



## 2021 DRI Corporate Counsel Roundtable

*The Keys to Corporate Counsel Success in 2021 and Beyond*

### Program Schedule

Virtual | October 6 - 7, 2021

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021

##### Unlocking a Good Night's Sleep: What's Keeping GC's Up at Night? Part I

9:45 a.m.

##### Welcome and Introductions

**Emily G. Coughlin**, *Coughlin Betke LLP*, Boston, Massachusetts

**Kristen E. Dennison**, *Littleton Park Joyce Ughetta*, Radnor, Pennsylvania

10:00 a.m.

##### Yes! Lawyers Can (and Must) Be Trusted ESG Advisors

This program will provide a foundational overview of ESG by reviewing both aspirational practices and regulatory requirements related to the environmental, social and governance topics that support a strategic, integrated approach to sustainability. An in-house counsel who provides strategic leadership to an industrial manufacturer's ESG initiatives and an ESG consultant advising a wide-range of industries will share their experiences and best practices for managing this rapidly evolving field. The panel will discuss how lawyers, as risk mitigation experts, can play a critical role with all aspects of the business to reach concrete ESG targets while also meeting the mandates of all relevant stakeholders from investors, to customers to communities. No matter if your company is public or private, mature or emerging in its ESG strategy, understanding these aspects of ESG will help reduce your company's exposure to potential litigation and enable strategic advantage to the benefit of all stakeholders.

Moderator | Founder Firmwide Women's Program, Co-chair - The ESG Collaborative | **Heidi B. Friedman**, *Thompson Hine LLP*, Cleveland, Ohio

**Michele Abraham**, *Cooper Standard*, Northville, Michigan

**Julianne Potter**, *ERM*, Cleveland, Ohio

10:45 a.m.

##### Getting the Best Out of the Appellate Courts - Winning Appeals and Shaping the Law

Whether your client is a giant corporation, a mid-sized company, or a small firm, cases on appeal will affect the business. Learn how to put your best foot forward in the courts of appeals by optimizing work flow in-house, hiring the best appellate counsel, and using appellate counsel in the best ways. Also, learn about being proactive in the appellate courts to support rulings that will help develop the law predictably and correctly.

Moderator | **Tillman Breckenridge**, *Stris & Maher LLP*, Washington, District of Columbia

**Adam Deckinger**, *Tyson Foods Inc*, Springdale, Arkansas

**Chad W. Pekron**, *Walmart*, Bentonville, Arkansas

11:30 a.m.

##### Break

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- 11:40 a.m.     **The Corporate Representative Deposition: Avoiding Gold Mines and Land Mines**  
Corporate representative depositions are the main area of battle before trial. Plaintiffs hope it will be their "gold mine" and defendants think of it as a "land mine." Nothing will ruin a defense case more quickly than a bad Rule 30(b)(6) deposition, and nothing will cause plaintiffs to discount the value of their case more than a good 30(b)(6) deposition. In this session, experienced litigation counsel cover the latest developments, as well as time tested methods, for battling overbroad topics, selecting and preparing witnesses for a successful defense deposition, and handling tough issues in the era of smart phone videos and social media attacks.
- Emily Dollerschell, *Land O'Lakes Inc, Arden Hills, Minnesota***  
**Richard (Rick) G. Morgan, *Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, Minneapolis, Minnesota***  
**Securing the Elusive Ethics Credit - Part I**
- 12:20 p.m.     **10 Tips to Avoid Needless Conflict with Former-Employee Witnesses**  
When an employee is leaving or has left the company is also a witness for a deposition, outside litigation counsel can face an array of difficult questions. This practice is governed by ethical rules (and opinions and case law) that must be considered in advance. Failure to understand and follow ethical rules could result in outside litigation counsel's disqualification from representing its corporate clients' current or former employees in depositions and impact overall strategy of litigation. This presentation will provide ten tips to help counsel manage the ethical considerations and company's risk when interacting with these former employees and discuss when appropriate to retain separate counsel.
- Kelly Jones Howell, *Harris Beach PLLC, New York, New York***  
**Jill V. Termini, *UPS, Atlanta, Georgia***
- 1:10 p.m.     **Lunch Roundtable Discussion**  
Private General Counsel Roundtable; Private Heads of Litigation Roundtable; Private New to In-House Counsel Roundtable
- Unleash Your Potential: Impress Your GC in Your First Two Years – Part I**
- 2:10 p.m.     **How to Speak the Language of Business Financials**  
"Earnings per Share," "EBITDA," "Business Unit Performance," "10-Ks and 10-Qs" are terms you may hear on a regular basis in communications with the C-Suite and business unit managers. But what do these terms mean and why are they important? This session focuses on providing insight into corporate "finance speak" so you better understand management objectives, identify, and communicate legal issues which may impact those objectives, and utilize your legal acumen to assist management in meeting those objectives.
- Leanne Gould, *CPA/ABV/CFF, Gould Consulting Services, Atlanta, Georgia***
- 2:40 p.m.     **How to Speak the Language of Business Operations**  
YOY, KPI, CPU, CRM, LTA, ROI..... It's a veritable alphabet soup. What does it all mean? DRI's very own CEO will explain it all to you so you can understand what the heck your business clients are saying to you.
- Dean Martinez, *DRI - Chief Executive Officer, Chicago, Illinois***
- 3:10 p.m.     **How to Build Relationships with Business Units**  
Being a successful corporate counsel for a business includes building relationships with business units within your company. Learn tips on how to effectively build those relationships from an experienced corporate counsel who manages global operations
- Pedro DeJesus, *Tampico Beverages, Chicago, Illinois***

