

THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEFENSE ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION



THE DEFENSE LINE

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Volume 1

February, 1979

No. 1

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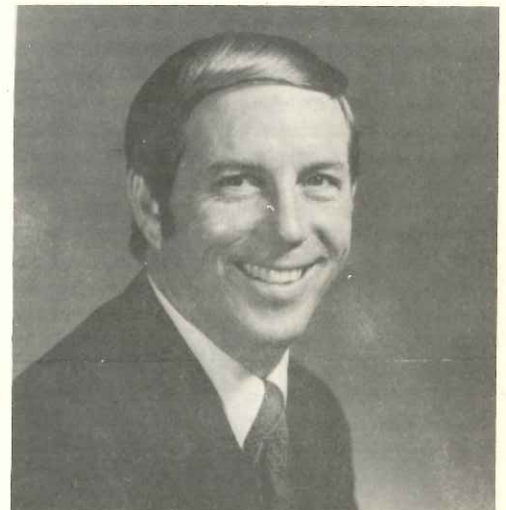
President's Report

As always, our primary concern at this time of the year is legislation. A pure comparative negligence bill has been introduced in the House and there are several other bills that affect our business, such as interest rates on judgments, which we will be opposing. As we get further along into the legislative year, it will be necessary for us to call upon our membership across the state to contact their legislator and express our views on legislation. This has worked in the past, and I impress upon you the need for you to take action when you are called upon.

Plans are being made for the joint meeting and the annual meeting. The joint meeting will be at the Grove Park Inn once again. It is scheduled for August 9-12, 1979. BARRON GRIER is program chairman and he will have a good program for the joint meeting. The annual meeting will be held at Hilton Head on October 25-28, 1979. CARL B. "BUTCH" EPPS is the Program Chairman and is working on an outstanding program for that meeting.

This issue of THE DEFENSELINE contains committee appointments. Letters are on the way to those who have been appointed. Remember, whether you are on a committee or not that your comments and ideas are welcome. Please feel free to transmit any suggestions or ideas you have to any of your officers or committee chairmen. Each of us should work to obtain new members. The more members we have the more financially stable we become and the more representative we are in expressing our views on legislation and having an impact for the betterment of our profession.

R. Bruce Shaw



Mullins Elected DRI Director

E.W. "ED" MULLINS, JR., a member and past president of our Association, was recently elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Defense Research Institute at the annual meeting in Miami, Florida. The Defense Research Institute is a national organization whose members are attorneys whose practice is primarily the defense of civil damage suits and whose purpose is to increase the skills of defense attorneys. He has previously served three terms as the Regional Vice President for the Mid-Atlantic Region. He was also recently appointed as a member of the National Claim Counsel Advisory Committee of Commercial Union Assurance Companies and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Insurance Counsel, a national organization of attorneys similar to the Defense Research Institute.

Ed will be one of the principal speakers at the National Conference of local Defense Associations on May 3 in Kansas City, Missouri. President-Elect Barron and Judy Grier will be attending along with Ed and Andrea.

Executive Committee Minutes February 2, 1979

Present: Bruce Shaw, Barron Grier, Ernie Nauful, Jack Barwick, Mark Buyck and Jim Pressly.

1. Annual Meeting — 1979 annual meeting is now tentatively scheduled for October 25-28, 1979 at The Hilton Head Inn. Mark Buyck proposed that the possibility of returning to Kiawah for the 1980 meeting be explored.

2. Joint Claims Meeting 1979 — Barron and Bruce are to meet regarding details for this meeting in Asheville.

3. Treasurer's Report — (a) checking account balance — \$12,075.13 (b) savings account balance — \$2,026.94 (c) 51 members have not paid dues for 1979 (d) 1 member has dropped out (e) to date we have taken in \$12,466.00

4. Name Change — Board approved putting a ballot in next Defense Line for membership vote to approve new name of Defense Trial Attorneys of South Carolina.

5. Committee Apointments — (a) Bruce Shaw is to appoint new committee members for Defense Line Committee. (b) Jim Pressly will continue as Chairman of the Membership Committee.

6. Finances — Due to increased costs for the annual convention and the added expense for our lobbyist, the financial basis of the association must be re-examined. Several methods of increasing our funds were discussed: (1) cutting back on meals provided by the association at the convention; (2) raising dues; (3) creating a state-wide jury information service for members at a charge of \$200-\$250; (4) have reporting services sponsor in whole or in part some of the cocktail parties at the annual convention; (5) provide that each member pay a set charge for the annual meeting whether or not the member attends. It was decided that some sort of short term method of raising capital must be effectuated for this year and that long term modifications would be raised at the annual meeting.

The Board approved a canvas of the membership for additional revenue for 1979. A letter will be sent from Bruce explaining the reasons for the request.

