

## President's Message - Omotenashi!

As my year as IADC President comes to a close, I reflect upon the incredible people that Anne and I have been blessed to meet and the memorable events in which we have taken part this past year while representing the IADC. "Kind beyond measure" understates the generosity and welcome that we have received throughout the world, and nowhere more so than at our recent Regional Meeting in Tokyo,



Japan. Japan is the country of my birth, and I had not returned since departing for the United States at age two with my family. This visit made clear my considerable error in judgment having waited more than fifty years for the homecoming.

While visiting Kyoto, Anne and I, accompanied by Michele and Mitchell Smith and Cecelia Lehay, enjoyed the delights and traditions of a Japanese *sadō* (the "way of tea"). *Omotenashi* — Japanese hospitality — imbues the traditional tea ceremony. While *omotenashi* is hard to define in English until you have visited Japan, according to *Japan Travel*, "it is an implicit understanding that



The Beebes at a traditional tea ceremony in Kyoto with Michele and Mitchell Smith and Cecelia Lehay.

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there are no menial tasks if the result ensures a great experience for a guest.” During the ceremony, “the host constantly considers their guest with every movement and gesture. Indeed, the most important part of every ceremony is that the host prepares a bowl of tea from their heart.” *Subarashii!*

Our host, Emiri, explained that upon entering the *chashitsu* (tea room) as her honored guests, we were to embrace the four guiding principles of the ceremony — harmony (*wa*), respect (*kei*), purity (*sei*), and tranquility (*jaku*). We were to respect all aspects of the tea ceremony, abandon the worries and tribulations of daily life, and focus on the harmony and tranquility of the ceremony. Emiri highlighted that our tea ceremony was *ichigo ichie* — a once in a lifetime event. That is, even if we were to return to the very same tea room, with our exact host, and the precise group wearing identical kimono, it would not be equivalent — as each of our life’s experiences is unique and singular! Translation: make the most of every moment. *Subarashii!*



Emiri

Reflecting upon the *sadō*, I realized that the IADC has its own *omotenashi* — a welcoming hospitality that comes from the heart. IADC members have demonstrated that they are focused on anticipating the needs of clients and friends alike, attentive to detail, and genuinely appreciative of the opportunity to serve. Our *omotenashi* is a cornerstone of the IADC. Although some might dismiss my assessment as quaint supposition, I challenge the doubters to assuage their incredulity by engaging in the IADC — network, connect, associate, affiliate, link, interface, relate, [*insert favorite communing verb*] — just engage and experience the IADC’s *omotenashi*. At worst, you promote your professional brand, garner a referral, advance your professional skill set, and make new friends. At best, you reach

## President's Message (continued)

Enlightenment and become a Buddha. (Perhaps slightly overstated, but your engagement will reward you with no less than the “worst” case, and you enjoy IADC *omotenashi*: care and service originating from the heart.)

My twenty years as an IADC member overflow with untold personal encounters and innumerable meetings that were enriching, invigorating, rewarding, and without question, reflecting IADC *omotenashi*. These special moments cannot be replicated. Yet, as Emiri espoused, *ichigo ichie* teaches us to be present in every moment and to recognize each occasion is unique and singular; thus, cherish the moment to the fullest, because it is fleeting. Anne and I thank you for the abundant *omotenashi* that has been extended to us at every destination this year and years prior, and our hope is that we will be able to return your generous hospitality. Finally, let me encourage you to embrace the philosophy of *ichigo ichie* and engage and connect not only in the IADC, but in all aspects of your everyday lives. The results will be *subarashii*!

**Mark R. Beebe**

IADC President 2022-23

## HOW TO MAXIMIZE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We know that one of the most important aspects and benefits of membership is the ability to grow your network and your business. Hear eight tips from IADC Board and other members on how to maximize business development opportunities in the IADC. If you aren't already doing some of these, we encourage you to do so!



