**The 2014 DRI Annual Meeting**

**Celebrate Your Life in San Francisco**

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

**DRI 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. MSNBC’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.

### 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

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has changed the legal landscape and pre-
viewing 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 Corpo-
rate 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 Thurs-
day and Friday is exclusively dedicated
to activities that will relax and invigorate
your mind and body. Organized activi-
ties will include yoga, Pilates, book discus-
sions, walking tours, and running groups.
We will also provide guides to local land-
marks, 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
predicative coding; a panel on court fund-
ing featuring the chief justice of the Cali-
fornia 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, elim-
ination of bias, and prevention of sub-
stance abuse. Registration is now open at
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.

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