



Lawyers for Civil Justice Spring Meeting

MAY 1-3, 2024

THE ST. REGIS HOTEL

923 BLACK LIVES MATTER PLAZA, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006





A MESSAGE from Our PRESIDENT



Welcome to Washington, DC

We gather in Washington, D.C., during an extraordinary period for LCJ's rules advocacy program. A sampling of recent developments:

- Draft MDL Rule 16.1 is moving through the rules committee process following completion of the public comment process. While weaknesses in the proposed rule remain, recent revisions reflect concerns raised by LCJ and our members during public comment.
- Proposed privilege log rule amendments, which appear headed for adoption, should help curb default to "document-by-document" logging and provide tools to secure more efficient options.
- With the expert evidence amendment formally adopted, we continue to focus on correct application of FRE 702 by the federal courts, and on securing state adoption of aligned rules.
- We are redoubling efforts to secure increased third-party litigation funding transparency, which includes the publication of a proposal to include non-party interests in FRCP 7.1 recusal rule disclosure requirements.
- We have elevated the need for litigation privacy and cyber security rules. With a rules committee working group recently acknowledging that "[n]early 20 years have passed since the Rules Committees initially considered the privacy rules," we should continue to press for timely action on LCJ's comprehensive rules proposal.
- No-value class actions, like class actions generally, continue to plague the courts. They provide no meaningful relief to potential class members but consume court resources and increase costs. We continue to advocate for our proposal to increase judicial tools to address these suits.
- Proposals on cross-border discovery, filing under seal, Rule 41 dismissals, and service of subpoenas are under consideration in the rules process. Remote proceedings and AI are hot topics for circuit and district rules. All can significantly impact civil litigation practices.

Our meeting, capably organized by John Guttman and John Parker Sweeney, provides us with the opportunity to assess these rule developments, important litigation trends, and relevant public policy concerns, and to strategize on the next steps for our rules advocacy program:

I take special note of the portion of our meeting focused on public trust in the courts, as public confidence is critical to the continued smooth and effective functioning of our court system. We are fortunate to hear from Jim Duff and Judge Paul Friedman, and to be joined by other judicial system leaders, as we formally launch LCJ's public trust in the courts initiative. My thanks to the many LCJ members who have enthusiastically embraced this important initiative.

Whether you are a first-time attendee or a regular, thanks for joining us. We value your participation and appreciate your continued engagement in our efforts to shape the future of civil litigation.

John Kuppens
President, Lawyers for Civil Justice



LCJ FOUNDERS AWARD



Jeffrey W. McKenna,
CIPP US/E
*Senior Privacy and
eDiscovery Attorney
Orrick, Herrington
& Sutcliffe*

LCJ presents its highest achievement award, the LCJ Founders Award, to Jeffrey McKenna in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the development and advancement of LCJ's comprehensive proposal for FRCP amendments concerning privacy and cyber security.

Jeffrey McKenna is a key architect of LCJ's proposal for amending the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to guide courts and parties in handling privacy rights and cyber security risks in litigation. This package of proposals, which is now pending before the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules, would amend at least nine rules and bring about a generational change in how courts protect proprietary information, navigate privacy standards, and share the responsibility with all parties to take reasonable steps to prevent unnecessary disclosure of personal and confidential information. Jeff's expertise, creativity, and generous donation of time were deeply meaningful to the development of the rule proposals and the foundational arguments in support of them. He has worked closely and effectively with many other LCJ volunteer lawyers participating in the project. Jeff continues to advance LCJ's proposals in his speaking engagements, presentations, and writings.

Jeff is a Senior Privacy and eDiscovery Attorney with Orrick and is based in San Francisco. He advises organizations on complex privacy and discovery issues, including those related to cross-border investigations, international discovery, cybersecurity incidents, CC PA, GDPR, HIPAA, Chinese state secrets law, and state specific privacy laws. Jeff's litigation experience includes all aspects of civil litigation in state and federal courts, including all phases of discovery, post-trial motions and appeals.

Jeff holds certifications from the International Association of Privacy Professionals in both U.S. and European privacy law (CI PP/US and CI PP/E). He speaks extensively on the issues of privacy, cybersecurity, and discovery, and he has published articles on these topics in the New York Law Journal, LegalTech News, and the National Law Journal. Jeff is a co-author of The Sedona Conference Principles on Privacy and Information Security for Lawyers, Law Firms, and Other Legal Service Providers.

Prior to joining Orrick, Jeff was a senior associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP. He received his law degree from Stanford University, and he earned his B.A. in politics, philosophy and economics at Pomona College. In 2022 and 2023, Jeff earned LCJ's "Outstanding Contributor" award.

The LCJ Founders Award recognizes outstanding dedication and contributions to the promotion of excellence and fairness in the civil justice system. Prior recipients of this award, originally known as the Al Cortese Award, include: John Jablonski, Robert Levy, Bob Owen, Tom Allman, Andy Trask, Brittany Schultz, Lee Mickus, Mary Massaron, Scott Partridge, and Alan Rothman.