## REGISTRATION AND BROCHURE NOW AVAILABLE

### 2023 International Corporate Counsel College

8 - 10 October, Les Salons Hoche, Paris, France

The International Corporate Counsel College brings together in-house counsel and their law firm counterparts for education and discussion on the latest legal issues affecting global companies.

This year's College will focus on in-house counsel sharing their experiences and lessons learned to better embrace the current and future challenges that most businesses are and will face. Come and learn from more than a dozen in-house counsel of international corporations which include Emerson, Crédit Agricole, Hilti Corporation, General Electric, Vertiv, Bureau Veritas, Brit Insurance, and more.

This year's theme is **Facing the Challenging Legal Landscape: Connecting Corporate Counsel to Practical Solutions**, and highlights include:

- Women and DEI in Legal Teams (guest panel)
- Embracing the Future: Transforming Legal Departments for a Changing Landscape
- In-House Legal Team: From Cost-Center to Value Creator
- Feeling Overwhelmed by Increasing Regulations? Welcome to Our Support Group
- The ESG Landscape: Where It's Been and Where It's Going? Get the In-House's View
- Preparing for and Responding to a Social Media Crisis: A Lesson in Effective Risk Management

View the [full brochure](#) and [registration](#) on the [International Corporate Counsel College page](#) on the IADC website.



## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES: A YEAR IN REVIEW



During the 2022-2023 leadership year, the following BDO opportunities were afforded to IADC members. Thank you for your participation and commitment.

- In-Person Connection Events
  - 11 Regional Meetings spanning the globe
  - Signature IADC conferences: Trial Academy (Palo Alto, CA), International Corporate Counsel College (Vienna), Midyear Meeting (Austin, TX), Leadership Forum and Corporate Counsel College (Chicago), and the Professional Liability Roundtable (NYC)
- 212 Monthly Substantive Committee Meetings, featuring:
  - 132 presentations on important topics and best practices
  - 236 member introductions
  - 13 joint Committee meetings
  - social activities
- Member Spotlights published monthly
- 45 published writing opportunities through our scholarly *Defense Counsel Journal* and Committee articles
- 18 feature articles placed by our PR firm, Jaffe
- 72 member successes shared
- Approximately a quarter of our membership reported having given a referral or received a referral since January. The cumulative value of the referrals reported was approximately \$13 million.

## AMENDED RULE 702 - A CALL TO ACTION

After eight years of deliberation, the Federal Rules Committee has unanimously approved amendments to Federal Rule of Evidence Rule 702 to correct two widespread judicial errors by which many federal courts have been abdicating their gatekeeping responsibility to protect jurors from unreliable expert testimony. Although not formally effective until December 1, 2023, these amendments are intended to clarify the proper application of the current Rule 702 and are already being relied upon in federal courts.

The specific changes to the text of Rule 702 will (1) add the preponderance of evidence standard directly into the rule and (2) revise subpart (d) to require that “the expert’s opinion reflects a reliable application of the principles and methods to the facts of the case” instead of “the expert has reliably applied the principles and methods to the facts of the case.” More generally, the amendments are aimed at countering decades of judicial recalcitrance to the proper application of the strict standards for admissibility of expert testimony that had been proscribed in the prior round of Rule 702 amendments in 2000.

While these amendments mark a significant victory for the defense bar, there is considerable work still to be done. Following the last round of Rule 702 amendments, the defense bar lost focus and allowed the plaintiffs’ bar to carve away at protections against unreliable expert testimony. Simply stated, we cannot let this happen again. To cement and build on the new victory, we -- and most importantly our clients -- need your help.

To that end, the International Association of Defense Counsel is forming a new Standing Committee –**the Rule 702 Sustainability Committee**– that will be working in coordination with other defense groups to achieve the following goals:

1) Judicial and practitioner education on the amended rule, 2) Amicus support, 3) Creating and populating a Rule 702 resource repository, and 4) Parallel expert admissibility rulemaking efforts in state jurisdictions

Given the legal and geographic breadth of the challenge, we are calling upon outside counsel, in-house counsel, and insurance executives with both federal and state practices in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Members of the Committee will be given resources and support to become the new faces of Rule 702 in their jurisdictions, in their practice areas, and for their clients.