Bruce will appoint people in each district to follow up on the written request.

Barron Grier volunteered to chair a committee to solicit sponsors for cocktail functions at the annual meeting.

Jim Pressly, Secretary, Treasurer

DRI Report

The following have recently joined DRI:

WILLIAM P. BASKIN, THOMAS M. BOULWARE, WILLIAM H. BOWMAN, III, WILLIAM S. DAVIES, P. MICHAEL DUFFY, PAUL J. FOSTER, JR., WILLIAM U. GUNN, DONALD A. HARPER, E. W. LANEY, III, WILLIAM L. POPE.

Reports From The Districts

FIRST DISTRICT REPORT

At its annual meeting on February 22, 1979, the Charleston County Bar Association chose Joseph H. McGee, a partner in the firm of Buist, Moore, Smythe & McGee, and a member of the South Carolina Defense Attorneys Association, as its President-Elect for the year 1979-80. He will automatically succeed to the position of President in February, 1980.

A bill, HR 2202, seeking the abolition or curtailment of federal diversity jurisdiction, has been introduced in the 96th Congress. The Judiciary subcommittee of the House began hearings on February 28, 1979. No bills have been introduced in the Senate. Members are urged to write their congressmen in opposition to this bill.

Wade H. Logan, III

TEN YEARS AGO

The officers of our Association were: President, B. ALLSTON MOORE, JR.; Vice President, H. GRADY KIRVEN; Secretary, HAROLD W. JACOBS; Executive Committeemen, WESTON HOUCK, H. FRANK PLAXCO, E. W. MULLINS, JR.

COMMITTEES — 1979

Long Range Planning Committee : GENE ALLEN, Chairman; DEWEY G. OXNER, JR.; JACK BARWICK; SAUNDERS BRIDGES; BOB CARPENTER.

Membership Committee: MIKE COLE, Chairman; JACK McCUTCHEON; JIM PRESSLY; JOHN C. HAYES, III; DOUG GRAY; PARKER BARNES.

Legislative Committee: E. W. MULLINS, JR., Chairman; JIM ALFORD; ERNEST NAUFUL; BOB HERLONG; JIM DUNBAR (Lobbyist).

Annual Convention: BILL BOYD, Chairman.

Annual Convention Program Chairman: CARL EPPS.

Joint Meeting Program Chairman: F. BARRON GRIER.

The Defense Line: JACK BARWICK, Chairman; MARK WALL; MANTON GRIER; STEVE KIRVEN; BILL GUNN; JOHN HAYES, III; SAUNDERS BRIDGES.

Publicity Committee: JAY BENDER, Chairman.

Claims Management Association of South Carolina Officers:

President, CURTIS HIPPI; Vice President, JOHN DUNN; Secretary, RALPH CHAMBLEE; Treasurer, C. L. MATTHEWS, JR.; Immediate Past President, MACK TIMMONS; Directors: AL BROOKS, J. W. DERRICK, SAM BLACK, C. A. WHITAKER, HAROLD THOMAS, E. B. MCCONKEY, JERRY TARLETON.

South Carolina Claims Association Officers — 1979

President — JIM WATSON (Crawford and Co., Columbia); Vice President — BOB BLITCH (American Fire and Casualty Company, Greenville); Treasurer — WALTER WALLACE (Crawford and Co., Charleston); Secretary — SUSAN SHIVER (Furman & Co., Columbia).

Atlanta Claims Association Officers — 1979

President: JACK STEPHENSON, Crawford & Company; First Vice President: PAUL L. HARRISON, Employers of Wausau; Second Vice President: HENRY TRENT, Home Insurance Company; Secretary: JACK A. BAKER, State Farm Mutual; Treasurer: J.A. (JIM) McALLISTER, General Adjustment Bureau; Assistant Treasurer: R. (BOB) MORGAN, Cotton States Insurance Co.; Assistant Secretary: R.W. (BOB) HALCOMB, Gulf Insurance Company; Executive Board (3 years): W.C. (BILL) BECK, Crum & Forster Group; W.R. (BILL) DUNN, Kemper Insurance Group; J.W. (BILLY) HUTCHINS, Atlanta Gas Light Co.; Executive Board (2 years): ROLAND B. ANDERTON, Underwriters Adjusting Co.

OUR THANKS

We appreciate the contribution of several of our court reporters to cocktail parties at our annual meeting in Asheville. Those contributing were:

RICHARD TOLLISON, Columbia
WINSTON CLAIBORNE, Columbia
RAY SCHWARTZ, Charleston
IRVETA SHROUSE of G.W. Coleman & Associates
PHILIP LODER, Columbia
Depositions and Inc., Columbia

SCDAA MEMBERS ATTEND ABA MEDICO-LEGAL CONFERENCE

Several of our Association members were present for the American Bar Association Medico-Legal conference at the Omni in Atlanta on Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17. They were: Jackson L. Barwick, Jr., Weldon Johnson, Dewey Oxner, and Dewey Wise.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1979

Association of Insurance Attorneys, April 19-22, Marquette Inn, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Georgia Defense Lawyers Association, May 3-6, Ponte Verda, Florida

National Conference of Local Defense Association, May 3, Kansas City.

