

2025

Issue One

## DANA POINT: WHERE YOU BELONG! 2025 MIDYEAR MEETING



We are excited to welcome you to the serene and beautiful city of Dana Point in California for the IADC's [2025 Midyear Meeting](#), February 9 to 14, at the Waldorf Astoria Monarch Beach Resort & Club.

The Planning Team, IADC staff, and our various CLE Committees have been working behind the scenes to create a meeting where **our IADC community** will feel not only welcome but also

have numerous opportunities to **engage and connect (or reconnect!)**, focus on **business development**, and have the chance to **spend time** with one another.

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Dear IADC Members,

Happy 2025! When I assumed this position in July 2024, I said my focus would be on strengthening our IADC community and the broader legal community by stressing three things: standing for the rule of law, supporting our members, and serving others. This installment of the President's Message will focus on standing for the rule of law in the context of supporting and protecting the judiciary.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In December 2024, I had the privilege of attending a panel of current and retired State Supreme Court Chief Justices from Tennessee, Colorado, Michigan, and Georgia. Their presentation on public trust in the courts was sobering. Justice Holly Kirby of the Tennessee Supreme Court shared statistics that 72% of the American public thinks that the Courts are for the wealthy and 2% think the Courts serve the poor. Only 43% of those polled think the Courts are fair and impartial; and 49% believe Court decisions are reflective of a judge's political views.

Lack of trust in the judiciary is a global issue. In Mexico, we saw unprecedented judicial reform meant to replace appointed judges with those chosen by the public in political elections. This sweeping change has the potential to undermine the checks and balances provided by a completely independent judiciary.

The declining confidence in our Courts has created civil justice systems in crisis. Attacks on judges and judicial independence have doubled since 2021 and raise broader concerns about the rule of law. When judges are threatened or attacked, it creates a chilling effect that can deter them from making impartial decisions. This can result in efforts to undermine judicial authority through intimidation or violence. What will the judiciary of the future look like if no one wants the job?

Judicial independence is necessary to maintain the integrity of democratic institutions worldwide. As judicial independence faces unprecedented challenges globally, it is critical for lawyers to step up and advocate for creative ways to improve access to justice so that the citizenry believes in its systems and does not feel compelled to act outside the bounds of the law as we saw in the case of the murder of

United Healthcare CEO Brian Johnson and the subsequent public support for the crime. Lawyers need to work together to continue to educate the public about their access to the courts to solve their problems, through law rather than violence.

We do have hope. Artificial intelligence is being used to upgrade and streamline court dockets in order to assist citizens dealing with debt collection and eviction proceedings so they can obtain access to online mediation. Justice Bridget McCormack, retired Chief of the Michigan Supreme Court and current President of the AAA-International Centre for Dispute Resolution, is spear-heading this effort.

Creation of specific problem-solving courts like drug courts is another avenue that is working. If citizens see results from their courts and see a path forward to solve their problems in our civil systems, they are less likely to commit violence against others, including judges. If you do not have a specific drug court in your jurisdiction or country, perhaps that is something worth exploring with local judiciary and bar associations.

Lastly, but most importantly for this group, we have the *iCivics* program started by the late Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and supported by the IADC Foundation that provides free instruction to students in the next generation, anywhere in the world, about the law and courts. We are partnering with *iCivics* at our Midyear Meeting in Dana Point to train anyone interested in going into schools to bring this message of access to justice. The program is open to all attendees, not just members. I would strongly encourage all to come to the session and learn how rewarding it can be to give back in this way and feel like you are part of the solution rather than reading disconcerting headlines every day and hoping someone, somewhere will do something.

The IADC and its Foundation are committed to partnering with other civil justice organizations to find solutions to this world-wide crisis. Let us redouble our efforts to support access to justice and thereby support the rule of law, the independence of the judiciary, and protection of judges all over the world.

Hope to see you at the *iCivics* meeting in Dana Point.

Donna M. Lamontagne  
*IADC President, 2024-2025*

## 2025 MIDYEAR MEETING

The Midyear Meeting will be one to remember, and we hope you are joining us! (*[It's not too late!](#)*) Here are a few highlights:

- More than 20 education programs on the schedule
- Exceptional topics, some of which include:
  - In-House Ethics and Compliance and How Outside Counsel Can Support Emerging Needs
  - How FRE 702 Revisions Have Affected Admissibility of Expert Testimony and Junk Science
  - Changing the Narrative in Difficult Cases with the Help of a PR Firm
- Networking and social opportunities -- *Super Bowl Party*, *Welcome Reception*, *California Dreamin'* Theme Party, *Nautical Nights* Closing Party, afternoon tours and activities, smaller group gatherings, and more.