For more information, please contact Committee Chair [Eric Lasker](#).





The IADC Foundation has awarded \$130,000 in grants this year to worthy organizations that support the rule of law and access to justice. View the videos below to see your donations at work.



## NEW LEVELS OF GIVING

Buy raffle tickets or make a donation to the IADC Foundation and join a [special group of people](#) who have made a significant impact.

President's Circle of Fellows - \$1,000 in the current calendar year

Life Fellow - \$5,000 in lifetime giving

Sustaining Life Fellow - \$15,000 in lifetime giving



**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FOUNDATION AND GIVE YOUR SUPPORT**

## RECENT EVENT RECAPS



**Pittsburgh, PA Regional Meeting.** On May 16, attendees gathered at the Eastern Regional Meeting in Pittsburgh which celebrated third-year Board member Alba Romano. Attendees enjoyed a presentation on digital forensics by sponsor, member, and Regional Meeting Host John Unice and Brett Creasy of Bit-x-Bit, LLC. The meeting concluded with a dinner at the Four Diamond rated Altius Restaurant with a stunning view atop Mount Washington overlooking the city.

**Professional Liability Roundtable.** On May 18, the IADC was in midtown New York City for the Professional Liability Roundtable held at Cornell University. There were three tracks comprised of eight outstanding panels with topics touching on cyber risk and insurance. Thank you to Chas Reynolds (Professional Liability Roundtable Chair), Alex Brown (Insurance Liability Roundtable Chair), and Constance Endelicato (Medical Liability Roundtable Chair) and their Committees for planning such an insightful program.

**Tokyo Regional Meeting.** On May 23, the IADC headed to Tokyo for the first Regional Meeting held there in IADC's 103 year history. Hosts Hiroyuki Tezuka, Noriko Higashizawa, and Yoshi Takatori welcomed 34 attendees from Japan, Korea, Australia, and the United States. Panel topics included nuclear verdicts, arbitration versus litigation, DEIB, and updates on laws and regulations. The meeting was followed by a cocktail reception and a traditional Japanese dinner dining experience at Ajiichi.

**Birmingham Regional Meeting.** On June 6, Host Katie Powell greeted attendees from across the country for the Birmingham Regional Meeting which honored third-year Board member Chris Berdy. Brantley Fry of Southern Research presented the insightful keynote talk.





## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The IADC's Member Spotlight program is designed to introduce and focus attention on members. Fill out the [Member Spotlight Form](#) to be featured next.

Meet members **Lyndey Bryant** (member since 2022), **Christopher A. Kenney** (member since 2003), and **Scott O'Connell** (member since 2017).

Click images below to enlarge.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL  
**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



**LYNDEY BRYANT**

**COMPANY/FIRM NAME**  
Adams and Reese LLP

**COMPANY/FIRM LOCATION**  
Columbia, South Carolina

**TYPE OF LAW YOU PRACTICE MOST**  
Business Litigation

**CURRENT INVOLVEMENT/ LEADERSHIP POSITIONS WITH IADC**  
Trial Academy (2018); DEIB Committee; Business Litigation Committee

**BEST ADVICE YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED AS A LAWYER**  
*Use every opportunity before the court and opposing counsel to advocate your client's position. Tell their story. Never let a discussion about a case be about you, but rather about the client and its position.*

**YOU MAY NOT KNOW...**  
*The iconic "California" script on California state license plates is my father's handwriting. He (Ron Zwingleberg) designed the "Rage Italic" font in art school in 1983.*

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL  
**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



**CHRISTOPHER A. KENNEY**

**COMPANY/FIRM NAME**  
Kenney & Sams, P.C.

**COMPANY/FIRM LOCATION**  
Boston, MA

**TYPE OF LAW YOU PRACTICE MOST**  
Business Litigation and Complex Civil Litigation

**CURRENT INVOLVEMENT/LEADERSHIP POSITIONS WITH IADC**  
Board of Directors

**BEST ADVICE YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED AS A LAWYER**  
*Confidence and competence are born through preparation.*

