

Declaration of Candidacy

Candidates for election as Second Vice President or Director Elected Nationally must complete this form and submit it to the Chief Executive Officer at the principal headquarters of DRI by 5:00 PM (CDT) on July 1st of the year in which the election is held.

National Director Requirements - Directors Elected Nationally or by Region must be Individual Members of the Corporation admitted to the practice of law. Each such director must meet the following qualifications at the time of election: (a) The candidate shall have been a DRI member for a total of at least five (5) years, and (b) The candidate shall have been a member of at least one DRI substantive law committee for at least three (3) years, and (c) The candidate must have registered for and attended at least one (1) DRI Annual Meeting within the previous three (3) years, and, within the three (3) years prior to the final day of the Annual Meeting, the candidate must have 1) registered for and attended at least two (2) DRI seminars, or 2) registered for and attended one (1) DRI seminar and one (1) DRI Regional Meeting.

Position sought

Second Vice President* Secretary- Treasurer National Director

*If you have declared your candidacy for Second Vice President and are not the successful candidate, will you consider the Secretary - Treasurer Officer position?

Yes No

Name	Stanley E. Graham ("Stan")
Firm/Company	Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP
Address	511 Union St., Suite 2700, Nashville, TN 37219
Telephone	615-850-8935 Cell Phone 615-473-3625
E-mail	stan.graham@wallerlaw.com
Born (location)	Orlando, Florida
Education	B.S.B.A. (Finance), University of Florida, 1991 Juris Doctor (Cum Laude), Samford University, 1996

Awards and achievements

Legal:

Chair, DRI Employment and Labor Law Committee, 2018-2020;
Vice-Chair (2016-2018); Seminar Chair (2015)
Past-Chair, Tennessee Bar Assoc., Labor and Employment Law Section
Best Lawyers, "Lawyer of the Year" (Labor Law, Nashville), 2017 and 2019
Chambers USA (Employment and Labor Law, Tennessee), 2012 to present
AV Rated, Martindale-Hubbell
Graduate, Tennessee Bar Association Leadership Law Program
Fellow, Tennessee Bar Foundation
Fellow, Nashville Bar Foundation
Tennessee Supreme Court, Rule 31 Mediator

Community:

Director, Travellers Rest Historic House Museum
Past Director, Economic Club of Nashville
Past Vestry Member, St. George's Episcopal Church
Past Board Member, St. George's Kindergarten
Past Director, Tennessee Hotel and Lodging Association
Past Director, Exec. Committee, W.O. Smith Community Music School

Areas of practice

Employment and Labor Law (Management)

Years as a defense attorney 24 years

Employment history

- Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP - 1998 to present
 - Office of the Attorney General, State of Alabama - 1996 to 1998
 - Red Lobster Restaurants, 1986 to 1995 (worked my way through college and law school as server and bartender)
-

Noteworthy defense work

- 100% management-side practice since 1996.
 - Have defended litigation and arbitrations in 25 states, totaling approx. 500 cases since 1996.
 - Jury trial experience includes first chair verdicts for Ford Motor Company, Dollar General Corporation, Federal-Mogul Corporation, and United Parcel Service.
 - Appellate experience includes matters in the 6th, 8th, and 11th Circuits for Nissan Motor Mfg., Ford Motor Co., Dollar General Corp., Federal-Mogul Corp., and United Parcel Service.
 - Extensive experience defending EEOC enforcement actions, employment class actions, and FLSA collective actions.
-

Professional affiliations International Association of Defense Counsel
Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel
Tennessee Defense Lawyers Association
Tennessee Bar Foundation
Nashville Bar Foundation

DRI member since 1999

Please describe your previous involvement in DRI, including but not limited to, leadership positions held. Projects contributed to, Committee memberships, presentations given, and written materials authored. Special accomplishments should also be noted.

I have been active in DRI since joining in 1999, including service on the Employment and Labor Law Steering Committee for over 15 years and attendance at 31 DRI seminars and annual meetings dating back to 2003.

Leadership positions include: Employment and Labor Law Committee Chair (2018-present); Vice-Chair (2016-2018); Seminar Chair (2015); Seminar Vice-Chair (2014); Marketing Chair; and Expert Witness Chair. I have also given numerous presentations over the years at the Annual Employment Law Seminar, and have contributed to various DRI publications.

I have also annually led my firm's sponsorship of the Thursday night reception at the annual Employment Law Seminar for over 10 years.

List any leadership roles in other defense organizations.

Former Chair, Tennessee Bar Association Employment and Labor Law Section. Though not purely defense, our membership consisted largely of management-side attorneys from across the state.

Former Chair, Waller Lansden Labor and Employment Law Practice Group. We are the largest management-side employment law group of any full-service firm in Tennessee, and have a nationwide litigation practice that has included the defense of litigation and administrative proceedings in 49 states.

Describe your goals if you are elected to the above position.

I have been passionate about DRI for over 20 years and would like to do whatever I can to support our existing leadership in advancing DRI's goals. While I do not have a personal agenda to advance, if elected to the Board I would like to work toward bettering DRI's name-recognition so that it becomes a household word to all members of the defense bar. We have so much to offer in terms of education, advocacy, and relationship building and yet I continue to meet long-time defense lawyers who are not familiar with DRI and its many benefits.

What do you believe is the most important issue confronting the defense bar?

There are many, but I see burnout as an increasing threat to our ability to recruit and retain career litigators. Whether it's due to the commoditization of litigation defense, a loss of collegiality within the overall bar, or the economic pressures of private practice, it is increasingly rare to see defense attorneys stay with the same firm for more than a few years before moving in-house or eventually leaving the practice of law altogether.

Define the appropriate role for DRI as the national defense bar organization.

I'd like every defense attorney to see DRI as the perfect complement to a successful defense practice. That will mean different things to different people, but the common thread is that membership in DRI should quite literally *improve the quality of life of its members*. That includes offering timely and practical seminars, online programming, and other quality education, as well as offering ongoing opportunities to meet and interact with other defense practitioners who can (and will) become long-time friends, referral sources, clients, and fellow brainstormers.

Hobbies and/or interests I'm a lifelong runner, reader, concert-goer, and, as a native Floridian, a died-in-the-wool Florida Gator.

Family I have two teenage sons who keep me on my toes. Douglas (17) is a rising senior and Matt (13) is a rising 8th grader.
