



FDCC
DEFENSE LAWYERS. DEFENSE LEADERS.

GIVE ME 5 THINGS TO KNOW

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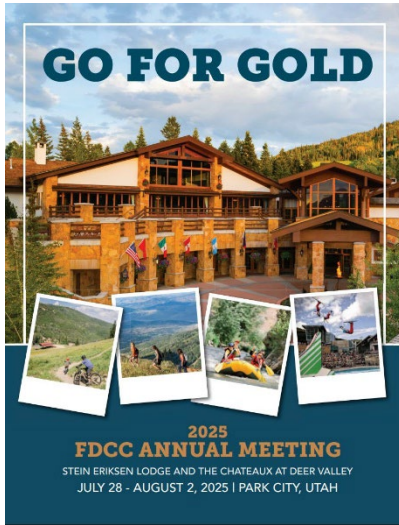
In this week's issue:

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Good Morning!

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

#1 Register for Summer Meeting Events & Excursions Today!



Please click on the link for the full [Summer 2025 Meeting Brochure](#) to get a first look at the incredible program and events our Convention Team has arranged. The meeting takes place at the picturesque Stein Eriksen/Chateau Deer Valley Resort in Park City, UT from July 28th to August 2nd.

This year, we're ready to "Go for Gold" — and we want you there for every unforgettable moment.

The brochure will allow you to dive into the full lineup of exciting excursions, signature dining experiences, memorable social events, and top-tier CLE sessions — all thoughtfully planned for you, your spouse or partner, and your family by our Convention Chair [Tiffany Alexander](#) and Program Co-Chairs [Lee Hall](#) and [Kile Turner](#). Our brochure has everything you need to start planning your experience today!

You can now also select all of the excursions and events you'd like to attend. For those already registered, there are [easy to follow instructions](#) as how to edit your registration to add guests and activities. If you haven't yet registered for the meeting, just visit the [event registration page](#), Secure your spot early to ensure you don't miss the valuable networking opportunities with your FDCC colleagues and our sponsors, and in sharing this special time with your family.

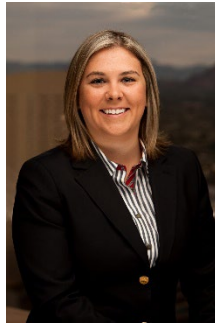
#2 Corporate Counsel Symposium

Room Block is Open:

September 14-15 in Chicago, IL



Nicole Benjamin



Chelsey Golightly



Tim Moore

Convention Co-Chairs, [Nicole Benjamin](#), [Chelsey Golightly](#) and [Tim Moore](#) and their exceptional Committee invite you to [click here](#) and reserve your room for the annual **Corporate Counsel Symposium** being held **September 14-16, 2025** at the [InterContinental Chicago Magnificent Mile Hotel](#) in Chicago, IL today. The room rate is only \$319/night. This is a great opportunity to network with our Corporate Counsel members, General Counsel and Defense Counsel from across the country in an intimate setting.

The panel sessions will include:

- The Impact of Predictive, Generative & Agentic AI on In House Lawyers and Companies
 - The Defend Trade Secrets Act: Be Prepared
 - The Rise of PFAS Litigation
 - Q & A with General Counsel
 - What In House Lawyers Need to Know About Insurance

- Corporate Corner
- A Survival Guide to Corporate Compliance Programs & Government Investigations
- Legal Operations: Getting it Done Whether You're an Army of 1 or 100
 - Advent of Civil Cases based on Human Trafficking
- Navigating Legal Risks as Companies Shift DEI and ESG Strategies
 - Pros and Cons of ADR Including International Arbitration
 - How GC's Are Steering Businesses Beyond Legal
 - Recovery of Debt from Customers in Financial Distress
 - Navigating Labor & Employment Law Changes
- And Much More!

Reserve your room; save the date; stay tuned for the full registration brochure coming soon, and get ready to "**Be in the Flow in Chicago**"!

#3 A New Era for Trade Secrets

By: Jose I. Rojas



In the world of intellectual property, trade secrets -- while sometimes not given as much attention as is accorded patents, trademarks, and copyrights -- have great and increasing importance. Some of the most valuable intellectual property in the world (such as the formula for Coca Cola®, the recipe for Kentucky Fried Chicken® or the Google® ranking algorithm) are protected as trade secrets.