**YOU MAY NOT KNOW...**  
*I also serve as a mediator, and my favorite place on earth is our family cabin in the woods of Central Maine.*

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL  
**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



**SCOTT O'CONNELL**

**COMPANY/FIRM NAME**  
Holland & Knight LLP

**COMPANY/FIRM LOCATION**  
Boston and NYC

**TYPE OF LAW YOU PRACTICE MOST**  
Trials, Class Action Defense, Healthcare Litigation, Government Enforcement

**CURRENT INVOLVEMENT/ LEADERSHIP POSITIONS WITH IADC**  
Class Actions, Medical Defense and Health Law, Corporate Compliance and Government Enforcement

**BEST ADVICE YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED AS A LAWYER**  
*The best career advice came from my first attorney mentor 32 years ago: "Manage your own career. Don't wait for someone else to do it for you." The best advice came from my civil procedure professor: "The three most important things to remember about practicing law...Be prepared. Be prepared. Be prepared!"*

**YOU MAY NOT KNOW...**  
*I sang with a male a capella group in college. We still get together every 5 years to make those tight harmonies ring. Our own version of Bruce Springsteen's "Glory Days" (I grew up in New Jersey...Exit 168 :))*

## Resources | *what you may have missed*

### *Committee Newsletters*

#### [New England States Reach Divergent Outcomes on COVID-19 Coverage Disputes](#)

By Alex Henlin

*Insurance and Reinsurance Committee*

#### [Punitive Damages Amendment Seeks to Provide Statutory Authority Altering the Landscape of Wrongful Death Recovery](#)

By Lara R. Lickhalter and Justin Dobek

*Transportation Committee*

#### [Trucking Accident Critical Initial Decision—Points](#)

By Floyd G. Cottrell

*Transportation Committee*

#### [The Golden Power in Italy](#)

By Filippo Mazza

*International Committee*

#### [The PFAS-Concern is Reaching the EU](#)

By Sylvie Gallage-Alwis and Elias Boukachabine

*Toxic and Hazardous Substances Litigation Committee*

## Resources | *what you may have missed*

### *Webinars*

#### **Litigating Claims of Nitrosamines and Trace Contaminants in Pharmaceutical Products**

Presented by - Product Liability Committee

*Presenters: Sharon L. Caffrey, Duane Morris LLP; Cheryl Woodin, Bennett Jones LLP*

[PDF of Presentation](#) | [Webinar Recording](#) | [Password can be found here](#)

#### **Risk and/or Opportunity? What are the Liabilities and Litigation Risks?**

Presented by - Product Liability Committee

*Presenters: Sylvie Gallage-Alwis, Signature Litigation AARPI; Erik W. Legg, Farrell, White & Legg PLLC*

[PDF of Presentation](#) | [Webinar Recording](#) | [Password can be found here](#)

### ***Active Ally Series (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee initiative)***

#### **Focusing on Mental Health and Wellness**

*Moderator: Carolyn Hussman*

*Speakers: Sara Barnhart, Joseph C. Chancey, Taylor S. Poncz*

To view this recording, please visit the [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Resources page](#).

## New Members | *new members of the IADC*

### [John Albright](#)

HUB International  
Chicago, Illinois  
United States

### [Raghu Bandlamudi](#)

Manning Gross+  
Massenburg LLP  
New York, New York  
United States

### [Ryan Pitman](#)

PineGate Renewables  
Asheville, North Carolina  
United States

### [Stephen W. Still, Jr.](#)

Starnes Davis Florie LLP  
Birmingham, Alabama  
United States

### [Gael Tisack](#)

Abbott Laboratories  
Chicago, Illinois  
United States

### [Zachary Wallack](#)

Eckert Seamans Cherin &  
Mellott LLC  
Boston, Massachusetts  
United States

### [Byron Hansbro](#)

State Farm Mutual  
Automobile Insurance  
Company  
Bloomington, Illinois  
United States

