

FEDERATION OF DEFENSE & CORPORATE COUNSEL



FDCC

DEFENSE LAWYERS. DEFENSE LEADERS.

GIVE ME  THINGS TO KNOW

August 4, 2023 -- Issue 183

Good Morning!

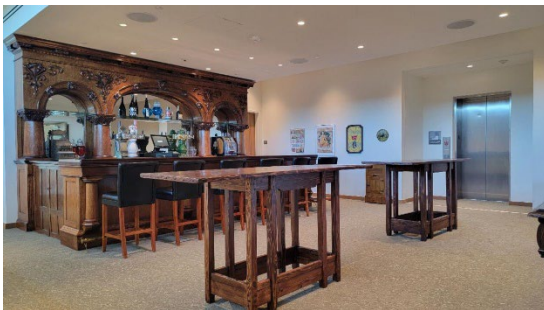
Here are your 5+ things to know on developments, upcoming events and progress being made on initiatives the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel is undertaking on behalf of all our members.

#1 Registration Now Open for 2024 Winter Meeting By: Sean Griffin - Convention Chair



Get ready to walk in the St. Petersburg, Florida sunshine, February 25-29, 2024! President Craig Marvinney, First Lady Paula McQueen, Program Chair Frank and Ana Ramos, Convention Chairs Wendy-Nia and I – not to mention the folks at FDCC Headquarters – can't wait for you to see what we have planned.

Let's start with our hotel, the Vinoy Resort & Golf Club ([@vinoyresort](#) on Instagram). Built in 1925, this Barbie-pink landmark resort and spa sits across the street from the harbor and less than a mile from the St. Petersburg Pier and the Dali Museum. The Vinoy has just unveiled its recent renovations, which bring to the historic resort five restaurants, including a '20s-style eatery, a coffee shop, and a stunning lobby bar. The Vinoy's fitness club offers free Orange Theory-style classes, and you will find a heated outdoor pool, a hot tub, a sauna. Or you can just book a treatment at the deluxe spa. The newly renovated rooms feature minibars, coffeemakers (a must for me personally), and marble bathrooms. The Vinoy has 354 rooms, and we have reserved 270 of them, so during your stay, you'll be seeing friends in all the places you look. As tempting as it may be, you won't want to stay at the resort all day. You will want to fish in Tampa Bay, follow dolphins on our boat tour, or kayak through the mangroves. Spend an afternoon with your friends at the first-ever FDCC Shuffleboard Tournament and Picnic. Try your hand at glassblowing at the world-famous Duncan McClellan Gallery. Or check out St. Petersburg's renowned art scene, including the Salvador Dali Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, and the James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art.



Speaking of museums, President Marvinney will hold his reception at the Museum of the American Arts and Crafts Movement. Opened in September 2021, the museum is a newcomer to St. Petersburg, and we have rented the entire building for the night. You will start your tour with a beverage upstairs at the gorgeous

antique bar, then you can take in the world's premier collection of art from the [American Arts and Crafts Movement](#). You'll wind your way down the breathtaking spiral staircase, and the modern architecture will rival the artworks before you. You'll finish your tour in the palatial atrium on the first level, where we have a custom menu for your enjoyment, with a few surprises.

We'll wrap up our meeting with a Casino Night. By popular demand, Casino Night will feature a James Bond theme, which will leave you shaken and stirred. (No tuxedo? No problem – Bond and his crew often went casual.) We will have photo opportunities galore, music, prizes, and more excitement than you can throw a steel-rimmed bowler at!

