2015 TIPS/ABOTA NATIONAL TRIAL ACADEMY

MARCH 28 - APRIL 1, 2015

THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE
RENO, NEVADA

SPONSORED BY

TORT TRIAL & INSURANCE PRACTICE SECTION

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TORT TRIAL & INSURANCE PRACTICE SECTION
Save the Date!

The TIPS Section Conference
Join your colleagues for the premier CLE conference for insurance defense, corporate, and plaintiffs attorneys.

April 29-May 1, 2015
The Ritz-Carlton
Philadelphia, PA

This inaugural event will feature:
• Over 24 hours of top-notch CLE programming, including three hours of ethics credit, to meet all of your educational needs
• Practice area-specific CLE tracks featuring premier speakers including judges and in-house counsel
• Numerous opportunities to network with insurance defense, corporate and plaintiffs attorneys, judges and local lawyers at events including the Leadership in Action Luncheon and Gala Dinner at the Constitution Center
• Substantive committee meetings and social events
• Specialized practical CLE for all attorneys including young lawyers and judges
• Philadelphia! Where American law began

For more information visit americanbar.org/tips.
On Wednesday night, April 1st after the trial, there will be a dinner and ceremony honoring all of the students and faculty participants with beautifully engraved plaques for their completion of the academy.

WE PROVIDE ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS
The Grand Sierra Resort will provide hotel accommodations and meals. The fee for the Academy is $3,600.00 and covers hotel accommodations with meals, transportation to and from the College and the use of the National Judicial College and their state-of-the-art 21st Century courtroom.

Grand Sierra Resort and Casino
2500 East Second Street
Reno, NV 89595

The National Judicial College
1664 N. Virginia (corner of Evans & Jodi)
Reno, NV 89557

CLE CREDITS
The students at the National Trial Academy will qualify for Continuing Legal Education credits in all states. Students who attend the Trial Academy will earn approximately forty (40) or fifty (50) hours of state accreditation depending on which state the student is licensed in, the cost of which is tax deductible.

The ABA directly applies for and ordinarily receives CLE credit for ABA programs in AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, GU, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MO, MT, NM, NV, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, VI, WA, WI, and WV. These states sometimes do not approve a program for credit before the program occurs. This course is expected to qualify for over 40 CLE credit hours (including 1.5 ethics hours) in 60-minute states, and over 50 credit hours (including 1.8 ethics hours) in 50-minute states. This transitional program is approved for both newly admitted and experienced attorneys in NY. For more information about CLE accreditation in your state, visit www.americanbar.org/tips or contact Donald Quarles at Donald.quarles@americanbar.org.

CANCELLATION POLICY
All cancellations must be made through the ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section no later than February 15, 2015 in order to receive a refund less a $1,000.00 cancellation fee. After March 1, 2015 none of your registration fee will be refunded. However, you will be allowed to make a suitable substitution to take your place.

WHO CAN YOU CONTACT?
To ensure individual teaching and instruction, enrollment in the TIPS/ABOTA National Trial Academy is by application only. It is strongly recommended that any person who wishes to be considered for the 2015 TIPS/ABOTA National Trial Academy apply immediately. Please fill out the attached application and, along with a check payable to the American Bar Association, return it to Ms. Janet Hummons of the American Bar Association, Director of Meetings and Continuing Legal Education, TIPS, 321 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60654; telephone number (312) 988-5656.

Save the Date!
MARCH 28 - APRIL 1, 2015
TORT TRIAL & INSURANCE PRACTICE SECTION
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The TIPS Trial Academy will limit participation to just 36 students, approximately 18 each from the plaintiff and defense bars. Employing state of the art technology and instruction, including the use of a 21st Century Courtroom, the students will be exposed to a broad array of trial techniques and methodologies ranging from computer animation and litigation software technology to instruction on voir dire by nationally renowned jury consultants.

With a three student per faculty member ratio, students receive the most individualized mentoring available at any trial academy. Moreover, having faculty members and students who represent both sides of the trial bar, students will be critiqued from both perspectives and learn from each other on how to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their arguments as well as schooling on professional and ethical conduct in a courtroom.

The National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, is where it all happens. The National Judicial College is where practicing judges from around the world come to be educated in all aspects of trial practice.