Program and registration information can be found on the [2025 Midyear Meeting page on the IADC website](#).



*Click on the episodes above to listen.*

## 2025 Meetings Preview

We have many great programs in 2025 to create connections, share content, engage in the Association, and provide business development opportunities. In addition to these signature IADC conferences, we will hold free IADCconnects events and Regional Meetings, as well as programming like Webinars and monthly Committee meetings.

We encourage every single member to engage with the IADC in the year ahead. Check out the [IADC calendar](#) for all upcoming opportunities.

**[2025 Midyear Meeting](#)**, February 9 - 14, *Waldorf Astoria Monarch Beach Resort & Club, Dana Point, CA USA*

**[2025 IADC Leadership Forum](#)**, April 9, *The Ritz-Carlton, Chicago, Chicago, IL USA*

**[2025 Corporate Counsel College](#)**, April 10 - 11, *The Ritz-Carlton, Chicago, Chicago, IL USA*

**[2025 Professional Liability Roundtable](#)**, May 15, *Cornell University, ILR School, NYC Conference Center, New York, NY USA*

**[2025 Annual Meeting](#)**, July 5 - 10, *Fairmont Le Château Frontenac, Québec, QC Canada*

**[51st Annual Trial Academy](#)**, August 2 - 8, *Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA USA*

**[Product Liability Roundtable](#)**, Fall 2025

**[2025 International Corporate Counsel College](#)**, October 9 - 10, *The Law Society, London, United Kingdom*





## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The following business development opportunities were afforded to members since the last issue of the *Docket* in September.

- In-Person Connection Events
  - IADConnects in Mexico City, Seattle, Seoul, Tampa, San Francisco, and Mobile
  - 2024 International Corporate Counsel College in Istanbul
  - Regional Meetings in Providence, Istanbul, and São Paulo
- 48 Monthly Substantive Law Committee Calls
  - 21 presentations on important topics and best practices
  - 50 member introductions
  - 5 joint meetings
- 1 published writing opportunity through our Committee articles
- Volume 91, Number 3 *DCJ* issue featuring 5 articles
- 3 feature articles placed by our PR firm, Jaffe
- 6 member success shared



**CONGRATS  
WINNERS!**

We received 85 nominations during the 2024 Monster Mash Membership Dash in the months of September and October. Congratulations to our Overall Winner: Win Diesels (*Transportation Committee*) and our Small But Mighty Winner: The Calaveras (*Environmental and Energy Law Committee*).



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL  
**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



**FLOYD G. COTTRELL**

**COMPANY/FIRM NAME**  
Rawle & Henderson LLP

**COMPANY/FIRM LOCATION**  
Hackensack, New Jersey

**TYPE OF LAW YOU PRACTICE MOST**  
Trucking/Transportation; Premises Liability/Restaurant & Retail Liability

**CURRENT INVOLVEMENT/ LEADERSHIP POSITIONS WITH IADC**  
Chair, Transportation Committee; Vice-Chair, Trial Tactics and Techniques

**BEST ADVICE YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED AS A LAWYER**  
On a 10th century earthenware plate from what is now Iran that I repeatedly visit in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Translated, it says, "Planning before work protects you from regret." It's true in many aspects of life beyond law.

**YOU MAY NOT KNOW...**  
My family (father's side) has been in the US before it was a country. My GGGGf enlisted in the New Jersey 29th Volunteer Infantry and was at Fredericksburg, and my GGGGGf fought in the War of 1812. Their graves are decorated every Memorial Day in the Baptist Church in Howell, N.J. where they rest. The town hall is on land that used to be my forebear's farm. Somewhat fittingly, I am now partner in the oldest law firm in the US in continuous operation (since 1783).