Congratulations, Jeff, and thank you!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



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MEMBERSHIP



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR FOUNDERS, CORPORATE AND LAW FIRM MEMBERS

OUR FOUNDING MEMBERS



OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS



OUR LAW FIRM MEMBERS





A SPECIAL THANKS TO...



John Kuppens, Partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, for serving as LCJ President. He will serve as Immediate Past President following this meeting.



Doug Lampe, Counsel for Ford Motor Company, and Immediate Past President, whose term on the Board is ending.

AND WELCOME OUR NEW LEADERSHIP:



Molly Craig, who officially becomes LCJ President, Hood Law Firm, LLC



John Parker Sweeney
Secretary
Bradley Arant Boult
Cummings LLP



Scott Kreamer
President-Elect
Baker Sterchi Cowden
& Rice LLC



Robert Levy
Treasurer
Exxon Mobil
Corporation



Chris Guth
Vice President
Bayer U.S.

LEADERSHIP 2024



LCJ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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John Kuppens
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough



President - Elect
Molly Craig
Hood Law Firm



Vice President
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Secretary
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Elizabeth Gibson
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Lee Mickus
Evans Fears Schuttert
McNulty & Mickus



Jeanne Walker
Shell USA



Tina Gonzalez Barton
Merck



Mark Behrens
Shook, Hardy & Bacon



Sheila Brodbeck
Pfizer



Douglas Burrell
Chartwell Law



Bob Christie
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Allison Drachman
Strikowsky Drachman & Shapiro



John Guttman
Beveridge & Diamond PC



Mike Klein
Altria



Donna M. Lamontagne
Lamontagne, Spaulding & Hayes LLP



Leah Lorber
GlaxoSmithKline



Peter Martin
State Farm



Howard Merten
Partridge, Snow & Hahn LLP



Jonathan Palmer
Microsoft



Chad Pekron
Walmart



Alex Ponce de Leon
Google LLC



Jonathan Redgrave
Redgrave LLP



Michele Smith
MehaffyWeber



Aviva Wein
Johnson & Johnson

LCJ BOARD OF DIRECTORS



AGENDA



WEDNESDAY, MAY 1ST

- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. LCJ Executive Committee Meeting
Marquis de Lafayette Room, St. Regis Hotel
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. LCJ Fellows Mixer
The Wharf
LCJ Civil Justice Fellows and alumni are invited to this exclusive social hour.
- 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Spring Meeting Welcome Reception
Williams & Connolly, The Wharf, 680 Main Street, SW
Williams & Connolly Chairman Joe Petrosinelli and LCJ President John Kuppens welcome our attendees to Washington's vibrant new waterfront destination.
- All attendees are welcome. Separate registration required. Attendees are encouraged to dine on their own after the reception at one of the many restaurants on the Wharf.*

THURSDAY, MAY 2ND

- 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Registration & Information**
Astor Foyer, St. Regis Hotel
- 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast for Members and Guests**
Astor Ballroom, St. Regis Hotel
- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome**
Astor Ballroom, St. Regis Hotel
Our meeting co-chairs welcome you to the LCJ Spring Meeting.
John S. Guttman, Partner, Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.
John Parker Sweeney, Partner, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP
- 9:10 p.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Rule 702 – Shaping Federal Practices and State Rules**
With FRE 702 now official, attention shifts to implementing decisions in the federal courts and securing state rules in alignment with federal standards. How are we moving forward and what are the obstacles to securing federal and state practice uniformity?

Lee Mickus, Evans Fears Schuttert McNulty & Mickus LLP
Eric Lasker, Hollingsworth LLP
James McCrystal, Sutter O'Connell Co.
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. **NETWORKING AND DISCUSSION BREAK**



10:20 a.m. – 11:10 p.m.

Geo-Political Risks – Perils and Opportunities for the United States

Michael Morell is one of the country's most knowledgeable and experienced national security professionals. For over 30 years, he has played a central role in the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. He joins us to discuss the national security trends shaping our politics, affecting our legal system, and posing new risks to our members' interests around the globe.

Hon. Michael Morell, Global Chairman, Geo-Political Risk Practice, Beacon Global Strategies, and former CIA Acting Director and Deputy Director.

Dan Steen, Executive Director, Lawyers for Civil Justice

11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Supreme Court Term – The Supreme Court Term – An Insider's Look at the Most Consequential Decisions

Government use of social media. Chevron deference. Presidential immunity. Legal powers of the SEC, EPA, and CFPB. Prosecuting the January 6th rioters. The Purdue Pharma bankruptcy. Abortion and guns. With an intense and highly consequential Supreme Court term nearing conclusion, two leading Supreme Court advocates share their special insights into the most noteworthy decisions to date as well as the upcoming rulings that are sure to impact businesses and civil litigation.

Hon. Paul Clement, Clement & Murphy, PLLC

Lisa Blatt, Williams & Connolly, LLP

12:00 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Attendees lunch on their own.