**HOW DOES IT WORK?**

The Academy curriculum will involve a core case study taught by a faculty of leading plaintiff and defense trial lawyers from throughout the United States as well as professors from the National Judicial College. Each faculty member will have responsibility for three students and will participate interactively through exemplar trial court presentations as well as constructive feedback including videotape reviews of the students’ performance in the courtroom.

In addition to individual courtroom presentations, the students will also be provided with lectures and courtroom demonstrations by faculty members on a variety of trial skills including direct and cross-examination of medical and scientific witnesses, opening statements, closing arguments and jury selection. Each student will be videotaped while conducting an opening statement and a closing argument. Doctors from the University of Nevada Medical School and engineers from the University's Engineering Department will serve as expert witnesses. Two nationally renowned jury consultants will assist the students in a mock jury trial that will take place on the final day involving the actual case study involved in the program. Jurors will be summoned and selected from the surrounding community. The trial will conclude with televised jury deliberations and a subsequent panel discussion with jurors, faculty members and jury consultants regarding the case presentation by each side.

Several weeks prior to the commencement of the Trial Academy, the students will be sent a complete set of practice materials. The set will contain the core case study including excerpts from depositions, expert reports and other materials necessary to the case. The core case study will form the basis of the program participation and the mock trial. Prior to the commencement of the Trial Academy, students will be required to submit a trial brief, jury instructions, and a set of stipulated facts for the trial.
2015 National Trial Academy
MARCH 28, 2015 – APRIL 1, 2015
Application for admission

▲ INFORMATION (Please Type)

Name __________________________________________________________
Firm __________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________
City __________________ State ________ Zip _________________________
Business Phone ___________________________ Home Phone ______________
Fax ____________________________________________________________
E-mail Address __________________________________________________
Age __________ Year Admitted to Bar _________ Race (optional) __________

▲ PRACTICE

Law Firm Size:
Partners ________ Associates ________

Description of principle practice area (i.e., products, auto, employment, etc.):
______________________________________________________________

Type of Practice (check or fill in all that apply):
___ Percentage Trial Work
___ In-House Insurance Law Firm
___ Plaintiff (more than 50%)
___ Defense (more than 50%)
___ Personal Injury (Yes or No)
___ Government
___ Sole Practitioner
___ Corporate

Litigation Experience (put in a number):
___ 1st chair jury trial started
___ 2nd chair jury trial started
___ 1st chair jury trial to verdict
___ 2nd chair jury trial to verdict
___ 1st chair non-jury trial started
___ 2nd chair non-jury trial started
___ 1st chair non-jury trial to verdict
___ 2nd chair non-jury trial to verdict

Tuition for the 2015 TIPS/ABOTA National Trial Academy is $3,600.

Your application and a non-refundable deposit of $1000.00 is due by January 9, 2015 to secure your spot in the TIPS/ABOTA Trial Academy.

☐ If funds are available, please send me information concerning financial assistance.

▲ RETURN

Return all completed application forms to:
Ms. Janet L. Hummons
American Bar Association Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section
321 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60654
e-mail: janet.hummons@americanbar.org
Telephone: (312) 988-5656
Fax: (312) 988-6230

BY JANUARY 9, 2015
March 28 – April 1, 2015
The National Judicial College
Reno, Nevada

DIRECTOR
Fredrick H.L. McClure
DLA Piper LLP
Tampa, FL

DIRECTOR ELECT
Jose A. Isasi, II
Jones Day
Chicago, IL

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR
Janet L. Hummons
Director of Meetings & Continuing Legal Education
American Bar Association
Chicago, IL

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT OUR LEADERSHIP

DIRECTOR
Fredrick H. L. McClure
Fredrick H. L. McClure is a partner in the law firm of DLA Piper LLP and is the managing partner of the firm’s Tampa, Florida office. He is rated “AV” by Martindale Hubbell International Law Directory, the highest rating attainable from the highly-respected directory and rating system. Each year since 2004, when it began the designation, Florida Trend Magazine has named Mr. McClure as one of Florida’s Legal Elite; an honor accorded less than 2% of the nearly 50,000 resident members of the Florida Bar. Likewise, since its inception in 2006, Law & Politics magazine has named Mr. McClure a “Florida Super Lawyer”. He is also listed by Best Lawyers in America in the areas of Insurance and Commercial Litigation.