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL  
**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



**KAMIL ZAWICKI**

**COMPANY/FIRM NAME**  
KKG Legal Kubas Kos Galkowski

**COMPANY/FIRM LOCATION**  
Poland / Warsaw / Krakow

**TYPE OF LAW YOU PRACTICE MOST**  
Energy, Energy Transition, Nuclear, Business Litigation and Dispute Resolution, Life Science and Biotech

**CURRENT INVOLVEMENT/ LEADERSHIP POSITIONS WITH IADC**  
International, International Arbitration

**BEST ADVICE YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED AS A LAWYER**  
The best advice I ever received as a lawyer was to always put ethics and integrity ahead of short-term gain. By maintaining high ethical standards, we build trust with our clients and earn the respect of our colleagues, which leads to long-term success and a solid reputation.

**YOU MAY NOT KNOW...**  
I love US and European youngtimers, classic cars from the 80s and 90s. I drive a Pontiac Firebird, Buick Riviera, Lancia Delta... and I am planning more!

Meet members **Floyd G. Cottrell** (member since 2019) and **Kamil Zawicki** (member since 2024).

Want the spotlight on you? Fill out the [Member Spotlight form](#).

## NEWLY AVAILABLE TO YOU! ESG TASK FORCE

IADC is committed to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and its impact on business.

We have created a task force that will allow us to infiltrate the importance of ESG throughout the various IADC Committees and provide information and resources to our members to allow them to better serve their clients and companies in this ever expanding space.

To join the ESG IADC Community for developments and updates, [click here](#).

## RECENT EVENT RECAPS

**Providence Regional Meeting.** Thank you to Brooks Magratten for planning and hosting an incredible Northeast Regional Meeting in Providence! Nearly 30 attendees were provided the opportunity to visit at the Providence Art Club for a networking reception and enjoyed dinner featuring local cuisine.

**Istanbul Regional Meeting.** On September 25, nearly 45 attendees mingled and enjoyed each other's company along with spectacular views in beautiful Istanbul, Türkiye for our European Regional Meeting. Thank you to Host Döne Yalçın for a fantastic time!

**International Corporate Counsel College.** Our International Corporate Counsel College took place September 26 and 27 in Istanbul with the leadership of Director Döne Yalçın. In-house and outside counsel gathered for fantastic education and experience sharing, and lovely social networking. A huge thank you to Döne and her amazing planning Committee who put together the relevant programming surrounding the "Our World in Crisis" theme, our speakers, and our sponsors.





## RECENT EVENT RECAPS



**São Paulo Regional Meeting.** Thank you to Fernando Eduardo Serec, Luis Renato Ferreira Da Silva, Sr., Patrícia Helena Marta, and Guilherme Monteiro Nitschke for planning and hosting a fantastic Regional Meeting on November 13 in São Paulo, Brazil. We had presenters from Brazil, Mexico, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Panama, Canada, and the U.S., enlightening us on the benefits of foreign investments in Latin America, contrasting class action laws, and the past, present, and future of arbitration in Latin America.

**IADConnects.** IADC members have been connecting all over the world at our IADConnects events, which are casual gatherings for collegiality, networking, and fun. Thank you to the event Hosts and attendees for these meaningful connection moments.

Here is where we've been:

[Mexico City, Mexico](#) | [Seattle, WA](#) | [Seoul, Korea](#) | [Tampa, FL](#)  
| [San Francisco, CA](#) | [Mobile, AL](#)



## COMMITTEE NEWSLETTERS

### Put Your Best Face Forward: Selecting and Preparing the Corporate Representative

By Robert G. Smith

*Medical Defense and Health Law Committee*

## WEBINARS

### **How to Adapt Litigation Trial Tactics to Make Them Work in Arbitration**

Presented by - International Arbitration Committee

*Presenters: Anna Cook, Bristows LLP; Kevin W. Kita, Sutter O'Connell; Stephen H. Lee, Porter Hedges; Amy Stewart, Stewart Law Group*

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

### **Resolving Claims When Coverage Is at Issue: Do Your Expectations Meet Reality?**

Presented by - Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and Insurance and Reinsurance Committee

*Presenters: William A. Bulfer, Teague Campbell; Jeff Kichaven, Jeff Kichaven Commercial Mediation*

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

### **Holiday Classics and Employment Law: Lessons Learned**

Presented by - Employment Law Committee

*Presenters: Jeffrey M. Beemer, Dickinson Wright, PLLC; Thomas M. Buckley, Goldberg Segalla, LLP*

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



[IADC Essentials for New Members Session](#)

[Passcode can be found on this page](#)

## RECENT RESOURCES

These podcast episodes have dropped since our last issue. [Listen here](#) or wherever you listen to podcasts.