As some states seek to limit or even ban the use of non-compete agreements between employers and their employees, the need for protection of a company's trade secrets is even more essential.

Since May 11, 2016, federal law provides civil remedies for protection for trade secrets. The Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 ("DTSA") codified at the national level what was up to then relegated to individual states and the common law. Under the DTSA, a trade secret is information for which:

- (A) the owner thereof has taken reasonable measures to keep such information secret; and
- (B) the information derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable through proper means by, another person who can obtain economic value from the disclosure or use of the information. 18 U.S.C.A. § 1839(3).

[Please click here to read the entire article](#)

Jose I. Rojas is an FDCC Defense Counsel member and the managing partner at **Rojas Law** in Miami FL, where he concentrates his practice in handling complex

business and intellectual property litigation and alternative dispute resolution, as well as counseling in intellectual property, franchising, international and technology-related legal matters.

#4 New FDCC Podcast Episode on Tariffs Released



We have today released a relevant and topical podcast on the short and long term impacts of tariffs. The imposition of the tariffs is in a dynamic situation as negotiations are taking place between the United States and countries around the world. An agreement was just reached with the United Kingdom yesterday.



Jeff Van Volkenburg

FDCC Defense Counsel member [Jeff Van Volkenburg](#) of [Varner and Van Volkenburg](#) hosts this episode with subject matter experts from FDCC Platinum Sponsor, J.S. Held: [Tim Gillihan](#), an Executive Vice President in the firm's [Economic Damages & Valuations practice](#); [Andrea Korney](#), a global advisor and Vice President of Supply Chain and Sustainability in the [ESG & EHS Digital Solutions group](#); [Robert Strahle](#), a Senior Managing Director and the US Lead in the [Construction Advisory practice](#); and [Peter S. Davis](#), CPA, ABV, CFF, CIRA, CTP, CFE, a Senior Managing Director at J.S. Held, specializing in [Strategic Advisory](#).

Listen in as the Panel discusses:

- What industries will have the greatest disproportionate impact from global supply changes?
 - How are trade deals getting done and what are the risks?
- What is the ripple impact on "Just in Time" products and materials?
- What will the impacts be on domestic and international economies and the labor market?
- How will customers apply "tariff engineering" to reduce the impacts?

Our expert panel covers these issues and more with an exceptional discussion to bring you up to speed.

[Click here to listen to the Podcast](#)



You can listen to this podcast and the other 287 FedSpeaks podcasts on Spotify, iTunes, Stitcher, the Fed365 app or wherever you get your podcasts. Find out what over 14,087 listeners have already discovered by downloading and subscribing to these enlightening episodes by, about and for members of the FDCC.

#5 Lawyers for Civil Justice Update: FRCP Amendments on Track for Public Comment

The federal Advisory Committee on Civil Rules voted at its April 1, 2025, meeting to recommend the publication of four packages of FRCP amendments for public comment later this year. The proposals include:



- Remote testimony: The proposal would clarify that a court’s subpoena power extends nationwide by amending Rule 45 to define the “place of attendance for remote testimony” as “the location where the person is commanded to appear in person” rather than the court where the trial or hearing is conducted.
- Methods of service of subpoenas: The proposed amendment to Rule 45(b)(1) would clarify what “delivering” a subpoena means by providing more methods of service, including by US mail or commercial carrier and, when good cause is shown, additional methods “reasonably calculated to give notice.” The proposal would also establish 14-day notice and remove the requirement to tender the witness fee at the time of service.
- Corporate disclosures: The proposal would amend Rule 7.1 by substituting “business organizations” instead of “corporations” and requiring disclosure of business organizations that own 10 percent or more of a party directly or indirectly, whether or not that ownership interest is in the form of stock. The purpose is to help judges understand their recusal responsibilities by providing more information including about “grandparent or great-grandparent” businesses.
- Voluntary dismissal: The proposal would replace the word “actions” in Rule 41(a) with “one or more claims” to clarify that plaintiffs can dismiss claims without a court order without dismissing the entire action. This would resolve a split among courts. The amendments would also clarify that a stipulation of dismissal need be signed only by the parties remaining in the action rather than all parties who have appeared in the action.