12:10 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting

George Washington Room, St. Regis Hotel

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:20 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

Rebuilding Public Trust in the Judiciary

With polls showing an alarming increase in the public's distrust of courts, legal thinkers and opinion leaders are looking for new ways to defend judges from partisan attacks and the growing sense that court rulings are based on political opinions rather than objective legal standards. Jim Duff, who served as chief administrative officer of the federal judiciary – twice – and now directs the Supreme Court Historical Society, will share his deep insights into this problem. He and Judge Paul Friedman will discuss what lawyers can do to help courts regain the credibility that is essential to upholding the rule of law that underlies our economy, society, and government.

James Duff, Executive Director, Supreme Court Historical Society, and former Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

Hon. Paul L. Friedman, Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

2:10 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

LCJ's New Public Trust in the Courts Initiative

Due to LCJ members' strong interest in the public's diminishing trust in our nation's courts, LCJ has formed a new committee to engage in high-profile actions promoting respect for the judicial system. Three current and former LCJ presidents will discuss the committee's goals and the opportunities for you to get involved.

John Kuppens, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

Doug Lampe, Counsel, Ford Motor Company

Mary Massaron, Plunkett Cooney, PC



2:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

NETWORKING AND DISCUSSION BREAK

2:50 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

Rules of Engagement: How LCJ Members Can Contribute to LCJ's Priority Initiatives

LCJ's top priorities provide more opportunities than ever for members to roll up their sleeves and collaborate together on shaping the future of litigation procedures. From MDLs to privilege logs, class actions to cost allocation, and TPLF disclosure to privacy and cyber security, LCJ's members are leading the way to better and more efficient rules. We will share updates on current projects and provide our outlook for where the opportunities exist for members to make a difference on upcoming rule amendments.

Alex Dahl, General Counsel, Lawyers for Civil Justice

3:35 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Top of Mind: What In-House Litigation Leaders are Focusing on Now

Corporate litigation leaders are navigating a host of issues as they work to protect their companies against nuclear verdicts, social media attacks, and the latest tactics of an aggressive plaintiffs' bar. Hear from the inside about their most pressing concerns as they manage current litigation and assess the possible dangers and opportunities in emerging litigation trends—including the procedural rules environment.

Jeff Kopp, Assistant General Counsel, Litigation, General Motors

Amer Pharaon, Managing Assistant General Counsel, Litigation, Novo Nordisk

Cynthia Randall, Deputy General Counsel and Head of Litigation, Microsoft

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

LCJ Presidents' Reception

Astor Terrace, St. Regis Hotel

LCJ's past presidents welcome our meeting attendees for conversation and refreshments before dinner.

All meeting attendees are welcome.

7:00 p.m.

LCJ Annual Dinner

Astor Ballroom, St. Regis Hotel

Please join us as we recognize new and outgoing LCJ leaders, thank our Civil Justice Fellows, and present the LCJ Founders Award.

All meeting attendees are welcome. Separate registration required.

Hosted by LCJ President John Kuppens

Recognition of LCJ leaders

Founders Award Presentation

FRIDAY, MAY 3RD

7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Registration & Information

Astor Foyer, St. Regis Hotel

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Corporate Counsel Breakfast Meeting

George Washington, St. Regis Hotel

In-house attorney attendees meet over breakfast to share ideas about LCJ's current and future initiatives and emerging litigation issues.



SAVE THE DATE! LCJ Fall Meeting

December 4-6
Nashville,
Tennessee

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Law Firm Leaders Breakfast Meeting

Astor Ballroom, St. Regis Hotel

Law firm attendees meet to discuss engagement in current LCJ projects and share ideas for future initiatives.

All meeting attendees are welcome to join us in the Astor Ballroom for breakfast.

9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

A Conversation with Walmart Chief Legal Officer Rachel Brand

Walmart is sued 5,000 times a year, and Rachel Brand, the company's Chief Legal Officer, leads the extensive team of in-house and outside counsel responsible for defending Walmart's business and reputation. Rachel shares her highly informed perspectives on the current state of civil litigation in America and the opportunities to improve the fairness and efficiency of our legal system.

Hon. Rachel Brand, Executive Vice President of Global Governance, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary, Walmart Inc.

Mark Behrens, Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.

9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

NETWORKING AND DISCUSSION BREAK

10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

Cross-Border Discovery – The Need for FRCP Guidance

Cases referencing international or cross-border discovery have risen dramatically in recent years, yet the FRCP currently provide little guidance for parties seeking to address the production of documents and ESI outside the U.S. The Baylson-Gensler proposal for FRCP amendments seeks to provide guidance for such cross-border discovery. We discuss cross-border issues and the potential for discovery rules with the authors of the proposal.

Hon. Michael Baylson, Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Professor Steven Gensler, University of Oklahoma College of Law

Hon. Manish Shah, Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Member, Advisory Committee on Civil Rules

Kelly Clay, Assistant General Counsel and Global eDiscovery Counsel, GSK

10:50 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.