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- 3:40 p.m. **How to Be an Asset to Your General Counsel**  
Want to impress your boss and move up the corporate (legal) ladder? Hear straight from a GC what they want in their corporate counsel and impress the best!  
**Cynthia Bookhart Adams, *Jefferies LLC*, New York, New York**
- 4:10 p.m. **DRI Cares Networking Fundraiser**

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021

#### Unlocking a Good Night's Sleep: What's Keeping GC's Up at Night? Part II

- 8:45 a.m. **Welcome and Introduction**  
**Kristen E. Dennison, *Littleton Park Joyce Ughetta*, Radnor, Pennsylvania**
- 9:00 a.m. **The Nuts and Bolts of Cybersecurity Litigation**  
If your company suffers a successful ransomware attack, phishing scheme or other data breach, you could find your company in the crosshairs of a lawsuit alleging, among other things, that your company was negligent in safeguarding the plaintiffs' data. Therefore, while trying to recover the lost data and mitigate your damages, you will have to prepare for such a lawsuit. You will have to maintain evidentiary privileges during your investigation and recovery and defend your company's cybersecurity efforts at trial. Learn how you can show that your company reasonably fortified its IT against such an attack and that it properly trained its employees to prevent a data breach.  
**Sean C. Griffin, *Dykema Gossett PLLC*, Washington, District of Columbia**  
**Shari Mattis, *ESIS*, Melville, New York**
- 10:00 a.m. **Half Hour - Open Conversation: Coffee with Dean and Emily**  
Networking coffee - how can DRI serve you?  
DRI President | **Emily G. Coughlin, *Coughlin Betke LLP*, Boston, Massachusetts**  
DRI Chief Executive Officer | **Dean Martinez, *DRI - Chief Executive Officer*, Chicago, Illinois**
- 10:50 a.m. **When GC's Talk, We Should Listen**  
Be sure to tune in when four chief legal officers from companies in various industries share their words of wisdom to educate and inspire us as lawyers. We will learn from these top legal eagles about the do's and don'ts in the RFP process; key principles and techniques for developing talent; the business as well as social justice imperative of promoting and implementing diversity, equity and inclusion in corporate legal departments; and tips on how to report to a board of directors with competence, clarity, and confidence.  
**Sheila S. Boston, *Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP*, New York, New York**  
**Aleksandra Zivanovic, *SGI Canada*, Toronto, Ontario, Canada**
- 11:00 a.m. **How to Report to the Board**  
**Donna B. Coaxum, *OSI Group LLC*, Aurora, Illinois**
- 11:15 a.m. **Talent Development**  
**Raymond R. Ferrell, *June Six Ventures LLC*, Irving, Texas**
- 11:30 a.m. **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Initiatives**  
**David F. Levine, *Bloomberg*, New York, New York**
- 11:45 a.m. **Lessons Learned from The RFP Process**  
**Sneha Desai, *BASF Corporation*, Florham Park, New Jersey**

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#### Securing the Elusive Ethics Credit - Part II

- 12:10 p.m. **Keeping Secrets: The Practical, Legal and Ethical Implications**  
Plaintiff's attorneys are using documents you produce in litigation in their networking and referral efforts to bring new suits against you. This session will look at ways to use confidentiality agreements, protective orders, ethical rules and other means to make sure your proprietary and confidential information produced in your cases doesn't get distributed to the plaintiff's bar and beyond.  
**David M. Wilson, *Wilson Law LLC*, Birmingham, Alabama**  
**Brett A. Ross, *Carr Allison*, Birmingham, Alabama**
- 1:00 p.m. **Lunch Roundtable Discussion**  
General Counsel Roundtable; Heads of Litigation Roundtable; New In-House Counsel
- 1:30 p.m. **Break**
- 2:00 p.m. **How to Create Objectives**  
You've gotten a job as corporate counsel and each year you're asked to come up with distinct and measurable objectives for the year that are unrelated to your daily duties. It can be a head-scratcher. Learn straight from a GC how to create reasonable and achievable objectives that also speak to your internal clients and your company's business goals  
**Emily J. Lawrence, *Autocar, LLC*, Birmingham, Alabama**
- 2:30 p.m. **How to Be a Strategic Advisor**  
Going in-house is often the career path of choice for many attorneys, however such a position requires a unique skill set often not found in private practice. During this discussion, we will explore how the in-house practice of law differs from private practice and how earning a reputation as a strategic advisor and essential member of the business team are keys to success.  
**Mark A. Rowe, *Techtronic Industries Power Equipment*, Anderson, South Carolina**
- 3:00 p.m. **Top 10 Things I Wish I Knew When I Was Hired**  
"To fulfill your vision, you must have hindsight, insight, and foresight." – Ifeanyi Enoch Onuoha, Nigerian Author.  
  
In this session, three seasoned corporate counsel will look back on the lessons they have learned throughout their careers and share their perspectives on the keys to adding value to the in-house corporate team, developing meaningful partnerships with the businesses you serve, and achieving your career goals within the corporate setting.  
  
Moderator | **Diane Fleming Averell, *Porzio Bromberg & Newman PC*, Morristown, New Jersey**  
**Eric D. Carter, *Techtronic Industries North America*, Anderson, South Carolina**  
**Kristin P. Herber, *Under Armour Inc.*, Baltimore, Maryland**  
**Sheila M. M. Schiffman, *Continental*, Fairlawn, Ohio**
- 4:00 p.m. **Adjourn**