

Georgia Defense Lawyers Association 49th Annual Meeting

June 9-12, 2016

Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort
Florida

Early Bird
Registration
Deadline and
Hotel Deadline:
May 2



**Georgia Defense
Lawyers Association**
Advancing the Civil Defense Bar[®]

WHAT IS THE GDLA ANNUAL MEETING?

Civil defense lawyers from across the state will gather for the 49th time, convening this year at Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort in Florida. You can find the weekend schedule on page 4, but below we have highlighted the various educational opportunities, networking events, as well as recreation and family fun activities. Don't miss the chance to bring your family to the beach for this great event.

Educational Opportunities

Blockbuster CLE

This year's CLE format will again feature shorter presentations by more speakers. The seminar offers 6 CLE hours, 1 Professionalism Hour and 5 Trial Hours. See our impressive lineup on [page 6](#).

Sponsors Exhibit Showcase

Meet and talk with GDLA's Platinum and Gold sponsors from a wide variety of legal industry suppliers that can answer your questions and demonstrate the latest tools and services to enhance your practice. [See our sponsors on page 7](#).

Networking Social Events

Welcome, Y'all! Reception

As is tradition, the Welcome, Y'all! Reception will kick off the 49th GDLA Annual Meeting festivities on Thursday with a feast of heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. We'll gather at the Sunrise Café and Terrace, overlooking the ocean, where members and their families can reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

[Participating Sponsor Miles Mediation & Arbitration Services -Team Wilson](#)

Young Lawyers Networking Breakfast

Bright and early on Friday morning, we'll have a networking breakfast for GDLA members who are age 36 or under. While there is no additional charge for this event, please indicate on the registration form in you plan to attend.

President's Reception

On Friday, members and their guests are invited to join the GDLA Board of Directors and Past Presidents on the Oceanview Terrace as we honor President Matt Moffett for his year of service.

[Participating Sponsor Robson Forensic](#)

Annual Closing Dinner

Saturday's Closing Dinner concludes the Annual Meeting activities with a sumptuous buffet on the beach. The whole family is invited to join the fun as we kick off our shoes and gather for what will no doubt be a memorable evening as we bid farewell until 2017.

[Participating Sponsor FORCON Intl.](#)



Recreation & Family Fun

Golf Tournament

Enjoy camaraderie and competition as we play the Omni Amelia Island's Ocean Links Course. Format will be based on the number of entries. Fee includes greens fees, carts and winners' prizes.

Participating Sponsor Engineering Systems, Inc (ESI)

Tennis Tournament

Hit the courts in the annual tennis tournament featuring a "meet-em-all" doubles round robin. Fee includes court fees, balls, refreshments and winners' prizes.

Participating Sponsor Esquire Deposition Solutions

Sandcastles Contest

Don't let your kids miss the sandcastles contest for ages 15 and younger. Your children can work as a team or solo to channel their parents' favorite HGTV stars and build a castle – or whatever they imagine – on the beach.

Participating Sponsor Engineering Systems, Inc. (ESI)



Family Fun

Experience the largest poolscape in Northeast Florida. Enjoy the adult-only infinity pool or splash around in the family-friendly resort style pool and splash park. Kids can spend the day playing games in Camp Amelia or attend Camp Amelia @ Night events. Junior adventurers, ages 9-15, will enjoy the Gamers lounge or activities and trips suited to their interests. Rent bicycles, Island Hoppers (golf carts), tag-along bikes, baby trailers and jogging strollers. Sign up for one of the daily Segway tours. Play putt-putt or take to the water on a paddleboard, kayak or sailboat – or even go fishing. Or pamper yourself at the spa.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 9

6:30 - 8:30 pm **Welcome, Y'all! Opening Reception**
Participating Sponsor Miles Mediation & Arbitration - Team Wilson