How “Combat Message Development” Shapes Public Opinion on Complex Policy Issues – Including Litigation and Rulemaking

Bill McInturff, widely regarded as one of the most clear-thinking and influential people in American politics, is a pioneer in what he calls “combat message development” to defend and promote client interests on complex public policy issues, critical in politics and complex litigation. Bill's firm, Public Opinion Strategies, conducts the NBC News Poll and is the largest political and public affairs survey research firm in the country. Bill's tracking polls identify changing political, economic, and societal trends – and provide novel insights that can be used to message about complex litigation management and civil litigation rulemaking.

Bill McInturff, Partner, Public Opinion Strategies

11:45 a.m.

Wrap Up

LCJ President John Kuppens, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

LCJ President-Elect Molly Craig, The Hood Law Firm



LCJ MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Hon. Michael Baylson
Judge
U.S. District Court for
the Eastern District of
Pennsylvania

Judge Michael Baylson has served on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania since 2002. He served as a member of the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules of the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Judicial Conference from 2005 to 2010.

Early in his career, Judge Baylson served as an Assistant District Attorney and later became Chief of the Homicide Division. Judge Baylson subsequently entered private practice, where he handled complex civil litigation matters and tried numerous cases, specializing in class actions, antitrust and securities issues. After serving as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania from 1988 through 1993, Judge Baylson returned to Duane Morris, where he served as chair of the trial department and as a member of the firm's executive committee. Judge Baylson founded, and later served as counsel to Gaudenzia, Inc., the largest non-profit provider of drug, alcohol, and mental health rehabilitation services in Pennsylvania.

Judge Baylson is a graduate of the Wharton School of Finance & Commerce and the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania. Following his law school graduation, he clerked for Judge Joseph Sloane of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas.



Mark Behrens
Partner
Shook Hardy & Bacon LLP

Mark Behrens serves as co-chair of Shook Hardy & Bacon's Public Policy Practice Group. Mr. Behrens has been involved in civil justice issues, liability law and defense litigation for more than 25 years. A substantial part of his practice is working to improve the civil litigation environment through state and federal legislation; in the courts through amicus briefs on behalf of business, civil justice and defense bar organizations; through legal scholarship and judicial education; and in the court of public opinion.

Mr. Behrens is a member of the LCJ Board of Directors. He serves as counsel to the Coalition for Litigation Justice, Inc. and is the chair of IADC's Civil Justice Response Committee, Private Sector Chair of ALEC's Civil Justice Task Force, and a member of the Executive Committee of The Federalist Society's Litigation Practice Group. He is also a member of the U.S. Chamber Litigation Center's State Litigation Advisory Committee, Washington Legal Foundation's Legal Policy Advisory Board, and the NFIB Small Business Legal Center's Advisory Board. Mr. Behrens is a member of the Product Liability Advisory Council, Inc. (PLAC) and the Lawyers Committee of the National Center for State Courts.

Mr. Behrens received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin and his law degree from Vanderbilt University.



Lisa Blatt
Partner
Williams & Connolly, LLP

Lisa Blatt serves as chair of Williams & Connolly's Supreme Court and appellate practice. She served in the General Counsel's office of the U.S. Department of Energy and as an assistant to the Solicitor General before returning to Williams & Connolly in 2019.

Ms. Blatt has argued 47 cases before the United States Supreme Court and is highly lauded for her appellate successes. The American Lawyer recently recognized her as the "Litigator of the Year." She has secured four recent Supreme Court victories for the rights of trademark and copyright holders. Her Supreme Court cases also have addressed a broad range of other issues, involving First Amendment, arbitration, antitrust, civil procedure, preemption, employment and ERISA, and bankruptcy.

Ms. Blatt clerked for Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia after receiving her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Texas.

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



Rachel Brand
*Executive Vice President
Global Governance,
Chief Legal Officer, and
Secretary*
Walmart Inc.

Rachel Brand is Walmart's executive vice president of global governance, chief legal officer, and corporate secretary. She oversees the company's global legal, compliance, ethics, corporate governance, digital citizenship, aviation, investigative, and corporate security functions, including Walmart's Emergency Operations Center.

Prior to joining Walmart, Brand served as the U.S. Associate Attorney General and holds the distinction of being the first woman to serve in this role. She previously served in the U.S. Department of Justice as the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy under President George W. Bush, was appointed by President Obama to serve as a Member of the U.S. Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and served as an Associate Counsel to the President at the White House. In the private sector, Brand was a lawyer with two law firms in Washington, D.C. She also served as Vice President and Chief Counsel for Regulatory Litigation at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Litigation Center.

Ms. Brand served as a clerk for Justice Charles Fried of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts and for Justice Anthony Kennedy at the U.S. Supreme Court. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota-Morris and her J.D. from Harvard Law School.



Kelly Clay
*Assistant General Counsel
and Global eDiscovery
Counsel*
GSK

Kelly Clay is Assistant General Counsel for GSK, based in Durham, North Carolina. She has been with GSK for nearly a decade and has worked with GSK for many years as Merits Counsel.

Ms. Clay is a member of the Global Operations Team overseeing Risk, eDiscovery and Director of Legal Technology Strategy. She has matrix leadership over the legal technology team. In leading the global retention and information governance program at GSK, with a focus on risk mitigation for new technologies, her responsibilities naturally include issues such as Privacy, Security, AI/ML, and their impact on Retention and Discovery. She has played a major role in improving and updating the company's e-discovery practices.

