1. Advising senior leadership, board members, and
2. Gathering and guiding the intake and flow of information.
3. Participating in governmental investigations and
4. Assisting public relations and communications initiatives across media platforms, with clients/customers, and with shareholders.

Speakers

Rob Carden - Norfolk Southern

Sarahna McMurry – Acceptance Insurance

Trial Masters - Fed Talks – Trial Under Fire

Great trial attorneys are prepared for every witness and every objection. Exceptional trial attorneys add to this preparation the ability to respond to changing

courtroom dynamics in real time and neutralize or capitalize on seemingly disastrous developments. The need to deliver under pressure is not unique to our profession. Artists, musicians, and writers face the pressure of success and the fear of failure. Some rise to the challenge with outstanding results. Join Trial Masters as they share how they faced challenges, problems, and even disasters at trial and transformed the crises into opportunities and, ultimately, success for their clients.

William Toles – Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

David J. MacMain – MacMain Leinhauser

John J. Delany III – Marshall Dennehey

LaShawnda K. Jackson – Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell

Anita Modak-Truran – Butler Snow LLP

9:40 am - 9:45 am **Announcements**

9:45 am - 10:00 am **Break**

10:00 am - 11:00 am **Business Meeting**

11:00 am - 12:00 pm **Surviving 9/11 - The Heroic
Story of Joe Torillo**

Retired FDNY Lt. Joe Torillo shares his harrowing and inspirational story of how he was buried alive twice on 9/11 while rescuing those caught in the rubble of the Twin Towers. Lt. Torillo will inspire us to thrive through change under any circumstances and to accept and handle unexpected stress and adversities.



WEDNESDAY EXCURSIONS

This is your last full day in St. Petersburg. Time to pack in as much fun as you can manage!

6:30 am – 7:30 am Fun Run

12:30 pm - 4:00 pm Cooking Class

A St. Petersburg chef will lead you through a cooking class with the best food Florida has to offer. The bad news is that you'll have to make your own lunch, but the good news is that you'll have some wine to make the meal prep go faster. \$150 per person

**12:30 pm - 4:00 pm The Inaugural FDCC
Shuffleboard Tournament**

Do you like highly physical, competitive activities? Sign up for the yacht racing adventure on page 13. Would you prefer to desultorily push a disc while imbibing a beverage and chatting with your friends? Keep reading.

Nothing says Florida more than shuffleboard, and the St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club is the world's oldest and largest shuffleboard club. We will visit the club during its 100th anniversary and the day after it hosts the state shuffleboard championship. It will be like playing football in Lambeau Field, but much easier. We will provide the equipment, a quick lesson, lunch, and a bartender. You will provide the fun. \$80 per person

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Kayak Tour of Mangroves

Join us on a relaxing kayak journey through the Weedon Island Preserve! The tour takes you into the pristine blue waters and seagrass meadows of the Weedon Island Preserve as you search for manatees and dolphins. After hanging out with your underwater friends, you'll make your way to the winding mangrove tunnels. These mesmerizing tunnels stretch for miles and are some of the longest tunnels in Florida. While paddling through these tunnels, be on the lookout for mangrove crabs, mullet, and countless varieties of birds that nest inside the mangrove forests. Along the way, experienced tour guides will answer your questions and educate you about the history and wildlife of the Weedon Island Preserve. \$115 per person

**1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Helicopter Tour
(flights scheduled within this timeframe)**

Hop on a whirlybird for a 30-minute tour of St. Petersburg's skyscrapers. This tour offers amazing views of Fort De Soto, Egmont Key, Anna Maria Island, and the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. If you ask nicely, the pilot might buzz the Vinoy. \$252 per person

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Museum of Fine Arts

The Museum of Fine Arts boasts a collection covering almost 5,000 years of civilization in thousands of objects extending from antiquity to present, plus an array of fascinating traveling exhibitions. Highlights include masterpieces from Monet, O'Keeffe, De Kooning, Wiley, and others, a sculpture garden, and one of Florida's most respected photography collections. \$16 per person

2:15 pm – 4:30 pm Dolphin Watching

Get your camera ready and experience the joy of dolphins leaping and rambunctiously playing just for you. The Dolphin Queen's distinctive engines harmonize seamlessly with the marine environment, making it an honorary member of the dolphin pod. And as we cruise by the Coast Guard Base and historic St. Petersburg mansions, you'll learn more about this beautiful city by the bay. \$55 per person

