

## The 2014 DRI Annual Meeting

## Celebrate Your Life in San Francisco

By John F. Kuppens, Chair, 2014 DRI Annual Meeting

**D***R* *for Life* is the theme of the 2014 DRI Annual Meeting, and we will celebrate our professional and personal lives in one of the world's greatest destination cities, San Francisco, on October 22–26. The meeting is designed with DRI's many constituencies in mind, and it offers thematically connected groups of events—blockbuster programs, cutting-edge CLE, and special networking opportunities—designed to appeal to DRI's diverse communities. Here is just a sampling of this year's programs.

**Blockbuster Speakers**

Google's Chief Legal Officer, **David Drummond**, will give his perspective on the legal and business landscape. CNN analyst **Jeffrey Toobin** will comment on recent Supreme Court opinions and the behind-the-scenes dealings that led to them. MSN-

BC's *Morning Joe* co-hosts **Joe Scarborough** and **Mika Brzezinski** will share their observations on the political scene and the upcoming mid-term elections. Former Homeland Security Secretary **Michael Chertoff** will debate with Georgetown Law School professor **David Cole**

the merits of NSA data mining versus the right to privacy. Former CIA General Counsel **John Rizzo** will discuss the challenges he encountered advising his client on the legality of such controversial issues as enhanced interrogation techniques and drone strikes on terrorists. **Joe Coughlin** of the MIT Age Lab will tell us how the disruptive demographics of an aging society, social trends, and technology will shape future innovations in business and government. **Jennifer Thompson-Cannino** and **Ronald Cotton** will share their riveting story about the real world consequences and complexities of eyewitness testimony and identification.



Life is a song—sing it.  
Life is a game—play it.  
Life is a challenge—meet it.  
Life is a dream—realize it.  
Life is a sacrifice—offer it.  
Life is love—enjoy it.

Sai Baba



David Drummond



Jeffrey Toobin



Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough

**Networking**

One of the highlights of the meeting will be the Thursday evening reception at **AT&T Park**, home of baseball's San Francisco Giants. We will have full access to the field while we enjoy great music, food, and friends. The Awards Luncheon speaker will be **Vernice "Fly Girl" Armour**, the first African-American, female combat pilot in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Saturday evening social event will include a silent auction, music, and an elegant dinner to celebrate the installation of John Parker Sweeney as DRI President and recognize the service of DRI leaders. Other networking events include the Welcome Reception on Wednesday evening, the Networking Reception on Friday evening, and the dine-arounds and other activities planned by state organizations, substantive law committees, and affinity groups.

**Newcomers**

Special effort will be made this year to make first-time members feel welcome and help them get the most of their experience, including an orientation session to preview meeting activities and a special reception. Also, each newcomer will be assigned a mentor to guide him or her through the meeting and make sure he or she feels included.

**Young Lawyers**

Among the programs designed for younger lawyers are two main stage CLE presentations on rainmaking from renowned experts, and the Young Lawyers Committee session about handling jury issues outside the traditional courtroom. Also, the Wednesday evening Welcome Reception will be hosted by the Young Lawyers Committee, and the committee will organize a dine-around and other activities to foster networking.

**Women Lawyers**

On Friday, the Women in the Law Committee will hold its business meeting and present a CLE primer on how to use client metrics to strengthen your practice. The Women's Networking Luncheon will also occur on Friday. The committee will also organize a dine-around and other social events to help members meet each other.

**Diversity**

We will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act with a main stage CLE panel discussing how the Act

**On The Record**, continued on page 9

**On The Record**, from page 1 has changed the legal landscape and previewing how it will affect the law in the future. After their business meeting, the Diversity Committee will present a CLE program about the social justice case for paying college athletes for their intellectual property rights. The Diversity Committee will also co-host the Friday Networking Reception with DRI International, and will plan social events to facilitate networking.

### **Corporate Counsel**

Invitation-only programs planned by and for corporate counsel include a CLE session about charting the course for your business leaders in high stakes decisions, the Corporate Counsel Committee business meeting, and a private reception.

### **SLDO Leaders**

State and local defense organization (SLDO) leaders will gather to learn best practices and share information over two days, and SLDO executive directors will similarly exchange ideas in their own dedicated sessions. The SLDO Leadership Breakfast speaker will be **Dan Harris**, co-anchor for *Nightline* and the weekend edition of *Good Morning America*, who will talk about his journey to overcome his struggle with drugs and how he found a way to maintain balance while meeting the demands of his job as a TV-news journalist.

### **Blue Zones**

An hour and a half at the end of Thursday and Friday is exclusively dedicated to activities that will relax and invigorate your mind and body. Organized activities will include yoga, Pilates, book discussions, walking tours, and running groups. We will also provide guides to local landmarks, museums, and art galleries and provide a forum for members to organize group activities in advance of the meeting.

### **And More!**

Other programs include presentations from leading technology gurus on technological issues that will shape the future: Bitcoin, robot drones, 3D printing, hacking, and predictive coding; a panel on court funding featuring the chief justice of the California Supreme Court and other esteemed judges; a Dispute Resolution International

program presented by DRI International; and an exclusive meeting and CLE by and for staff counsel.

The Annual Meeting offers 12 hours of CLE, including programs on ethics, elimination of bias, and prevention of substance abuse. Registration is now open at [www.dri.org](http://www.dri.org). We look forward to seeing you, and hope that you bring your families and plan to stay the weekend and enjoy the many attractions that San Francisco has to offer. 