After high school in the Philippines, Kelly took a one-year assignment with the United Nations Development Program before returning to major in International Studies and Business at the University of North Carolina. Kelly is a graduate of Wake Forest University School of Law.



Hon. Paul Clement
Partner
Clement & Murphy, PLLC

Since founding his firm in 2022, Paul Clement has focused on Supreme Court and other appeals, as well as strategic litigation and counseling. Mr. Clement previously served as U.S. Solicitor General, and prior to his confirmation, as Acting Solicitor General and as Principal Deputy Solicitor General for over four years. He earlier served as Chief Counsel of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution, Federalism and Property Rights.

Mr. Clement's practice focuses on appellate matters, constitutional litigation, and strategic counseling. He represents a broad array of clients in the Supreme Court and in federal and state appellate courts. Among his recent cases were a successful argument before the Supreme Court on issues of energy regulation, statutory interpretation, state sovereign immunity and Article III standing, and a successful argument in a trademark appeal to the Fourth Circuit, and a constitutional appeal before the en banc Eleventh Circuit.

Mr. Clement clerked for Judge Laurence H. Silberman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and for Justice Antonin Scalia at the Supreme Court. He is a graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and Harvard Law School.



LCJ MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Molly H. Craig
Partner
The Hood Law Firm LLC

Molly Craig is a partner at the Hood Law Firm in Charleston, South Carolina and handles catastrophic injury cases nationally as lead defense counsel and has devoted her practice to trial work for 30 years. She is President-Elect of Lawyers for Civil Justice.

Ms. Craig is a past President of the International Association of Defense Counsel, past President of the South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys' Association and past President of the American Board of Trial Advocates, Charleston Chapter. Craig is a former member of the Board of Directors for DRI, a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, a member of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel, Association of Defense Trial Attorneys, and the Attorneys Committee for the National Center of State Courts. She has been recognized by SC Best Lawyers as Products Liability Defense Lawyer of the Year.

Ms. Craig received her undergraduate degree from Sewanee, The University of the South, and her law degree from the University of South Carolina.



Alex Dahl
General Counsel
Lawyers for Civil Justice

Alex Dahl serves as General Counsel to Lawyers for Civil Justice, providing strategic advice and counsel regarding its civil justice reform initiatives. Prior to founding his own firm, Strategic Policy Counsel, PLLC, Mr. Dahl was a shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Dahl served as the Deputy Staff Director and Senior Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee, where he spent five years advising then-Chairman, Senator Orrin G. Hatch (R-UT). He also worked as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Columbia and also practiced general commercial litigation in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mr. Dahl received his undergraduate degree from Northwestern University and his JD from the University of Utah SJ Quinney College of Law, where he later served as President of the Alumni Board of Trustees. Following law school, he served as a law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge Dee V. Benson, in the District of Utah.



James C. Duff
Executive Director
Supreme Court Historical Society

James Duff is the Executive Director of the Supreme Court Historical Society. Prior to joining the Society in 2021, he served as Director of the Administrative Office (AO) of the U.S. Courts. He was appointed to that leadership role by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. His service as Director of the AO from 2015 to 2021 and from 2006 to 2011. As AO Director, Duff was the Secretary of the Judicial Conference of the United States and a member of the board of the Federal Judicial Center.

The Director of the AO is the chief administrative officer of the federal courts and serves under the direction of the Judicial Conference, the principal policymaking body for the federal court system. In announcing his retirement as director, Chief Justice Roberts cited Mr. Duff's many accomplishments, including resolution of budgetary challenges, implementation of workplace conduct reforms, introduction of new technology, strengthened and improved the auditing and oversight of the Judicial Branch's financial management, and ensuring that the courts continued to operate effectively in the face of the nationwide pandemic.

Mr. Duff worked for four years as an aide to Chief Justice Warren Burger prior to law school and after law school had a successful private law practice. He is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, where he was a walk-on on the university basketball team, and the Georgetown University Law School.

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



Hon. Paul L. Friedman
Judge
U.S. District Court for the
District of Columbia

Judge Paul Friedman was appointed U.S. District Judge in 1994. He earlier served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, and as an Assistant to the U.S. Solicitor General. Judge Friedman earlier practiced law with White & Case.

Judge Friedman served as President of the District of Columbia Bar, and as Associate Independent Counsel for the Iran-Contra Investigation. He is the Secretary of the American Law Institute and a member of its Council.

Following law school, Judge Friedman clerked for Judge Aubrey Robinson, Jr., of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and for Judge Roger Robb of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He received his undergraduate degree from Cornell University and his law degree from the School of Law of the State University of New York, Buffalo.



Steven Gensler
Professor
University of Oklahoma
College of Law

Steven S. Gensler is a professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where he holds the Edwards Family Chair in Law. In 2023, he was named as a David L. Boren Professor by the University of Oklahoma. From 2005 to 2011, Professor Gensler served as a member of the United States Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Civil Rules. He currently serves as a consultant to the Judicial Conference's Federal-State Jurisdiction Committee.