Friday, June 10

7:00 - 8:00 am **Young Lawyers Networking Breakfast**

7:30 am **Continental Breakfast - GDLA Members Only**
Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 am **Call to Order - President Matt Moffett**
Announcements - Meetings Chair Staten Bitting
Introduction of Program - Peter Muller, President-elect & Program Chair

8:30 - 10:30 am **CLE Program (see page 6)**

10:30 - 11:15 am **Exhibit Hall Break**

11:15 - 12:15 pm **CLE Program**

1:30 pm **Golf Tournament:** Participating Sponsor Engineering Systems, Inc. (ESI)

6:30 - 7:30pm **President's Reception:** Participating Sponsor Robson Forensic

Saturday, June 11

7:30 am **Continental Breakfast - GDLA Members Only**
Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 - 9:00 am **GDLA Annual Business Meeting:**
Treasurer's Report - Sally Akins
Election of Officers/Board of Directors
President's Message and Passing the Gavel

9:00 - 10:45 am **CLE Program (see page 6)**

10:45 - 11:15 am **Exhibit Hall Break**

11:15 - 12:30 pm **CLE Program**

1:30 pm **Tennis Tournament**
Participating Sponsor Esquire Deposition Solutions

3:00 pm **Sandcastle Contest (for kids up to 15 years of age)**
Participating Sponsor Engineering Systems, Inc. (ESI)

6:30 pm **Closing Dinner**
Participating Sponsor FORCON Intl.

We are especially thankful to all of the GDLA Platinum sponsors who are underwriting a portion of the events as noted above. We also appreciate Collision Specialists, Inc., for sponsoring the hotel room key cards.

ACCOMMODATIONS



Relax in oceanfront luxury and experience the Omni Amelia Island's \$85 million re-imagined Plantation Resort. Enjoy luxurious accommodations, world-class resort pools, championship golf, full-service spa, endless dining options, and family-friendly activities.

Your experience begins as soon as you walk into the new lobby with sweeping panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean. Unparalleled ocean views and spacious accommodations are available in all 404 rooms.

Book your accommodations online: www.omnihotels.com/hotels/amelia-island-plantation/meetings/georgia-defense-lawyers-assoc

You can also book by calling **1-800-THE-OMNI** and mentioning GDLA. First night's deposit required at time of reservation; 7-day cancellation notice.

The deadline is May 2, but our room block may sell out quickly. Our negotiated room is \$309 (including \$10 resort fee) per night + taxes for a deluxe oceanfront room (king or two queen beds)



Reserve your room online (link above) or call 1-800-THE-OMNI and mention GDLA

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Friday, June 10

Mediation, Melodies & Memories

F. Scott Young, BAY Mediation & Arbitration Services, Atlanta

The Jury Trial: Battlefield Strategies for a Successful Outcome

Philippa V. Ellis, Owen Gleaton Egan Jones & Sweeney, Atlanta

Guarding the Henhouse: The Role of Your Firm's General Counsel

Edward Lindsey, Goodman McGuffey Lindsey & Johnson, Atlanta

Rollover-Activated Curtain Airbags: Past, Present, and Future

Dr. Stacy Imler, Exponent

"... and you'd better start swimming or you'll sink like a stone, for the times, they are a'changing." – Bob Dylan

Jerry A. Buchanan, GDLA Past President; Buchanan & Land, Atlanta

How the GDLA Can Influence Legislation

Sen. Bill Cowsert, State Senate Majority Leader; Cowsert & Avery, Athens

Saturday, June 11

GDLA Amicus Filings Update

Martin A. Levinson, Hawkins Parnell Thackston & Young and
Garret Meader, Drew Eckl & Farnham, Brunswick

Effective (and often Overlooked) Methods of Preparation for Mediation: Using Science to Improve Your Outcome

Dr. Melissa Loberg, Courtroom Sciences, Inc.