Stay tuned to find out what else we have planned in St. Petersburg. Meanwhile, you can register by clicking on the box below. You will receive an email confirmation with details on how to register for your hotel accommodations. Act fast, before the rooms are gone! #FDCCStPete

[Click here to register for the 2024 Winter Meeting](#)

#2 President's "3-Pointer"

By: Craig Marvinney



1. Wow, it has been a week since our 2023 Annual Meeting closed out at the Broadmoor! What a fine meeting from top to bottom, start to finish. As you may suspect, we've carved out this "Corner" of the Friday 5's for a new section, and you see the title above – a bit of a toss to basketball – a way for the Federation's President to make three quick points you might want to know as you breeze through the 5's. And this is the first 3-Pointer! Congrats for planning a great meeting to (now) Board Chair Howard Merten and First Lady Roni Dash, Convention Chair Casey Stansbury and his 'co-chair', Chrissy Vessels, and Program Chair Marisa Trasatti. And of course, our entire team back at FDCC Headquarters

who work hard behind the scenes to help it flow so well. So now you see the first point – introducing this new feature and Kudos to the Broadmoor Team.

2. As we enter the new FDCC 2023-24 year, you may have heard our focus this year is on Leadership. Leadership in your firm and in your profession, leadership in the FDCC, leadership in your community, leadership as a person --- an effort to work throughout every meeting during the year to see all of us, the FDCC Membership, are better, stronger, and more effective leaders next year at this time. FDCC: Defense Lawyers, Defense Leaders. You can click on the link to download the [Federation's Leadership Book](#) prepared and circulated to our members just before COVID hit. It's a great assembly of ideas and thoughts via essays on aspects of Leadership, such as Servant

Leadership and Persuasive Leadership and many more. Enjoy the reads, and think on each of the essays. Soon you'll see how the phrase, "The FDCC Makes the Lawyer, and the Lawyer Makes the FDCC!" can really work for you!

3. We are already off to a great start for this year, setting our sails for the future now that the Pandemic is fading into our rear-view mirror. Please welcome our new Board Member Directors Charlie Frazier (Texas), Jeff Guillory (Missouri) and Alycen Moss (Georgia)! And of course former Board Senior Director, our new Secretary-Treasurer, Marc Harwell. Already the new Board has approved our new Executive Committee, so please send a note to our Exec Comm members:

President: [Craig Marvinney](#), Bricker Graydon, Ohio;
President-Elect: [Heidi Goebel](#), Goebel Anderson, Utah;
Secretary-Treasurer: [Marc Harwell](#), Harwell Law Group, Tennessee;
Board Chairman: [Howard Merten](#), Partridge Snow & Hahn, Rhode Island

Senior Directors:

[Jennifer Johnsen](#), Gallivan, White & Boyd, South Carolina;
[Sean Griffin](#), Robinson + Cole, Washington, DC;
[Jeff Kelsey](#), FedEx, Tennessee;
[Marisa Trasatti](#), Sciton, Maryland; and
[Frank Ramos](#), Clarke Silvergate, Florida.

As we move forward I'll be working with the Officers on Committee and Section Appointments – so please email me at cmarvinney@brickergraydon.com with any thoughts or preferences you may have.

All the Best to You, our Members, for indeed, we are heading into Tomorrow Together!

#3 A Big Thanks to Our Valued Sponsors

Thank You!

During last week's Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs, we had the added benefit of affording networking opportunities between our members and business partner sponsors. Their suite of varied offerings and expert services provide our members

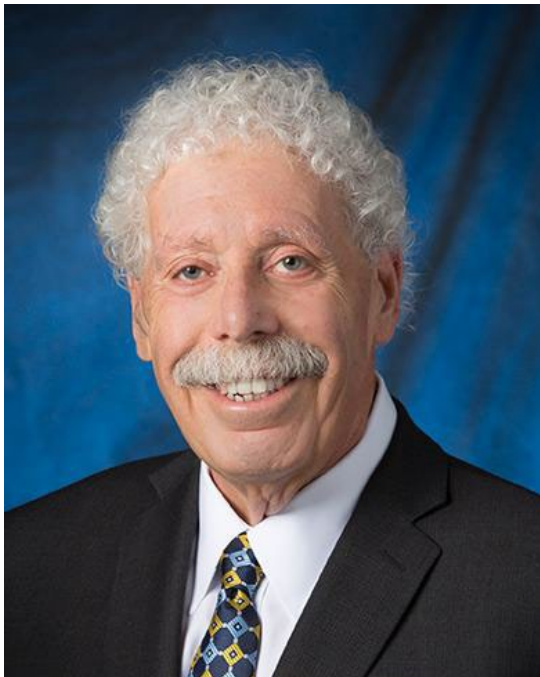
with the added support in their cases, claims and marketing efforts require.