- [Together We Thrive: Inside IADC Involvement](#)

- *IADC Speaks* Host Mollie Benedict spoke with Sarah Armstrong, Carolyn Husmann, and Tara Ward, all newer members and members of IADC's Engagement and Retention Committee, about practical ways to get involved in the Association. In this episode, hear about their journeys to the IADC, learn how to claim your space, and get actionable advice on how to make the most out of your membership.

- [The Velvet Hammer: A Conversation with Al Vance](#)

- From a private practice litigator to in-house counsel to a full-time arbitrator and mediator, Al Vance has had a storied career. *IADC Speaks* Host Matt Cairns (Textron Inc.) talked candidly with Al Vance (Vance Dispute Resolutions) about his experiences and legal journey. Learn about when mediation was just part of the process and the moment it evolved to becoming his focus, hear the advice he would give himself as a litigator and as an in-house client from the other side, and discover what the velvet hammer approach is.

- [Legal Lens: Defense Counsel Journal](#)

- First published in 1934, the IADC's *Defense Counsel Journal* has a rich history. This esteemed journal has served as a vital forum for scholarly writings on the law, offering quality content on a diverse range of topics that resonate with its readership. *IADC Speaks* Host Chris Berdy (Butler Snow LLP) spoke with Eric Lasker (Hollingsworth LLP), Marsha Piccone (Fox Rothschild LLP), and Peter Pizzi (Walsh Pizzi O'Reilly Falanga) who all have an intimate connection with the *DCJ*. Join us as we explored the *Journal's* evolution over the decades, opportunities for involvement, and the impact it has had on the legal community.

- [All the President's Women](#)

- In this inspiring episode of *IADC Speaks*, Host Cecilia Lahaye (Bird & Bird LLP) chatted with IADC President Donna Lamontagne (Lamontagne, Spaulding & Hayes, LLP) about those who have shaped her life and her career – remarkable women who embody resilience, perseverance, and strength. Join us as she shared stories of influential figures from her professional and personal spheres.

- [Two Generations, One Profession, One IADC: Carolyn and Randy Riggs](#)

- In this episode of *IADC Speaks*, Host Matt Cairns (Textron Inc.) talked with Carolyn Riggs (Ice Miller LLP) and Randy Riggs (Frost Brown Todd LLC): father and daughter IADC members. Join us as they discussed their journeys into the legal profession, their professional and personal relationship, and their unique experiences and perspective with the IADC. Tune in for a thoughtful conversation about mentorship, the evolution of law, and the benefits of exposure only the IADC can provide.

- [Casual Convos with Past Presidents featuring Mark Beebe and Spencer Silvergate](#)
  - In this “Casual Convos with Past Presidents” series, hear from past presidents of the IADC as we explored their journeys, uncovered invaluable insights and moments that shaped their experiences within the IADC. Each episode in this three-part series features candid casual conversations about the challenges they faced, the pivotal decisions they made, and the wisdom they’ve gained. Tune in for inspiring stories and practical advice from past presidents of the IADC. In the third and final episode of this trilogy, Host Al Vance (Vance Dispute Resolution, PC) spoke with IADC Past Presidents Mark Beebe (Adams and Reese LLP) and Spencer Silvergate (Clarke Silvergate, P.A.).
- [Motion Granted: A Look Into the Active Lifestyles of Members of the IADC Community featuring Amy Stewart](#)
  - *IADC Speaks* Host J.T. Wilson III (Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.) spoke with Amy Stewart (Stewart Law Group) about the lessons she’s learned on and off the basketball court and how they’ve influenced who she is as a lawyer. Hear how Amy identifies and elevates synergies, collaborates across differences, prepares to win and works to lose gracefully, the number one skill she picked up that applies to her practice, and the importance of building connections.
- [From Courtroom to Creative](#)
  - Meet IADC member Trey Bourn: a defense lawyer who turned his passion for writing into reality with his debut fiction novel, *Cadel*. *IADC Speaks* Host Matt Cairns (Textron Inc.) spoke with Trey Bourn (Butler Snow LLP) about his inspiring journey to authorship. Hear about Trey’s writing process, how he balanced the demands of his legal career with his creative aspirations, and the joys of bringing his first book to life. Whether you’re a budding author or simply curious about the intersection of law and literature, this episode is sure to inspire you to tackle your passions.

