

48TH ANNUAL MEETING

SOUTH CAROLINA DEFENSE TRIAL ATTORNEYS' ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 5-8, 2015

THE RITZ CARLTON, AMELIA ISLAND, FLORIDA



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends:



On behalf of the South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys' Association and the SCDTAA Board of Directors, I am pleased to invite you to our Annual Meeting at the Amelia Island Ritz Carlton on November 5-8, 2015. With a beautiful venue and fantastic program, we are looking forward to an outstanding weekend. The Ritz has undergone significant renovations since our last visit there, and Amelia Island always provides a wonderful setting to enjoy a beautiful fall weekend visiting with old friends and making new ones.

Thanks to the tremendous efforts and planning of the Annual Meeting Co-Chairs, Jamie Hood and Ryan Earhart, and their fellow committee members, we have a fantastic and entertaining CLE program in addition to many opportunities for fun. Our meeting begins with our The President's Welcome Reception on Thursday evening followed by dinner at one of the Ritz's amazing restaurants or one of the other fine dining establishments in Amelia. Friday morning then begins with regional breakfasts honoring the South Carolina Judiciary, followed by the kick-off of our educational programs including a discussion of the latest issues involving HIPAA led by Trey Suggs, a presentation by Dick Willis on effective use of science in trying product liability claims, a judicial panel featuring state and federal judges moderated by Molly Craig, and an ethics presentation from Barbara Seymour. Chief Justice Toal will provide us with her annual address on the state of the judiciary. We are also pleased to have Sheila Bias with us to discuss emerging liability trends.

Friday afternoon offers an array of social opportunities to help you relax and re-charge. In addition to our annual golf tournament, fishermen will have an opportunity to test their luck in the local tidal creeks, those wishing to learn more about Amelia Island can attend an island tour, and others may simply want to relax in the spa or enjoy the other amenities the hotel has to offer. The fun continues Friday evening with our formal banquet (black tie optional) featuring the Atlanta Rhythm and Groove band. Those of you who were with us in Savannah a couple of years ago will no doubt remember the great show put on by this band.

The Saturday CLE program is one you won't want to miss. In addition to an appeal panel featuring Justice Toal and Justice Pleicones, moderated by Mitch Brown, we will also hear from Gray Culbreath on assignability of legal malpractice claims. We are also honored to have Jay Lucas, Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives, who will present to us on legislative issues and preview the upcoming legislative session. Last, but certainly not least, we will hear from G. Robert Blakely, former member of the United States House Select Committee on Assassinations, who will speak with us about the unanswered questions relating to the JFK assassination.

As always, Saturday afternoon will provide opportunities for your leisure and enjoyment. The hospitality room will be open and ready to host those interested in catching the college football action. We will also offer tennis and a wine tasting/cooking outing for those looking for something other than football. We will then conclude the evening with a low country dinner at the Ritz.

We encourage you and your spouse or guest to attend this wonderful meeting. Enclosed is a registration packet. Becky and I look forward to seeing you in Amelia!

Warmest regards,

Ronald K. Wray, II

Ronald K. Wray, II
President - SCDTAA



ACTIVITIES

Please register for these activities on the enclosed registration form

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015

12:30 p.m. Golf Tournament

The Golf Club of Amelia Island at Summer Beach

Emerald greens, sapphire skies and the brilliant azure waves of the Atlantic Ocean crashing against the shore are certainly the dream course of an avid golfer. Designed by golf professional Mark McCumber and Gene Littler, The Golf Club of Amelia Island's course is as beautiful as it is challenging. Carved out of the island's lush and undisturbed beachfront, fairways are framed by live oaks, palm trees and pristine sand dunes while greens offer an extra measure of difficulty with the addition of the cool Atlantic breeze.

Boxed lunch included
\$375.00 per person

12:30 p.m. Coastal Fishing Charter

Amelia Island is the Florida coast's best place for year round fishing. Guests will be transferred to Fernandina Harbor Marina to board their exclusive, 4-passenger inshore charter. The experienced captains will put guests in prime waters that will have the best opportunity to catch the big one. Giant sea trout showcase Amelia Island's coastal fishing during the spring fishing season. Spotted sea trout weighing over 6-pounds are commonly taken with top water plugs, live shrimp, or finger mullet. Redfish, flounder, black drum and sheepshead are plentiful as well.

Box lunch included
Minimum of 4 people required and a maximum of 16
\$400.00 per person

12:30 p.m. Historic Trolley Tour & Lunch

Start the tour with lunch at Café Karibo. After lunch take a step back into time with a scenic trolley tour along the historic streets of Fernandina Beach and Old Town Fernandina. The tour will take you around the Historic District to view the beautiful homes and Victorian buildings while our experienced tour guide gives you a lovely narrative of the local history.

After touring the Historic District, your guide will take you to the north end of our island to Old Town Fernandina, originally platted by the Spanish in 1811. Your guide will point

out the historical points of interest such as Plaza Fort San Carlos, the Pippi Longstocking House and Ladies Street just to name a few.

Minimum of 10 people required and a maximum of 20 people
\$155.00 per person

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015

2:00 p.m. Tennis Doubles and Social

Come enjoy an afternoon of tennis, round-robin style. Get a good work out and enjoy cold drinks in the warm sun, as we serve-up lots of fun. All abilities welcome!

Minimum of 5 people required
\$40.00 per person

2:00 p.m. Salt Infusion & Wine Tasting

Join us for an afternoon of tasting! The Ritz Carlton experienced Chef's infuse herbs, citrus and other flavors to make our house made gourmet salts. Participants can taste a diverse array of salts from all over the world and learn the secrets of cooking on a salt platter that's 250 million years old.

The Sommelier will share cooking tips and the healthy benefits of these infused salts as well as pair our finest wines alongside them. Tasting includes four different pre-selected wines and light hors' d'oeuvres.