South Carolina Bar Association (Annual), May 31-June 2, Myrtle Beach Hilton, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

International Association of Insurance Counsel (Annual), June 24-30, The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

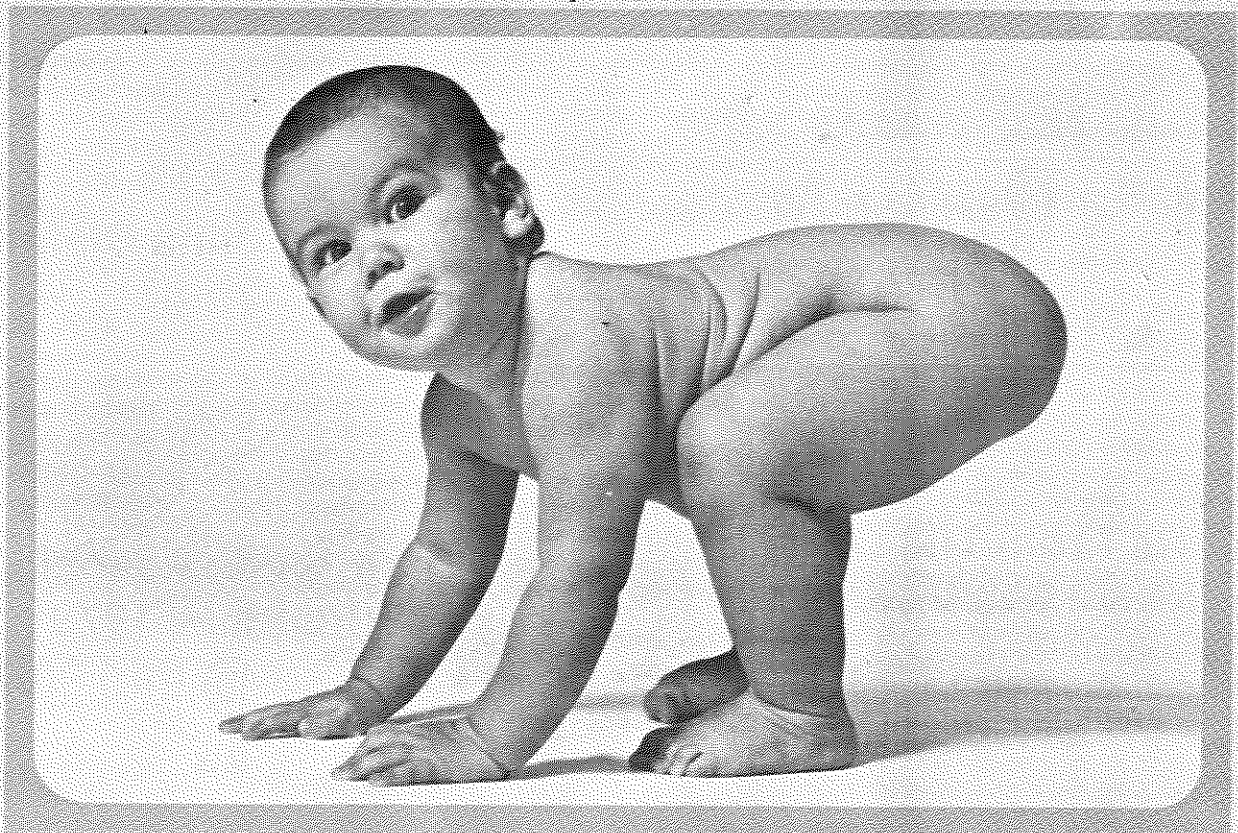
Defense Research Institute (Mid-Year), June 25-27, The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

American Bar Association (Annual), August 8-15, Dallas, Texas.

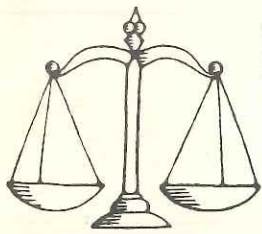
Federation of Insurance Counsel (Annual), August 15-19, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

South Carolina Defense Attorneys — Claims Managers Joint Defense Conference (Annual), August 9-12, Grove Park Inn, Asheville, North Carolina.

South Carolina Defense Attorneys (Annual), October 25-28, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.



That's me...A little behind as usual.



THE SOUTH CAROLINA
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