- [A New Look at Old Québec: IADC 2025 Annual Meeting Sneak Peek](#)

- Sitting on the banks of the St. Lawrence River and boasting a rich history of over 400 years, Québec City feels like coming home. In this episode of *IADC Speaks*, we take you to this fairytale destination, which will host the 2025 Annual Meeting from July 5 to 10 at the iconic Fairmont Le Château Frontenac. Join the 2025 Planning Team as they share what makes this vibrant city so special – from its food and music to its arts, people, and culture. Get a sneak peek into everything Québec City has to offer and why you won't want to miss this unforgettable experience.

- [Carving a Nonlinear Path: Leading, Mentoring, Pivoting, and DEIB with Melanie Margolin](#)

- In this episode, *IADC Speaks* Host Rebecca Weinstein Bacon (Bartlit Beck LLP) sat down with Melanie Margolin (Clarivate), a trailblazing legal professional whose career path defies convention. As a business-first leader, Melanie shared how her guiding principles have shaped her transitions through various roles. Hear her insights on advocating for justice, empowering others to thrive in their careers, and fostering meaningful change in diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB). Whether you're rethinking your career trajectory or striving to make an impact, Melanie's wisdom will leave you energized and inspired.

- [Pro Bono in Practice with Alison McMinn and Jim Shelson](#)

- As passionate advocates for pro bono work, Alison McMinn (Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP) and Jim Shelson (Carroll Warren & Parker PLLC) are truly lawyers who lead. In this episode, *IADC Speaks* Host Mollie Benedict (Tucker Ellis LLP) spoke with Alison and Jim. Alison shared her experience of spearheading a pro bono committee at her firm, creating a structured approach to inspire colleagues to make a difference. Jim reflected on his impactful journey of giving back through legal service. Together they discussed strategies for incorporating pro bono work into your legal career, highlighted how to connect with organizations, and shared stories that illustrate the power of giving back.



- [2025 Midyear Meeting Preview: What to Expect in Dana Point – Inside Scoop for Newcomers and Veterans](#)
  - Get ready for the IADC 2025 Midyear Meeting Dana Point, CA this February! *IADC Speaks* Host Rebecca Weinstein Bacon (Bartlit Beck LLP) is joined by guests Convention Chair Chris Drewry (Drewry Simmons Vornehm, LLP) and 2025 Midyear Meeting CLE Steering Committee Chair Stephen Zralek (Spencer Fane LLP) for a day-by-day preview of the event, highlighting the top educational sessions and exciting social events. From networking to professional development, this episode covers everything you need to know about this must-attend gathering. Tune in to learn about the incredible opportunities for growth, connection, and collaboration – and why you won't want to miss out!

## **DEFENSE COUNSEL JOURNAL - VOLUME 91, NUMBER 3**

[President's Page](#) by Donna Lamontagne

[Editor's Page](#) by Peter J. Pizzi

### **Article III Standing to Appeal in Federal Court: What Business Lawyers Need to Know**

By Robert Brundage and Kimberley Parrish

[Online Article](#) | [PDF to Print](#)

## **Product Brief: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission**

By Dana Baiocco and Dwight W. Stone II

[Online Article](#) | [PDF to Print](#)

## **Canadian Claims for Cancer Risk Rejected in Valsartan and Ranitidine Litigation: A Welcome Development for Manufacturers Doing Business in Canada**

By Byron Shaw

[Online Article](#) | [PDF to Print](#)

## **A New Focus for Defense Voir Dire: Safetyism**

By Jennifer Cuculich, Zandra E. Foley, Jill Leibold, Ph.D., Zachary Nye, and Nick Polavin, Ph.D.

[Online Article](#) | [PDF to Print](#)

## **Emerging Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Considerations for Law Firms**

By Mark J. Fucile

[Online Article](#) | [PDF to Print](#)

For past Webinar presentations, *Defense Counsel Journal* articles, Active Ally discussions, the Diversity Roadmap resource, and more, visit the "Resource Library" section at [www.iadclaw.org](http://www.iadclaw.org).