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm St. Petersburg Beach

In 2021, TripAdvisor named St. Petersburg Beach the #1 beach in the U.S. Hop on our bus and see for yourself. If you're feeling adventurous, try out jet skiing, give kayaking a shot, or take a stab at parasailing. If you just want to chill, rent a chair and let the balmy waters of the Gulf of Mexico wash away your cares. And if you decide to grab lunch at the nearby Don Cesar hotel, we promise not to tell the Vinoy. \$25 per person

6:30 pm - 10:30 pm Casino Vinoyale

As the living daylight fades into evening, it will be time for us to get together and bond . . . James Bond. The FDCC will turn our hotel into Casino Vinoyale – a James Bond-themed casino event featuring craps, blackjack, music, and femme fatales. If you have no time to tie, don't worry; you only have to dress for your eyes only – although we'll never say never if you are inspired to don a tuxedo or razor edged hat outfit for a picture next to our secret agent decor. And if the spectre of loss concerns you, take a quantum of solace from knowing that you can spend your hard-won chips on prizes.

Speaking of prizes, we will also be handing out trophies from the shuffleboard tournament winners during Casino Vinoyale.





ON YOUR OWN

St. Petersburg Pier

<https://stpetpier.org/>

This gleaming new attraction on the city's picturesque waterfront promises limitless fun for everyone. Its 26 beautiful acres seamlessly combine the peaceful blue waters of Tampa Bay with the vibrant greenery of downtown St. Petersburg's parks, creating the ultimate place to stroll, bike, dine, drink, shop, swim, take in a concert, and more. So get together with your FDCC family and friends and soak up some fun under the warm Florida sun!

Fighter jet

<https://www.adrenaline.com/florida/jet-fighter/fly-l39-jet-fighter-45minutes/>

During this 45-minute trip, you can fly an L-39 Albatross on this 45-minute Fighter Jet experience with an experienced instructor. Your pilot will perform a few maneuvers then let you take over the controls. If you're looking to tap into your inner James Bond, here's your chance!

Spring training games

Yankees

Sunday, February 25 – Yankees vs. Blue Jays,
1:05 pm at Steinbrenner Field
Monday, February 26, Yankees vs. Twins
1:05 pm at Steinbrenner Field

Phillies

Sunday, February 25 vs Yankees,
1:05 pm at BayCare Ballpark
Wednesday, February 28 vs. Braves,
1:05 pm at BayCare Ballpark



Vinoy Park

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g34607-d4224731-Reviews-Vinoy_Park-St_Petersburg_Florida.html

One of the most talked about and visited parks on St. Petersburg's downtown waterfront, Vinoy Park is named after the Vinoy Park Hotel, which once sat next to it. Vinoy park has some of the most scenic views in St. Petersburg and is a popular place to rent for hosting events, such as festivals, concerts, and sporting events.

Besides its popularity for events, it's also a popular place for fitness and offers recreation trails along the waterfront of avid walkers, runners, and bikers.

St. Petersburg Preserve Bike Tour

https://www.tripadvisor.com/AttractionProductReview-g34607-d11452348-Saint_Petersburg_Preserve_Bike_Tour-St_Petersburg_Florida.html

Peruse Florida's diverse ecosystem on two wheels. Set out on a 2-hour bicycle tour of St. Petersburg's Boyd Hill Nature Preserve, home to an array of mammals and birds such as alligators, cormorants and ospreys. Follow your knowledgeable guide across boardwalks, along trails and through large meadows, taking in the preserve's exquisite natural scenery and the many butterflies fluttering about. This 3-mile mountain bike tour is limited to 8 people for a more personalized experience.





St. Petersburg Jungle Prada Site History Tour

https://www.tripadvisor.com/AttractionProductReview-g34607-d16732129-St_Petersburg_Jungle_Prada_Site_History_Tour-St_Petersburg_Florida.html

The devil may wear Prada, but you can bike it in St. Petersburg. Take a guided tour of the Jungle Prada Site in St. Petersburg to uncover Native American history as you walk through an archaeological site of the Tocobaga tribe. Learn about the ancient peoples and the Spanish conquistadors who landed in the area in 1528 and enjoy time roaming around the lush property.

Morean Arts Center

<https://moreanartscenter.org/>

The Morean Arts Center offers an amazing contemporary art gallery that is free and open to the public daily. If you didn't get your fill of Dale Chihuly's unique glass artwork at the 2022 Annual Meeting, the Center also features a stunning, permanent collection of his work, including large-scale installations such as Ruby Red Icicle Chandelier created specifically for the Collection along with several popular series works including Macchia, Ikebana, Nijjima Floats, Persians and Tumbleweeds.