The final decision whether to publish these proposed amendments for public comment will be made by the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure (known as the “Standing Committee”) on June 10. If approved (as expected), the public comment period will begin mid-August, with an opportunity to file written comments and to participate in at least one public hearing on the proposals. The public comment period will conclude in mid-February 2026. If you would like to get involved in LCJ’s efforts on any of these topics or would like information about filing your own comment letter and/or speaking at a public hearing, please [let them know](#).

On the topic of filing under seal, the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules seems to be interested in exploring a more modest approach than writing a new national rule governing sealing. Instead, the Advisory Committee is taking a look at clarifying that the standard for sealing court files differs from the standard for protective orders. Also of note, the Standing Committee will decide on June 10th whether to approve changes to amicus disclosures under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 29.

#5.1 A Very Hoosier Derby!



Thanks to FDCC Defense Counsel member [Nat Jordan](#) for sending along this snapshot of our Indiana FDCC members who met at Aubrey and Charlie Noltemeyer's home for a Kentucky Derby watch party last Saturday. From all accounts we received, it was "fantastic"!

In the group photo above and in attendance were: Erin Clancy; Chris Dinsmore; Mary Graham; the Henderson's; the Hinkle's; the Jordan's; Matt Melton; the Mulroony's; and Hosts, the Noltemeyer's!

Thanks to:

- Aubrey and Charlie Noltemeyer, for hosting the elegant event

- John Trimble, for suggesting the watch party as an event
- Aubrey Noltemeyer, Amanda Mulroony, and Nat's wife, Lisa Jordan, for event planning and various contributions!

So...did anyone have Sovereignty to Win? Looking awesome Guys!

#5.2 What's on the Docket?



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

- **July 28 - August 3, 2025: Annual Meeting** at the [Stein Eriksen Lodge & The Chateaux at Deer Valley](#) in Park City, UT. "Go for Gold" with Convention Chair: [Tiffany Alexander](#) and Program Co-Chairs: [Lee Hall](#) and [Kile Turner](#). [Click here to register.](#)

- **September 14-16, 2025: Corporate Counsel Symposium** at the InterContinental Hotel in Chicago, IL. Co-Chairs: [Chelsey Golightly](#), [Nicole Benjamin](#), and [Tim Moore](#), Registration coming in Spring 2025.
- **November 5-7, 2025: Insurance Industry Institute** at the Westin Times Square Hotel in New York City. Co-Chairs: [Sarannah McMurtry](#) and [Jeff Van Volkenburg](#). Registration coming in Summer 2025.
- **February 24-28, 2026: Winter Meeting** at the [J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort](#) in Scottsdale, AZ: "**Together We Rise From the Valley**". Convention Chair: [Frank Ramos](#); Program Chair: [Micalann Pepe](#).
- **July 26 - 31, 2026: Annual Meeting** at the [Corinthia Hotel in Lisbon, Portugal](#): "**A Mosaic of Memories in Lisbon**". Convention Chair: [Lee Hall](#); Program Chair: [Alycen Moss](#).
- **February 28-March 4, 2027: Winter Meeting** at the [Fountainbleu Hotel, Miami Beach, FL](#).
- **July 25-30, 2027: Annual Meeting** at the [Fairmont Banff Springs, Banff, Alberta, Canada](#).

...and finally, Have a Nice Day...

Dana Horton, Brooks Magratten & Nicole Benjamin!



FDCC Defense Counsel members [Dana Horton](#) of Robinson + Cole; [Brooks Magratten](#) of Pierce Atwood, LLP; and [Nicole Benjamin](#) of Adler Pollock & Sheehan, PC traveled to Puerto Rico for the First Circuit's 2025 Judicial Conference. They were spotted together at a keynote address and fireside chat with Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Here's wishing Dana, Brooks and Nicole an exceptional day! Thank you for your valued membership and for being such outstanding ambassadors of the Federation at this important conference.

Why FDCC?

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