Professor Gensler is the author of *Federal Rules of Civil Procedure: Rules and Commentary* (West) and a wide range of articles on federal practice and procedure. He worked as a litigation associate in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for four years before joining the faculty at the University of Oklahoma.

Professor Gensler began his legal career as a law clerk to the Honorable Deanell Reece Tacha on the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and to the Honorable Kathryn H. Vratil on the United States District Court for the District of Kansas. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.



Jeffrey Kopyy
*Assistant General Counsel
for Complex Litigation*
General Motors

Jeffrey Kopyy is Assistant General Counsel for Complex Litigation at General Motors in Detroit, Michigan. Jeff joined GM in August 2014. In his current role, Mr. Kopyy is responsible for managing all complex litigation at GM including class actions, patent cases, high-volume breach of warranty and buyback litigation, supplier disputes, recovery litigation, and similar matters.

Prior to his current role, Mr. Kopyy lived and worked for almost four years in São Paulo, Brazil, where he served as Regional General Counsel for GM South America and managed the legal affairs of GM in Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, and other countries. From 2014-2017, he was GM's Lead Counsel - Ignition Switch, a position in which he helped lead the Company's response to government investigations and civil litigation arising from defective ignition switches in certain vehicles.

Before joining GM, Mr. Kopyy was a partner at the law firm of Jenner & Block. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his law degree from the University of Michigan Law School.



LCJ MEMBERSHIP MEETING



John Kuppens
Partner
Nelson Mullins Riley &
Scarborough LLP

LCJ President John Kuppens is a partner at Nelson Mullins. He serves as President of Lawyers for Civil Justice. Prior to serving LCJ in numerous leadership roles, he served as President of the DRI.

Mr. Kuppens co-chairs Nelson Mullins' Consumer & Mechanical Product Liability Industry Group and has over 30 years' experience representing clients in product liability and commercial litigation in state and federal courts across the country, including as national and regional counsel. He also counsels clients on CPSC, FTC, and FDA regulatory matters and on risk prevention issues.

Mr. Kuppens received his J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law and his undergraduate degree from Clemson University.



Doug Lampe
Counsel
Ford Motor Company

Doug Lampe is in-house counsel at Ford Motor Company, where he has worked in various capacities since his graduation in 1994 with a joint J.D./M.S.-Finance from the University of Wisconsin. He is the immediate past president of LCJ. He is leading LCJ's new initiative on public trust in the courts.

Mr. Lampe is responsible nationally for Ford's civil justice reform efforts and has been a leader in the field for over a decade. Lampe has served as president of the Civil Justice Reform Group, chairman of the American Tort Reform Association, as a member of the Board of Advisors for the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, and as a board member of several state-based civil justice groups.

Mr. Lampe has responsibility for class & collective actions for Ford Motor Company. Earlier, Lampe had global responsibility for all matters in courts of appeal. He has also been responsible for product liability matters and aspects of both Ford's safety and regulatory counseling. He has also spent several years in international tax controversies involving transfer pricing.

Mr. Lampe received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin.



Eric Lasker
Partner
Hollingsworth LLP

Eric Lasker is a partner with Hollingsworth LLP and litigates a wide variety of complex civil matters with a focus on toxic torts, environmental litigation, and pharmaceutical products liability. He has successfully litigated bet-the-company disputes involving expert witness challenges, the federal preemption defense, and environmental natural resource damages claims.

Mr. Lasker has represented his clients' interests as lead counsel in multi-district litigation, mass torts, jury trials and bench proceedings, and in oral arguments in multiple federal courts of appeal and state supreme courts. He represents clients in matters arising both in the U.S. and abroad, under both domestic and international law, and in matters involving national security issues. He was an early and effective advocate for FRE 702 expert evidence reform. He chairs the IADC's Rule 702 Sustainability Committee.

Mr. Lasker received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his law degree from Yale University.

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



Mary Massaron
Partner
Plunkett & Cooney, PC

Mary Massaron, a partner at Plunkett Cooney, has long been one a leader in the legal profession. She served as the first woman president of Lawyers for Civil Justice and as the second female president of DRI. She chaired LCJ's Class Action, Mass Torts, and MDLs Committee. She co-chairs LCJ's Amicus Committee and is leading the launch of LCJ's public trust in the courts initiative.

Ms. Massaron has worked to improve the civil appellate justice system for decades through her work as co-chair of the Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference Foundation, an organization that co-sponsors a triennial appellate bench bar conference with the Michigan Supreme Court and the Michigan Court of Appeals. She serves as a member of the board of directors of the National Foundation for Judicial Excellence (NFJE), a non-profit dedicated to putting on an annual seminar for state court appellate judges. She has concentrated her practice in appellate law for over 30 years, handling or supervising over 400 appeals resulting in approximately 150 published opinions, including over 100 appeals in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ms. Massaron clerked for Justice Patricia J. Boyle of the Michigan Supreme Court after receiving her undergraduate degree from Marygrove College and her law degree from Wayne State University Law School.