**John Mather**

DMG Advocates LLP  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada

**Caroline Power**

Dechert LLP  
Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania USA

**Rita Barker**

Wyche Law Firm  
Greenville, South  
Carolina USA

**Andreas Roquette**

CMS Hasche Sigle –  
Berlin  
Berlin, Germany

**Jonathan Bobell**

Livingston, Barger,  
Brandt & Schroeder  
Bloomington,  
Illinois USA

**Jamie Filipovic**

O'Hagan Meyer  
Chicago, Illinois USA

**Leanne Matchen**

UnitedHealth Group  
Minnetonka,  
Minnesota USA

**Craig Barrett**

BDO USA, LLP  
Washington, District  
of Columbia USA

**Pamela Blass  
Bracher**

American Trucking  
Associations  
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Tennessee USA

**Thomas Quinlen**

U.S. Multimodal  
Group  
Franklin, Tennessee  
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**Nicole Mantini**

Torys LLP  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada

**William Meyer**

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Peachtree Corners,  
Georgia USA

**John L. Mullen**

Franke, Schultz &  
Mullen,  
Kansas City, Missouri  
USA

**Giovanni  
Scognamiglio**

Studio Legale  
Scognamiglio  
Naples, Italy

**J.K. Simms**

Thompson Burton,  
PLLC  
Franklin, Tennessee  
USA

**Christina Errico**

Convex Insurance  
Princeton,  
New Jersey USA

# NEW MEMBERS

*Please welcome  
our newest  
members to  
the IADC, and if  
you need a legal  
resource in  
their area,  
Think IADC First and  
reach out!*

## NOMINATE

If you know anyone  
who would be an  
excellent member,  
nominate them  
for IADC  
membership.

**Katherine L. Kenney**

Peabody & Arnold  
LLP  
Boston,  
Massachusetts USA

**Christopher  
McNicholas**

Service Systems  
Associates, Inc.  
Denver, Colorado  
USA

**Heather Neubauer**

Meagher & Geer,  
P.L.L.P.  
Minneapolis,  
Minnesota USA

**Brian Comarda**

Gordon Rees Scully  
Mansukahni, LLP  
Houston, Texas USA

**Kevin Pinter**

Nicoletti Spinner  
Ryan Gulino Pinter  
New York, New York  
USA

**Tyler Robinson**

Heyl, Royster, Voelker  
& Allen  
Springfield, Illinois  
USA

**Lindsey Romano**

Gordon Rees Scully  
Mansukhani, LLP  
San Francisco,  
California USA

**Vincent Wang**

Tsar & Tsai Law Firm  
Taipei, Taiwan

**Joanna Fulton**

Burness Paull  
Edinburgh, Scotland

**Daniella D. Landers**

Womble Bond  
Dickinson  
Houston, Texas USA

**Ashley Wakefield**

CrossCountry  
Mortgage  
Cleveland, Ohio USA

**Clayton Knowles**

Crawford & Company  
Peachtree Corners,  
Georgia USA

**Jianjian Wang**

King & Wood  
Malleons  
Shanghai, China

**Rachel Adcox**

Washington, District  
of Columbia USA

**Ryan Williams**

Akerman LLP  
Chicago, Illinois USA

**Rebecca C.  
Appelbaum**

Gartner + Bloom PC  
Tampa, Florida USA

**William G. Whitman**

FedEx Ground  
Package System, Inc.  
Moon Township,  
Pennsylvania USA

**Beth Alexander**

Asurion  
Moon Township,  
Nashville, Tennessee  
USA

**Jeff Comeau**

Align Technology  
Morrisville,  
North Carolina USA

**Nick Janizeh**

Tucker Ellis LLP  
Los Angeles,  
California USA

**Jessica Kennedy**

McDonald Toole  
Wiggins, P.A.  
Orlando, Florida USA

**Nicholas P. Meriage**

Pitzer Snodgrass, P.C.  
Saint Louis, Missouri  
USA

**Ron Peleg**

Meitar Law Firm  
Ramat Gan, Israel



## CPR ANNUAL MEETING

The entire ADR community – including IADC members - is invited to attend CPR's Annual Meeting in Miami, February 5-7, to discuss and learn more about efficient and effective ways to resolve commercial disputes and even prevent them altogether. IADC members receive the same special registration rate as members of the CPR Institute.

