

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Julie Graceffa
202-973-5311
Jgraceffa@levick.com

**DRI—the Voice of the Defense Bar
Elects New Officers**

*The World's Largest Civil Defense Bar Organization
Names New Leaders at Annual Meeting in New Orleans*

CHICAGO (October 30, 2008) – DRI-the Voice of the Defense Bar chose new leaders last week as the 22,500-member organization held its 13th Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

New DRI officers include:

President - Marc E. Williams, Partner, Huddleston Bolen LLP, Huntington, W.Va.;
President-Elect - Cary E. Hiltgen, Director and Shareholder, Hiltgen & Brewer, P.C., Oklahoma City, Okla.;
First Vice President - R. Matthew Cairns, Director and Shareholder, Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell, Concord, N.H.;
Second Vice President - Henry Sneath, Partner, Picadio Sneath Miller & Norton, P.C., Pittsburgh, Pa.;
Immediate Past President - John H. Martin, Partner, Thompson & Knight LLP, Dallas, Tex.;
Secretary-Treasurer - Kimberly D. Baker, Attorney, Williams Kastner, Seattle, Wash.

“Every year at our Annual Meeting, DRI launches new initiatives and names new leaders to identify and meet the evolving challenges that confront the defense bar and its business clients,” said John R. Kouris, Executive Director of DRI. “This year we have again selected officers who represent the very best in our profession and who will spearhead DRI’s ongoing efforts to improve the civil justice system and provide effective advocacy for the business community.”

Marc E. Williams, a veteran commercial and complex business litigation defense attorney in Huntington, W.Va., has been named President of DRI—the Voice of the Defense Bar. He has served on a number of DRI committees, representing the organization at state and national levels. A partner at Huddleston Bolen LLP, he has had primary responsibility for more than 50 jury trials in both state and federal courts. Mr. Williams is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* in five categories: Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation, Legal Malpractice Law, Mass Tort Litigation, and Products Liability Litigation. He is also listed by Chambers USA in Band One (highest designation) in the area of commercial litigation and is designated as a West Virginia Super Lawyer. He is rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell.

Cary E. Hiltgen, director and shareholder of the Oklahoma City-based law firm Hiltgen & Brewer, P.C., has been named President-Elect of DRI—the Voice of the Defense Bar. Mr. Hiltgen, an esteemed product liability and commercial attorney, will serve a one-year term and become president of DRI for 2009-2010. For more than 25 years, Mr. Hiltgen has focused his practice in the areas of product liability, insurance defense, insurance coverage, commercial litigation, and transportation law. His broad clientele includes numerous consumer goods companies, manufacturers, and insurers. He has served as both Vice Chair and Chair of DRI’s Product Liability Committee, one of the largest committees in the organization with more than

3,000 attorneys. He has also served on DRI's Board of Directors and the Law Institute. Rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell, Mr. Hiltgen has been an Oklahoma Super Lawyer since 2006.

R. Matthew Cairns, director and shareholder at the law firm Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell, has been named First Vice President of DRI—the Voice of the Defense Bar. A New Hampshire attorney with more than 20 years of litigation experience, he will serve a one-year term and become DRI's president in 2010. Mr. Cairns currently focuses on product liability, commercial litigation, defense of sexual torts, and general litigation including trucking and construction. He has represented individuals, businesses, and insurers in civil litigation matters in all New Hampshire state and federal courts. He is also general counsel to several small corporations. Mr. Cairns was previously DRI's Second Vice President and, prior to that, Northeast Regional Director overseeing DRI initiatives in New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. He was also the DRI State Representative for New Hampshire and received the organization's State Leadership Award. Mr. Cairns was a Products Liability Defense Super Lawyer in 2007 and 2008.

Henry M. Sneath, a leading intellectual property and complex business litigation attorney, has been named Second Vice President of DRI—the Voice of the Defense Bar. Mr. Sneath, name partner at Picadio Sneath Miller & Norton, P.C. in Pittsburgh, Pa., has served on the Board of Directors of DRI and was previously the Chair of its Commercial Litigation Committee. Most recently, he served as Chair of the Public Policy Committee. As a result of his election, he will become President of DRI in October, 2011. Mr. Sneath has tried over 90 cases to jury and non-jury verdict in federal and state court jurisdictions and has helped clients resolve numerous disputes through alternative dispute resolution. His extensive track record in federal and state courts encompasses commercial disputes, intellectual property, construction claims, insurance coverage, and insurance bad faith claims. Mr. Sneath has been listed in *Best Lawyers in America* since 2006 and as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer since 2006.

John H. Martin, a leading mass tort and aviation litigation lawyer, becomes the Immediate Past President of DRI—the Voice of the Defense Bar. Mr. Martin is a partner in the Dallas office of Thompson & Knight LLP. He is widely recognized for his legal work and public speaking on the subjects of catastrophic injury, mass tort and aviation litigation. He is one of the state's most distinguished attorneys in the civil defense field. He has represented major commercial air carriers, aviation product manufacturers and general aviation interests in accident litigation including federal and state court cases arising out of accidents involving fatalities and other injuries. He also practices extensively in the areas of professional liability, healthcare, and general business and commercial litigation. He has served on a number of committees within the organization, and has represented the organization on the state and national level. Mr. Martin has been listed under multiple categories in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 1995 and has been a Texas Super Lawyer since 2003, also under several substantive law disciplines. He was also named by *D-Magazine* to its Best Lawyers in Dallas List in 2001, 2003, and 2008 in addition to being listed in *Who's Who Legal: Texas* and *Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America* since 2007.

Kimberly D. Baker, a Seattle-based member of the law firm Williams Kastner, was named Secretary Treasurer of DRI—the Voice of the Defense Bar. Ms. Baker has served on the Board of Directors of DRI and was the Board liaison to the Diversity Committee. She is a member of DRI's Health Care, Labor & Employment and Drug and Medical Device Sections, as well as Drug & Medical Device Steering Committee. Previously, she was chair of the 2004 Medical Liability Seminar and, in 2003, she was appointed to the DRI Law Institute. She is the 2008 recipient of DRI's Richard H. Krochuck award for mentoring young lawyers. As an experienced

litigator, Ms. Baker's practice emphasizes service to business clients in a wide range of areas including clients in the health care, pharmaceutical and manufacturing sectors. She has experience providing advice and litigation support in areas such as employment law, health care regulation, corporate governance and product liability. She is AV rated in Martindale-Hubbell and was recognized most recently as a Super Lawyer in 2008.

About DRI

DRI – The Voice of the Defense Bar is the international organization of attorneys defending the interests of business and individuals in civil litigation. DRI provides numerous educational and informational resources to members and offers many opportunities for liaison among defense trial lawyers, Corporate America, and state and local legal defense organizations. DRI also has an international presence, seeking to enhance understanding of the law among members of the defense community who have reason to be concerned with the expanding globalization of litigation defense. The organization can be reached at www.dri.org.

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