Employment Issues: Kindergarten for Adults

C. Jason Willcox, Moore Clarke DuVall & Rodgers, Albany

The Facebook Grenade: Getting the Most out of Social Media

Zach Matthews, Swift Currie McGhee & Hiers, Atlanta

Professionalism: A View from the Bench

Judge C. LaTain Kell, Sr., Superior Court of Cobb County, Atlanta

**Approved for 6 CLE Hours,
including 1 Professionalism and 5 Trial Hours**

GDLA SPONSORS

Thanks to our Sponsors for their invaluable support.
Remember them as you need the services they offer:

PLATINUM

Bay Mediation & Arbitration Services

CED Technologies, Inc.

Collision Specialists, Inc.

Courtroom Sciences, Inc. (CSI)

Courtroom Visuals

Daily Report

DTI Global

Elizabeth Gallo Court Reporting

Engineering Systems, Inc. (ESI)

Esquire Deposition Solutions

Exponent

FORCON International Corp.

Georiga Academy of Mediators & Arbitrators

LexisNexis

Miles Mediation & Arbitration Services

Nelson Architectural Engineers

R&D Strategic Solutions

Robson Forensic

SEA Limited

GOLD

Bovis Kyle Mediation

Coastal Medical Billing

MDD Forensic Accountants

Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc.

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.

SILVER

South Georgia ADR Service

Tiffany Alley Veritext

Tri-Starr Investigations

REGISTRATION FORM

Member Name _____
 Preferred First Name _____
 Firm _____
 E-Mail _____ Bar # _____
 Spouse/Guest (First & Last Name) _____
 Children/Additional Guests (First & Last Names/Ages) _____

Golf Tournament – Friday afternoon

Member _____ Handicap _____
 Spouse/Guest(s) _____ Handicap _____

Tennis Tournament – Saturday afternoon (indicate Level A, B or C)

Member _____ Level _____
 Spouse/Guest(s) _____ Level _____

SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION FEES - see footnote*

Members age 37 and over + One Spouse/Guest:

- Early bird (postmarked by May 2) - \$595
- Late Registration (postmarked May 3 or after) - \$695

Members age 36 and under + One Spouse/Guest:

- Early bird (postmarked by May 2) - \$495
- Late Registration (postmarked May 3 or after) - \$595

REGISTRATION FEE AMOUNT

\$ _____

ADDITIONAL FEES/EVENTS

# Persons	Event Cost Per Person	\$ _____
_____	Golf \$200	\$ _____
_____	Tennis \$25	\$ _____
_____	Sandcastles Contest No Charge (but please indicate number of kids who will participate on your family “team”)	\$ 0.00
_____	Thurs. Reception: Member + one spouse/guest No charge (but please indicate number that will attend)	\$ 0.00
_____	Thurs. Reception: Additional guests ages 20 or under No Charge (one spouse/guest included in registration fee)	\$ _____
_____	Thurs. Reception: Additional guests ages 21+ \$95 per person (one spouse/guest included in registration fee)	\$ _____
_____	Fri. Young Lawyers Breakfast No charge (but please indicate if you will attend)	\$ 0.00
_____	Sat. Dinner: Member + one spouse/guest No charge (but please indicate number that will attend)	\$ 0.00
_____	Sat. Dinner: Children ages 3-10 \$33 per person	\$ _____
_____	Sat. Dinner: Youths ages 11-20 \$66 per person	\$ _____
_____	Sat. Dinner: Additional adult guests over 21 \$132 per person	\$ _____

ADDITIONAL FEES AMOUNT

\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (Registration Fee + Additional Fees)

\$ _____

CANCELLATION POLICY: A full refund of the registration fee will be given for cancellation requests received in writing by May 18. NO REFUNDS after May 19.

Mail form and check to GDLA, P.O. Box 191074, Atlanta, GA 31119-1074

* Registration Fee includes Thurs. reception and Sat. dinner for two (GDLA member + one spouse/guest) plus CLE and breakfasts for GDLA member. Additional Thurs. reception guests under age 20 are free, but please indicate how many will attend, as well as any additional guests/fees for Thurs. reception (age 21+), Sat. dinner, golf and tennis in Additional Fees box.