



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

54th GDLA Annual Meeting
June 3-6, 2021
Omni Amelia Island, Florida

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[OVERFLOW HOTELS](#)

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

6:30 p.m.

Welcome, Y'all! Reception

Sponsor: BAY Mediation & Arbitration Services

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

7:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast – GDLA Members, Invited Guests & Sponsors Only
Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order – Jeffrey S. Ward, President
Announcements and Sponsors Introduction – Jennifer Davis Ward, Executive Director
Introduction of Program – George R. Hall, President-Elect & Program Chair

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. CLE PROGRAMMING

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Constructing a Defense: Attempts to Erode Actual Knowledge and Other Updates in Georgia Negligent Security Law

Martin A. Levinson, Hawkins Parnell & Young, Atlanta
Elissa B. Haynes, Drew Eckl & Farnham, Atlanta

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

What Should Keep You Up at Night – And it's not COVID

Christine L. Mast, Hawkins Parnell & Young, Atlanta

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Scientific Explanations for Recent “Nuclear Verdicts” and Recommendations for the Defense

Dr. Melissa Loberg, Courtroom Sciences, Inc.

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Exhibit Hall Break: Visit and Support GDLA's Platinum and Gold Sponsors

11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

BREAKING NEWS: Early Morning Crash Claims – Are You Prepared?

Jeff Kidd, Collision Specialists, Inc., Gainesville

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Apportionment: Now Bad for Georgia?**

Matthew G. Moffett, Gray, Rust, St. Amand, Moffett & Brieske
Chris Perniciaro, Gray, Rust, St. Amand, Moffett & Brieske

12:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Hospitality Suite Open: Families Welcome to Enjoy!

Sponsors: Collision Specialists, Inc. and ESI

2:00 p.m.

Inaugural Pickleball Tournament (refreshments included)

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

President's Reception

Sponsor: Veritext

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

- 7:30 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** – *GDLA Members, Invited Guests & Sponsors Only*
Exhibit Hall Open
- 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. **GDLA Business Meeting**
- Welcome – *Jeffrey S. Ward, President*
 - Proposed Bylaw Change – *Jeffrey S. Ward, President*
 - DRI Report – *Douglas Burrell, DRI First Vice President; Dean Martinez, DRI Executive Director; and Allen Estes, DRI Regional Director*
 - Election of Officers/Board of Directors – *Sarah B. "Sally" Akins, Past President & Nominating Committee Chair*
 - Treasurer's Report – *Dart Meadows*
 - President's Message –
 - Distinguished Service Award
 - President's Award
 - Passing of the Gavel/Swearing-In
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- 8:30 a.m.- 12:15 p.m. **CLE PROGRAMMING**
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- 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. **What to Expect When You are Not Expecting: First Party Insurance Claims**
Lee M. Gillis, Jr., James Bates Brannan Groover, Macon
- 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. **Payments, Politics and Publicity – Updates and Trends in Medical Malpractice and Aging Services**
M. Beth Boone, Hall Booth Smith, Brunswick
Laura Cartner, Hall Booth Smith, Atlanta
Jacque Clark, Hall Booth Smith, Atlanta
- 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. **Trends in Products Liability Litigation**
James D. "Dart" Meadows, Balch & Bingham, Atlanta
- 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. **Exhibit Hall Break:** Visit and Support GDLA's Platinum and Gold Sponsors
- 11:15 - 12:15 p.m. **Professionalism: What Goes Around Comes Around**
Hon. Neal W. Dickert, Senior Superior Court Judge, Augusta Judicial Circuit
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- 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. **Hospitality Suite Open: Families Welcome to Enjoy!**
Sponsors: Collision Specialists, Inc. and ESI
- 2:00 p.m. **Cornhole Tournament**
- 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. **Closing Reception and Dinner**
Sponsor: FORCON Intl.

Thank you, GDLA Sponsors!

Show your appreciation to all the GDLA sponsors by visiting their exhibit booths to learn how they can help you in your practice. We owe a special thanks to those Platinum Sponsors underwriting a portion of Annual Meeting events as noted on the agenda.