The sponsorships also help to defray many of the expenses needed to organize the FDCC's first-class meetings; and we are indebted to them for their continued support.

[American Jury Centers](#)
[Avalon Health Economics](#)
[Exponent](#)
[InQuis](#)
[JS Held](#)
[Relevant Data Technologies](#)
[Rimkus Consulting](#)
[Rust Consulting](#)
[Top Dog Legal Marketing](#)

When your matters call for the types of unique intellectual capital and proven industry experience offered by these entities, please consider reaching out to them first. Let them know you're an FDCC member and thank them for their continued support!

**#4 In the Federation Spotlight:
Dan Kohane**



FDCC Past President, Dan Kohane

NFJE's Richard T. Boyette Award

The FDCC has long been a supporter of the [National Foundation of Judicial Excellence](#) (NFJE), which, for the past 19 years has provided officers of the courts with educational programs and other tools that enable them to perform at their highest level. They recently completed their Annual Judicial Symposium in Washington, DC. It was there that our very own Past President [Dan Kohane](#) of [Hurwitz Fine](#) in Buffalo, NY, received the organization's highest recognition: the Richard T. Boyette Award for Outstanding Contributions to the NFJE.

The award is presented to a person who has:

- Demonstrated a commitment to excellence in judicial education;
- Shown exceptional creativity and dedication in program development;
- Excelled in fundraising activities on behalf of NFJE; and
- Exemplified professionalism in promoting the case for a well-educated, independent judiciary.

And it is an award very well-deserved. We join with all of Dan's friends and colleagues in congratulating him on this professional recognition by his peers.

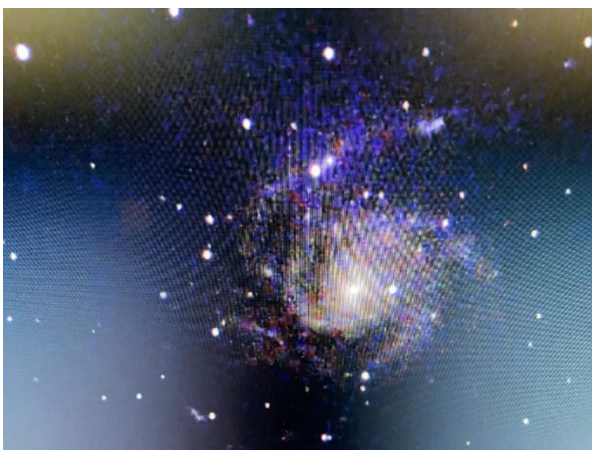
#5 Arkansas Members Getting it Together!



Our FDCC members in Arkansas spent an enjoyable evening together as they met in Bentonville on Wednesday as part of the Federation's Central Division local meetings. Thanks to [Jamie Huffman Jones](#) of [Friday Eldredge & Clark, LLP](#) for organizing the gathering, which included FDCC Corporate Counsel [Alan Bryan](#), [Ben Jones](#) and [Kendra Jones](#). Defense Counsel Members [Sean Griffin](#) of [Robinson + Cole](#) in Washington, DC and [Frank Ramos](#) of [Clarke Silverglate](#) in Miami, FL were special invited guests as they had come to speak at the [Arkansas Association of Defense Counsel](#) Annual Meeting of which Jamie is President.

Jamie promised more get togethers in the year to come...but did not include an explanation as to the meaning or purpose of the green penguin!

#5.1 The Pinwheel Galaxy



What you're seeing here is a picture of the [Pinwheel Galaxy](#) 21 million light years away from Earth. That's equivalent to 1,234,000,000,000,000,000 miles away.

Stay with us here...at last week's Annual Meeting Gala Dinner & Entertainment on Cheyenne Mountain at The Broadmoor Resort in Colorado Springs, CO, we brought in a group of amateur

astronomers who set up their telescopes on the terrace and allowed us a glimpse into the universe. This picture was taken with an iPhone through one of them.