### [Julie Maurer](#)

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard &  
Smith LLP  
Boston, Massachusetts  
United States

### [Joseph T. Toomey](#)

Nutter McClennen & Fish  
LLP  
Boston, Massachusetts  
United States

### [Niki Schaefer](#)

Reliability First  
Cleveland, Ohio  
United States

### [James Fraser](#)

Thompson Hine LLP  
Washington, District of  
Columbia United States

### [Catherine Ava](#)

### [Leatherwood](#)

Rogers Townsend, LLC  
Columbia, South Carolina  
United States

### [Kerry R. Lewis](#)

Rhodes Hieronymus  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
United States

### [Michel Morgan](#)

Universal Property and  
Casualty Ins. Co.  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida  
United States

### [Christina Kelly](#)

Squire Patton Boggs (US)  
LLP  
Phoenix, Arizona  
United States

### [Jeremy Moseley](#)

Spencer Fane, LLP  
Denver, Colorado  
United States

### [Craig Campbell](#)

Hand Arendall Harrison  
Sale LLC  
Mobile, Alabama  
United States

### [Joseph C. Megariotis](#)

Connell Foley LLP  
Newark, New Jersey  
United States

### [Aaron Schae](#)

Lane Powell PC  
Seattle, Washington  
United States

## New Members | *new members of the IADC*

### [Talaal Bond](#)

Matthew Abogado LLP  
London, Ontario Canada

### [May Cheng](#)

Dipchand LLP  
Toronto, Ontario Canada

### [Caroline Iovino](#)

McDermott Will & Emery  
Miami, Florida  
United States

### [Seth R. Jewell](#)

Federal Express  
Corporation  
Memphis, Tennessee  
United States

### [Clifford F. Kinney, Jr.](#)

Spilman Thomas & Battle,  
PLLC  
Charleston, West Virginia  
United States

### [J. Richard Moore](#)

Bleeke Dillon Crandall  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
United States

## - DIVERSITY ROADMAP -

a resource guide for law firms, corporations, and insurance companies  
which encourages greater diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging



more than 125 practical resources

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## [New Opportunity for Committees!](#)

The IADC is offering a new opportunity to a Committee to plan a specialty roundtable program. If your Committee has an idea that would benefit the IADC and its members, please submit a proposal online on the IADC website [here](#).

## NOMINATE

If you know anyone who would be an excellent member, [nominate them](#) for IADC membership.

## IADC Successes | *your accolades, wins, and accomplishments*

[J. Dominic Campodonico](#), partner at Gordon & Rees, was recognized by *Who's Who Legal* for his prowess in the Life Sciences 2023 Legal Marketplace Analysis. | [more](#)

[Neal D. Moore III](#), partner at Christian Small, won a complete defense verdict in a 7-figure personal injury case. | [more](#)

[Dixie T. Wells](#), partner at Ellis & Winters LLP, authored an article on OSHA multi-employer worksite policies for *Modern Contractor Solutions* on behalf of the IADC. | [more](#)

[Christopher S. Drewry](#), partner at Drewry Simmons Vornehm, LLP authored an article on project documentation for *Modern Contractor Solutions* on behalf of the IADC. | [more](#)

[Christopher C. Lam](#), partner at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, obtained summary judgment for a client in a three year commercial litigation case. | [more](#)

[Jennifer Reid Egbe](#), partner at Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP, was selected as a member of the 2023 class of Fellows by the Alabama Law Foundation. | [more](#)

[Charles H. Cole](#), partner at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, was featured in *CIO TODAY* in an article on the top five personalities revamping the future. | [more](#)

[Dabney J. Carr](#), partner at Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP, was named editor for the firm's newly launched blog. | [more](#)

[Malissa Wilson](#), partner at Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP, was named recipient of the Mississippi Bar's Distinguished Service Award. | [more](#)



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