Minimum of 10 people required
\$175.00 per person

HOTEL INFORMATION

The Ritz Carlton, 4750 Amelia Island Parkway, Amelia Island, Florida 32034. Group reservations for the meeting can only be made for registered seminar attendees. Guaranteed reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or major credit card. The Ritz Carlton will not hold any reservations unless secured by one of the above methods. The room rate at the Ritz Carlton is \$289.00/night plus tax. To request hotel room reservations please fill out the **HOTEL RESERVATION FORM** and return to SCDTAA headquarters with your Annual Meeting registration form. Meeting registration forms with payment must accompany hotel reservation form. Hotel form will not be accepted unless you have submitted a registration prior to or along with the hotel form. Confirmation information will be sent by email within three weeks of receiving registration. Please note there is no resort fee for SCDTAA.

All deposits are refundable up to 7 days prior to arrival. Availability of rooms at the group rate is subject to the SCDTAA room block and for reservations made on or

before, Monday, October 12, 2015 the cut off date. Reservations requests received after the room block is has been fully reserved or after the release of unused rooms on October 12, 2015 will be accepted based on a space and rate availability basis.

Dining

The hotel's spectacular restaurant SALT will be available to our group on Thursday night with seating beginning at 7:00pm. There is a maximum of 8 people per reservation for dinner. You must register for the meeting before you will be able to make reservations for SALT restaurant. To make reservations for SALT please email Taylor Thompson at taylor.thompson@ritzcarlton.com. There are also other great restaurants on Amelia Island, as well as in nearby Fernandina Beach.

If you need transportation for dinner Thursday night, please call the Ritz Carlton Concierge at (904) 321-5019 and they can help arrange it.

Directions

Directions to the Ritz Carlton can be found on their website www.ritzcarlton.com/ameliaisland under the "hotel information" section.

Meeting Cancellation Policy

A refund, less \$200.00, will be given to cancellations before October 15, 2015. No refunds will be given after October 15, 2015.

Conference Attire

Dress for the sessions will be casual, business casual for the President's Welcome Reception, and Saturday evening's event will be held outside and is resort casual. Friday night's dinner is black tie optional. Attire for the hotel is resort casual.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

2016 Summer Meeting

July 28-30
The Asheville Renaissance
Asheville, North Carolina

2016 Annual Meeting

November 8-11
The Ritz Carlton Lodge, Reynolds Plantation
Greensboro, Georgia

2017 Summer Meeting

July 14-16
The Omni Grove Park Inn
Asheville, North Carolina

2017 Annual Meeting

November 9-12
The Cloister
Sea Island, Georgia

TENTATIVE AGENDA

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2015

- 3:00pm – 5:00pm **Board of Director's Meeting**
- 4:00pm – 6:00pm **Registration Desk Open**
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm **Nominating Committee Meeting**
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm **Young Lawyer's Meeting**
- 6:30pm – 7:30pm **President's Welcome Reception**
- Dinner on your own**

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2015

- 7:45am – 8:20am **Breakfast Honoring the South Carolina Judiciary**
- 8:20am – 8:30am **Membership Meeting**
 - Election of Officers & Board of Directors
- 8:30am – 8:40am **President's Welcome Remarks**
- 8:40am – 9:00am **HIPPA – Are You Protecting Your Clients?**
 Fred W. Suggs III
- 9:00am – 9:20am **Emerging Liability**
 Sheila M. Bias
- 9:20am – 9:40am **Understanding is Believing: Teaching Science to Product Liability Juries**
 Richard H. Willis

9:40am – 10:10am

State of the Judiciary

Honorable Jean H. Toal
Chief Justice South Carolina Supreme Court

10:10am – 10:25am

Break

10:25am – 11:10am

Judicial Trial Panel

Honorable J. Michelle Childs, United States District Court
Honorable DeAndrea G. Benjamin, South Carolina Circuit Court
Honorable Roger M. Young, Sr., South Carolina Circuit Court
Honorable Doyet A. Early, South Carolina Circuit Court
Moderator: Molly H. Craig

11:10am – 12:10pm

Ethics Hour

Barbara Seymour

12:30pm

Coastal Fishing Charter

12:30pm

Golf Tournament

12:30pm

Historic Trolley Tour & Lunch

12:30pm – 1:30pm

Women in Law Reception

5:30pm

Past President's Reception (By Invitation Only)

6:30pm

Cocktail Reception

7:30pm

Friday Night Banquet and Dancing (Black tie optional)

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2015

8:15am – 8:30am

Membership Meeting Continued

8:30am – 8:50am

**Assigning Legal Malpractice Claims?
What You Should Know**

Gray T. Culbreath

8:50am – 9:50am

The JFK Assassination: The Unanswered Questions

G. Robert Blakey, Professor of Law Emeritus
University of Notre Dame Law School
Former Chief Counsel and Staff Director
United States House Select Committee on Assassinations

9:50am – 10:10am

Legislative Update

Honorable James H. Lucas
Speaker of the House

10:10am – 10:25am

Break

10:25am – 11:10am

Judicial Appellate Panel

Honorable Jean H. Toal, Chief Justice South Carolina Supreme Court
Honorable Costa Pleicones, Justice South Carolina Supreme Court
Moderator: C. Mitchell Brown

11:10am – 12:00pm

Panel Discussion: The Evidence is Closed – Now What?

Jocelyn T. Newman
Moderator: J. Michael Montgomery

2:00pm

Salt Infusion & Wine Tasting

2:00pm

Tennis Doubles and Social

7:00pm

Lowcountry Cuisine Dinner



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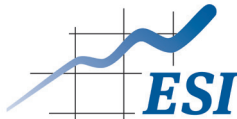


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