In the efforts we engage in every day, it's appropriate - every once in awhile - to take a moment to appreciate the amazing things all around us...from the amazingly complex midrib veins in a leaf - to the wonders of a galaxy 27 million light years away.

#5.2 What's on the Docket? FDCC's Upcoming Events



Please register and mark your calendar to attend the following FDCC events of relevant and timely substantive content:

- **August 16, 2023: 1:30PM to 2:45PM ET - Coverage 101: A CGL Primer – Zoom Presentation** - Sponsored by the FDCC Insurance Coverage Section. **Please preregister** by emailing either Dan Kohane at ddk@hurwitzfine.com or John Trimble at jtrimble@lewiswagner.com. You will then receive a link for the presentation.
- **October 22 - 24, 2023: FDCC's Corporate Counsel Symposium** at the Philadelphia Downtown Marriott Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. ***"The Leader in WE"***. Co-Chairs: [Alison Christian](#) and [Bill Vita](#).

- **November 8 - 10, 2023: FDCC's Insurance Industry Institute (I-3)** at the Sheraton Times Square Hotel. ***"Insights, Innovation & Inspiration: New Approaches for Insurance Leaders."*** Co-Chairs: [Micalann Pepe](#) and [Alycen Moss](#).
- **February 25 - 29, 2024: FDCC's Winter Meeting at the Vinoy Renaissance Hotel** in St. Petersburg, FL. Convention Chair [Sean Griffin](#); Program Chair: [Frank Ramos](#). [Click here to Register](#).

...and finally...
**Have a Nice Day
Ria Cousineau!**



Maria Louise (Ria) Cousineau is a Member of [Cozen O'Connor](#) in the Los Angeles, CA office. She concentrates her practice in complex insurance coverage matters and bad faith litigation, addressing issues in property and liability policies in both commercial and personal lines. Ria has been a valued defense counsel member of the FDCC since 2020.

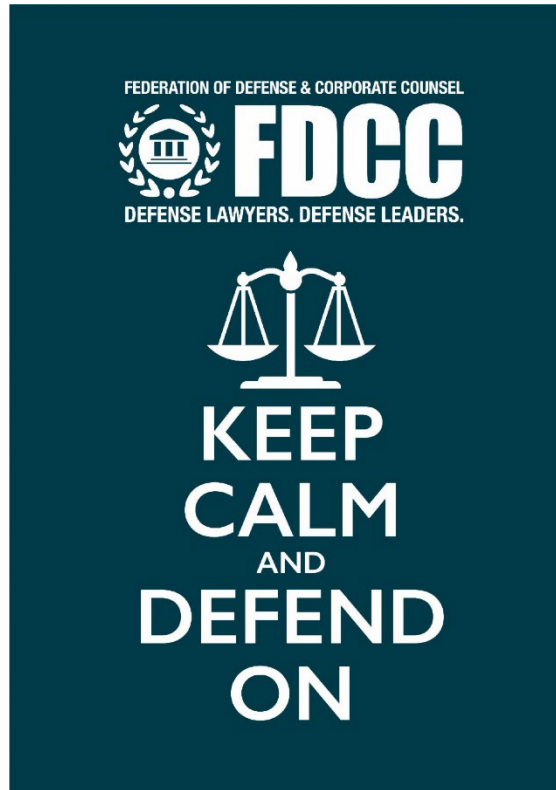
She has represented property insurers in numerous class actions in California. She is often asked to assist attorneys in other regions in preparing institutional cases and witnesses for deposition and trial. She also volunteers as a mediator/arbitrator for numerous courts in Los Angeles County and regularly provides pro bono legal services to people of limited means.

And today is her birthday! Would you kindly join us in sending Ria an email to:

mcousineau@cozen.com

to wish her a very Happy Birthday. All the very best, Ria. We wish you, and the family continued good health, success and happiness in the years to come.

Why FDCC?
"To be the inspired community of vetted defense counsel, exceptional leaders and even better people."



Be Exceptional Today!