James L. McCrystal, Jr.
Of Counsel
Sutter O'Connell Co.

Jim McCrystal has spent four decades handling product liability cases and now has a national practice in that field. He has represented the manufacturers of tires, automobiles, trucks, farm equipment, industrial products, and power systems as well as handling construction litigation and commercial disputes.

Mr. McCrystal is a member of the DRI Board of Directors. As a Program Director for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, he is committed to sharing his considerable expertise when training lawyers both in the U.S. and internationally.

Mr. McCrystal received his undergraduate degree from John Carroll University and his law degree from the University of Notre Dame.



Bill McInturff
Partner
Public Opinion
Strategies

Bill McInturff is a partner of Public Opinion Strategies, one of the nation's largest political and public affairs survey research firms. The firm has been described as a "GOP powerhouse" and currently represents five governors, nine U.S. Senators and over 40 Members of Congress. Bill, along with Hart Research Associates, conducts The NBC News Poll. One nationally recognized political reporter described Bill as "one of the smartest most clear-thinking people in politics." Another said he "has more influence on Capitol Hill than any other Republican strategist."

Over a more than 30-year career in survey research and over 5,000 projects, he has been devoted to what he describes as "combat message development," which focuses on developing messages to defend and promote client interests on complex public policy issues. The focus of much of Bill's work has been health care, with the firm having conducted over 1700 focus groups and more than 1300 surveys for health care stakeholders and about health care policy.

Mr. McInturff has done the polling for 32 successful initiative campaigns over the past decade, including being the lead pollster in some of the largest and most expensive initiative campaigns in the country's history. He is a frequently quoted source on the topic of American politics. He has appeared frequently on Meet the Press, and is quoted in a variety of national news magazines and major newspapers.



LCJ MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Lee Mickus
Partner
Evans Fears Schuttert
McNulty & Mickus LLP

Lee Mickus defends manufacturers and other business interests in product liability and tort lawsuits around the country. He has successfully tried cases to juries in Colorado, Texas, California, Montana, New York, Florida, and several other states. In his national litigation practice, Mickus has worked with a wide range of products and industries, including automobiles, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, industrial machinery, recreational equipment and financial planning.

Drawing upon his courtroom experience to identify and develop legislative reforms that end abusive practices and bring common sense to the litigation process, Mickus has testified before several state legislatures on bills affecting a wide range of civil justice issues, such as product liability, seat belt evidence, punitive and compensatory damages, and prejudgment interest. He also has submitted numerous amicus briefs on behalf of business interests and civil justice groups in cases that threaten to expand liability unreasonably.

Mr. Mickus received his undergraduate degree from Williams College and his law degree from the University of Virginia.



Hon. Michael Morell
Global Chairman
Geo-Political Risk
Beacon Global Strategies LLC

Michael Morell, the former Acting Director and Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, is one of our nation's leading national security professionals, with extensive experience in intelligence and foreign policy. He is co-founder of Beacon Global Strategies, which helps its clients strategically navigate geopolitical risk, defense and national security policy, federal business development, and global technology policy.

During his 33-year career at CIA, Morell served as Deputy Director for four years, where he managed the Agency's day-to-day operations and analysis, represented the Agency at the White House and Congress, and maintained the Agency's relationships with intelligence services and foreign leaders around the world. Morell also served twice as Acting Director. Mr. Morell was the only person to be with President Bush on 9/11 and President Obama on May 1st, 2011, when Bin Ladin was brought to justice. He is the author of *The Great War of Our Time*, a New York Times bestseller. He served on the 2013 Review Group on Intelligence and Telecommunications Technology and on the 2018 National Defense Strategy Commission.

Mr. Morell received his undergraduate degree from the University of Akron and his masters in economics from Georgetown University. In March, the University of Akron announced the naming of the Michael J. Morell Center for Intelligence and Securities Studies.



Joe Petrosinelli
Chairman
Williams & Connolly LLP

Joe Petrosinelli is the Chairman of Williams & Connolly and a member of the firm's Executive Committee. He is also Co-Chair of the firm's Products Liability practice group. Petrosinelli has tried numerous civil and criminal cases in federal and state courts, has been lead counsel in several significant U.S. and international arbitrations, and has represented clients in litigation and investigations matters in Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Mr. Petrosinelli's civil practice focuses on products liability, mass tort/class action, and complex commercial litigation. He has represented manufacturers and suppliers of chemicals, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, industrial equipment, military hardware and technology, and various other products in litigation and arbitration matters across the United States and internationally.

Mr. Petrosinelli received his undergraduate degree from Brown University and his law degree from Georgetown University.

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



Amer S. Pharaon
Managing Assistant General Counsel, Litigation
Novo Nordisk Inc.

Amer Pharaon is a Managing Assistant General Counsel, Litigation at Novo Nordisk Inc., where he is responsible for managing complex litigation and government investigations, including pharmaceutical pricing and product-liability suits consolidated in MDL proceedings. Prior to joining Novo Nordisk, he was a Senior Corporate Counsel at Quest Diagnostics and a litigator at both Latham & Watkins and Patton Boggs—focusing on a diverse portfolio of matters, including government investigations and class-action, mass-tort, product-liability, and commercial litigation.