Skydiving

<https://www.skydivecity.com/>

Unlike James Bond, you may want to jump out of a plane WITH a parachute. In that case, you'll want to practice. For over 30 years, Skydive City has served up positive vibes and unparalleled skydives — from first time jumpers to the most experienced, competitive and professional skydiving athletes.



Hot Air Balloon Ride

https://www.realadventures.com/1255573_Aerial-Adventures-of-Tampa

<https://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com/profile/crystal-magic-balloon-company/139307>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBeW_hheeGo

Float along on a cool morning breeze over forested areas with alligators swimming across small lakes below, and deer and small animals scampering about the forest while hawks fly through the trees. Please note that, due to wind currents, hot air balloon rides only start at sunrise, and they land several hours later.



Alligator and Wildlife Discovery Center

<https://alligatorwildlife.com/>

In Live and Let Die, James Bond escaped from danger by hopping across a line of live alligators. Craig nixed my idea to recreate this stunt at Casino Night, so you'll have to go see the gators on your own.





RESTAURANTS

3 Daughters Brewing
222 22nd St
S, St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(727) 495-6002
3dbrewing.com

Family-owned brewery with a sizable tasting room offering craft brews, arcade games, and music in upbeat digs

Bacchus Wine Bistro
124 2nd Ave NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 258-8566
bacchusstpete.com

Casual eatery offering small plates, charcuterie & French eats, plus truffles & a robust wine list

Bascom's Chop House
3665 Ulmerton Rd
Clearwater, FL 33762-4257
727-573-3363
<https://bascoms.com/>

Bascom's serves a fusion of beloved favorites, featuring an array of steaks, chops, and seafood, with organic, hormone-free meats and locally sourced produce.

Bella Brava
204 Beach Dr NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 895-5515
<https://places.singleplatform.com/bellabrava-0/menu>

Casual Italian restaurant serves up a traditional menu alongside some American options plus wine

Birch & Vine
340 Beach Dr NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 896-1080
<https://places.singleplatform.com/birch--vine-at-the-birchwood/menu>

Choice New American kitchen featuring a seasonal menu & cocktails in a modern interior with a patio.

Brick & Mortar
539 Central Ave
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 822-6540
<https://www.facebook.com/brickandmortarkitchen/>

Rustic-chic nook with seasonal New American fare, unique wines & craft beers, plus outdoor seating

Cassis St. Pete
170 Beach Dr NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 827-2927
cassisstpete.com

Buzzy brasserie & bakery for American & French fare in a Parisian space with outdoor seats.

Ceviche Tapas Bar and Restaurant
332 Beach Dr NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 209-2299
<https://ceviche.com/>

Whether you're searching for delicious flavors from our menu or cocktail programs, lively music to get you up & going, or some stimulating time to share with friends, Ceviche brings all these together for you in one authentic experience.

Doc Ford's Rum Bar and Grille St. Pete's Pier
610 2nd Ave NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 857-8118
docfords.com

Casual destination for seafood with Caribbean & South American flavors plus rum & entertainment at the St. Petersburg Pier





Fresco's Waterfront Bistro

300 2nd Ave NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 894-4429
frescoswaterfront.com

Laid-back dockside spot serving global eats & drinks in casual digs featuring a deck with bay views

Fourth Street Shrimp Store

1006 4th St N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 822-0325
<https://order.toasttab.com/online/4th-street-shrimp-store-1006-4th-street-north>

Heaping portions of seafood come in a casual venue & market with windows & murals on the walls

Gratzi Italian Grille

211 2nd St S
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 623-9037
gratziigristle.com

White-tablecloth bar/restaurant offering classic Italian entrees plus pizza bar selections

Il Ritorno

449 Central Ave
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-3863
(727) 897-5900
<https://www.ilritornodowntown.com/>

Rustic-industrial dinner spot with regular & tasting menus of contemporary Italian fare

La V - Vietnamese Fusion

441 Central Ave
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 820-3500
<https://lavfusion.com/>

Vietnamese-fusion fare & numerous bubble teas are served in a modern space with sidewalk seats

LemonGrass Sushi Thai Tapas

310 Central Ave
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 894-1111
<https://lemongrasstapas.com/>

Japanese & Thai specialties like sushi rolls, curries & noodles are served in low-key environs

The Library

600 5th Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 369-9969
thelibrarystpete.com

Polished eatery offering New American bites, brunch staples & craft cocktails, plus outdoor seating.

The Lure

661 Central Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 914-8000
<https://places.singleplatform.com/the-lure-0/menu>

Sushi, tapas & cocktails combine at this hip spot with pool tables & colorfully painted brick walls

Mio's Grill & Café

119 2nd St N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 498-8627
<https://www.miosgrill.com/>

Mediterranean staples such as gyros, falafel, hummus & tzatziki are offered at this quaint eatery.