The conference features 11 panel discussions, including the annual Corporate Counsel Roundtable; the Welcome Reception; all meals; the Awards Dinner; and multiple networking opportunities.

**For more information and to register, please visit the [CPR Annual Meeting 2025 website](#).**

## YOUR ACCOLADES, WINS, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

[J. Calhoun Watson](#), managing member at Robinson Gray Stepp & Laffitte, LLC, was honored by *South Carolina Lawyers Weekly* at its annual "SC Excellence in Law" award banquet in Charleston. | [more](#)

[Carol Dan Browning](#), a member at Stites & Harbison, PLLC, was named to the 2025 *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Litigators in America. | [more](#)

IADC member [Dixie T. Wells](#) and [Chris Flurry](#), both of Ellis & Winters LLP, authored an article on behalf of the IADC for *Modern Contractor Solutions'* December 2024 issue. | [more](#)

[Thomas J. Forestier](#), a shareholder at Winstead PC, was interviewed for the firm's episode of "Come and Take It: The Eminent Domain Podcast." | [more](#)

[William S. Thomas](#), Co-Owner, Member – Attorney at Gausnell, O'Keefe & Thomas, LLC, authored an article on behalf of the IADC for *Modern Contractor Solutions'* October 2024 issue. | [more](#)

Members [James Sullivan, K.C.](#) and [Robin Reinertson](#), partners at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, were selected to *Lexpert's* top 10 business decisions for 2023-2024 on a class actions case they handled. | [more](#)

## IADC SUCCESSSES

Submit your accolades, pro bono stories, courtroom wins, and successes to [Diana Leon](#), Communications and Operations Manager.



[Mark Behrens](#), Co-Chair of the Public Policy Practice Group at Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P., received an Outstanding Contributor to LCJ Legislative Efforts Award while at the Lawyers for Civil Justice Fall meeting in Nashville.



**We have many upcoming events for you to create connections, share content, engage with one another, and develop business.**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

[\*\*Deadline for March 2025 - August 2025 Webinar Proposals\*\*](#)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

[\*\*Deadline for 2025 Annual Meeting Committee CLE Program Proposals\*\*](#)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

[\*\*IADConnects in Zurich\*\*](#)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

[\*\*2025 Midyear Meeting\*\*](#)

SUNDAY, MARCH 16 - MONDAY, MARCH 17

[\*\*2025 African Regional Meeting - Nairobi, Kenya\*\*](#)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

[\*\*2025 IADC Leadership Forum\*\*](#)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

[\*\*2025 Midwest Regional Meeting - Chicago, IL\*\*](#)

THURSDAY, APRIL 10 - FRIDAY, APRIL 11

[\*\*2025 Corporate Counsel College\*\*](#)

THURSDAY, MAY 1

[\*\*2025 Southeast Regional Meeting - St. Petersburg, FL\*\*](#)

THURSDAY, MAY 15

[\*\*2025 Professional Liability Roundtable\*\*](#)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

View the  
calendar of  
events below for  
a full listing of  
upcoming  
offerings,  
program  
information,  
and registration.

**CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS**

## IN MEMORIAM

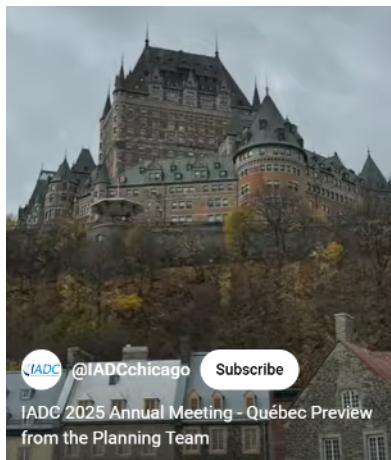
We offer sympathy to the family and friends  
of these IADC members.

**Bruce Barrett**

*Mount Laurel, NJ USA | Member since 2005*

**Robert R. Campbell**

*Knoxville, TN USA | Member since 1985*



## <----- SAVE THE DATE!

*Mark your calendar -- July 5 to  
10 you will be out of office at  
IADC's [2025 Annual Meeting](#)  
at the Fairmont Le Château  
Frontenac in Québec, QC  
Canada. Program details and  
registration coming in March.*

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