Mr. Pharaon serves on the Multidistrict Litigation Committee for the Lawyers for Civil Justice and the Administrative Law & Government Litigation Advisory Committee for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Litigation Center.

He holds a law degree from the University of Michigan Law School and an undergraduate degree from Franklin and Marshall College.



Cynthia Randall
Deputy General Counsel, Litigation
Microsoft

Cynthia Randall is Deputy General Counsel, Litigation at Microsoft, where she oversees the defense of commercial and IP litigation, regulatory investigations and international arbitrations. Randall, who joined Microsoft in 2013, has 30 years of complex litigation experience, including in-house roles at Verizon and Cigna, and law firm experience with Dechert LLP and Saul Ewing LLP.

Ms. Randall serves on Microsoft's Pro Bono Steering Committee, the Class Action Committee of Lawyers for Civil Justice, and the Liability Reform Committee of the U.S. Chamber Litigation Center. She is the Co-Chair of Council of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR). Ms. Randall received her undergraduate degree from Duke University and her law degree from the University of Pennsylvania.



Hon. Manish S. Shah
Judge
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Judge Manish Shah has served as a U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of Illinois since 2014. In 2023, he was appointed to the Judicial Conference's Advisory Committee on Civil Rules.

Before joining the bench, Judge Shah was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois for over 12 years, where he served as Chief of the Criminal Division for two years and in other leadership roles. Judge Shah started his career at Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe in San Francisco, and he served as a law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge James Zagel. Judge Shah received his undergraduate degree from Stanford University and his law degree from the University of Chicago.



Dan Steen
Executive Director
Lawyers for Civil Justice

Dan Steen serves LCJ as Executive Director. Prior to joining LCJ, Steen served as Vice President for Global Government Affairs, at Owens-Illinois, Inc., where he led legal reform efforts and managed a variety of legal and regulatory issues, and as Vice President, Liability, and Counsel, with the American Property Casualty Insurance Association, where he helped lead the APCIA's thought leadership and tactics on legal defense and reform.

Mr. Steen earlier practiced with Reed Smith, where he had a litigation and trade association-focused practice. He is a former board member of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia and the American Tort Reform Association and has held leadership roles with the National Association of Manufacturers, the Civil Justice Reform Group and the Glass Packaging Institute.

Mr. Steen received his undergraduate degree from the University of Mary Washington and his law degree from the University of Virginia.



WELCOME

To Our New Class of Fellows for 2024



**YESENIA CARDENAS
NELSON MULLINS**



**XIOMARA DAMOUR
MAYER BROWN**



**MICHAEL HANCHETT
PLUNKETT COONEY**



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NORTON ROSE
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REDGRAVE LLP**



**TARA-YVONNE SHEPPARD
STRIKOWSKY DRACHMAN
& SHAPIRO**



**SCOTT WILLIAMS
THE HARTFORD GROUP**



A Special Thanks to... *Our Program Chairs*



John Parker Sweeney

Partner

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

John is a partner with Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, based in Washington, DC. He has more than 30 years of experience defending major class action and mass torts involving product liability and warranty, consumer protection, environmental, and toxic tort cases, allowing him to tailor an appropriate litigation response for any company to resolve “bet-the-company” risks. He regularly serves as national litigation counsel, creating and supervising comprehensive defense strategies in class action and mass tort cases across the country, most recently sweeping the board clean of a series of warranty class actions against an international construction product manufacturer. John is a member of LCJ’s Board of Directors and a former president of DRI.



John Guttman

Partner

Beveridge & Diamond PC

John is a partner in the Washington, DC office of Beveridge & Diamond. John represents companies in complex, high-stakes toxic tort, product liability, and environmental litigation. John devotes a substantial part of his practice to the defense of natural resource damages (NRD) cases brought by trustees. He currently represents defendants in NRD litigation brought by four different sovereigns. His litigation experience also includes indemnity litigation, securities class actions, breach of fiduciary duty claims, directors and officers liability suits, complex contract cases, unfair competition cases, and health insurance matters. He also has represented several clients in SEC enforcement proceedings. John is a member of LCJ’s Board of Directors and a former National Director of DRI. Additionally, he is Vice Chair of DRI’s Center For Law & Public Policy and previously served as Chair of DRI’s Toxic Tort and Environmental Law Committee.

INTRODUCE A COLLEAGUE TO LCJ

LCJ’s strength is built on the expertise and experience of our members’ attorneys and the close collaboration of our corporate and law firm members. We continue to build a track record of successful advocacy only with the participation of leaders like you. But, there’s always room for improvement. Do you know of a colleague who might support our mission?

Please take a moment and email Dan Steen at dsteen@lfcj.com the name and contact information of someone you think might be interested in becoming a member.



SAVE the DATE

Mark your calendar now for
LCJ's Fall 2024 meeting on

December 4-6

at the Renaissance Hotel
in downtown
Nashville, Tennessee.



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