Oak & Stone

199 Central Ave
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 565-4064
oakandstone.com

Bright, airy indoor/outdoor brewpub serving pub grub, artisan pizzas, craft beers & cocktails

Old Northeast Tavern

201 7th Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 821-8070
<https://oldnetavern.com/>

A pet-friendly tavern that makes everything from scratch using high-end, local ingredients

Parkshore Grill

300 Beach Dr NE #104, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 896-9463
parkshoregrill.com

Refined space for steaks & seafood paired with fine wines served inside or on the sprawling patio





The Pearl Restaurant

5802 28th Avenue South
Gulfport, FL 33707
727-360-9151

<https://www.thepearlfinedining.com/>

The atmosphere at The Pearl is upscale yet casual featuring tempting dishes by Chef Karim. Reservations highly recommended.

Red Mesa Cantina

128 3rd St S
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 896-8226

redmesacantina.com

Modernized Mexican eats & hand-crafted cocktails are served in a festive setting with outdoor patio

Renzo's St. Pete

104 2nd St S
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 851-9983

<https://www.renzos.com/>

Renzo's embraces the art of grilling, a skill deeply ingrained in its Argentinian roots. Drawing upon the culinary traditions passed down through generations and inspired by its gastronomic heritage from Italy and Spain.

Rococo Steak

655 2nd Ave S
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 822-0999

rococosteak.com

In a 1920s manse, this baroque-chic steakhouse serves grass-fed beef, seafood, small plates & wine

Sea Salt

183 2nd Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 873-7964

<https://www.aielligroup.com/sea-salt-st-pete/home>

Showcasing a 22-foot tall wine cellar, an 80-foot long raw bar & serving innovative seafood mains.

Stillwaters Tavern

224 Beach Dr NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 350-1019

<https://places.singleplatform.com/stillwaters-tavern-1/menu>

Attractive space for hearty yet elevated American fare, plus a strong beer & cocktail list

Thirsty First

119 1st Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 317-3333

<https://www.thirstyfirstlounge.com/>

Down-to-earth venue

offering pub grub & ample brews in airy, industrial brick-lined surrounds

Three Birds Tavern

1492 4th St N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 895-2049

<https://www.threebirdstavern.com/>

Elevated pub grub served in a comfy vintage farmhouse with two bars, patios & a wraparound porch

Trip's Diner (St. Pete)

2339 Dr Martin Luther King Jr St N
St. Petersburg, FL 33704-3238
727-498-8980

<https://tripsdiner.com/>

A "not-too-fancy" neighborhood restaurant that offers a variety of simple food, and a TripAdvisor favorite

Tryst Gastro Lounge

240 Beach Dr NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 821-4567

dinetrust.com

Modern fare with global twists served in a Victorian-accented, loungey space with long marble bar

Tap Room at the Hollander Hotel

421 4th Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 873-7900

<https://hollanderhotel.com/>

Bar bites, wraps & American mains are served with craft beer & cocktails at this hotel hangout

The Wooden Rooster

104 2nd Ave NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 822-7373

thewoodenrooster.com

Intimate, brick-lined creperie serving sweet & savory light bites, plus coffee & wines by the glass





SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF OUR HOSTS!

Alan Rutkin

Alison Christian

Alycen Moss

Amanda Cialkowski

Andy Downs

April Elkovitch

Barbara O'Donnell

Brett Preston

Chelsey Golightly

Claire Parsons

Clay Hunter

Dafney Stokes

Dessi Day

Evelyn Davis

Geneau Thames

Heather Sanderson

Imoh Akpan

Jamie Jones

Jeff Guillory

Jeff Kelsey

Jennifer Johnsen

Jill Rice

Joe Falasco

John Rahoy

Johnny Sarber

Karen Karabinos

Kay Hodge

Kelly Brilleaux

Kendra Jones

Kile Turner

Kim Jackson

Lana Olson

Larry Smith

LaShawnda Jackson

Lauren Curtis

Lee Hall

Lynne Ingram

Marc Young

Marcus Dean

Mark Beebe

Marisa Trasatti

Micalann Pepe

Michelle Smith

Mike Kiernan

Miranda Soto

Mohamed Bakry

Neil Hartzell

Paul Finamore

Robert Lockwood

Sarannah McMurtry

Scott Dickens

Tiffany Alexander

Toyja Kelly

Vicki Smith

Keith Uhles

Jennifer Thomas

Michele Wojcik

Natasha
Khachatourians

Dan McGrath