A graduate of Leadership Florida and the DLA Piper/Harvard Business School Leadership Program, Mr. McClure is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and a past member of the American Bar Association’s Standing Committee on Federal Judicial Improvement. He is also a past member of the American Bar Association House of Delegates and a Past Chair of the 180,000 member American Bar Association Young Lawyer’s Division

DIRECTOR-ELECT
Jose A. Isasi II
José Isasi is a partner in Jones Day and has served as trial counsel in federal and state jury and bench trials in product liability and commercial disputes throughout the U.S., including several that have been recognized by leading law publications for their successful resolution. He has also conducted numerous commercial arbitrations before both U.S. and international arbitration organizations. José focuses on defending product manufacturers in individual, multidistrict, and class action personal injury litigation, with an emphasis on pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers. He also regularly counsels clients on strategies to minimize risks and proactively resolve disputes short of litigation.

José has written and spoken extensively on litigation-related topics. For several years he has served on the faculty of the ABA/ABOTA National Trial Academy. He is a member of numerous legal associations including the Defense Research Institute, the Georgetown Law Alumni Council, the Minority Trial Lawyer Committee of the ABA, and the Hispanic National Bar Association. He also serves on Jones Day’s firmwide Diversity Task Force and is co-chair of the Chicago Office’s Diversity Committee. José is involved in community organizations, including serving on the Board of Directors of Legal Prep Charter Academy, a charter school on Chicago’s West Side.
PRESIDING JUDGE
Honorable Janet J. Berry

Judge Janet Berry has served as a judge in the Second Judicial District Court since 1996. She was in private practice in Reno with the firm of Davenport and Perry prior to being appointed to the bench. She served as a law clerk for a U.S. District Court judge in New Orleans and for the Chief Justice of the Nevada Supreme Court before entering the private practice of law. She graduated from California State University at Sacramento with a degree in criminal justice, and received her J.D. at Tulane University School of Law. Judge Berry was awarded a Master’s of Judicial Studies degree from the University of Nevada, Reno, in 1997. She is admitted to practice in Louisiana, California, and Nevada. Judge Berry is active in community legal education. She was the co-host of a weekly television show called The Language of Law. Additionally, she holds Kid’s Court mock trials and Ask An Inmate for elementary school students, and has previously served as president of the Nevada District Judges Association. Judge Berry was on the NJC Board of Trustees from 1996-2001, serving as chair of the Board in 2001.

Richard L. Campbell
Faculty Assistant

Rich Campbell is a partner at Campbell Campbell Edwards & Conroy where his practice encompasses complex commercial, products liability, class action, toxic tort and employment litigation in industries such as heavy equipment, aviation, automotive, and manufacturing. Rich participated in both the IADC Trial Academy at Stanford University and the ABA/TIPS/ABOTA Trial Academy at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, where he has also served on the faculty for the past three years.

Mary Beth Haltom
Faculty Assistant

Mary Beth Haltom is a senior associate in the Nashville office of Lewis Thomason. She concentrates her practice in the areas of commercial and business litigation, with an emphasis in commercial transportation litigation and franchise litigation. She is a member of the Lewis Thomason’s Commercial Transportation Group and helped implement the firm’s rapid response program that is currently used by many of the firm’s clients.

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT OUR FACULTY

Eugene Brown, Jr.

Eugene Brown, Jr., is a partner at Sedgwick LLP. His practice emphasizes complex civil litigation, including products and premises liability, commercial, labor and employment, and environmental and toxic torts. He has also defended public entities in actions alleging civil rights violations such as police excessive force, age and race discrimination, and sexual harassment.

Mr. Brown is an exceptional trial attorney, having successfully tried to verdict in excess of 100 complex actions in California, as well as in jurisdictions throughout the United States. He has appeared before the Supreme Court of New York and the United States District Courts in New York, Nevada, Arizona, Texas and Mississippi.
William C. Callaham

Mr. Callaham, one of the senior partners of Wilcoxen Callaham, LLP has 40 years of experience as a trial lawyer and has tried more than 150 civil jury trials to verdict. He has obtained 10 jury verdicts in excess of $1 million, and many more multi-million dollar resolutions through arbitration, mediation and settlement.

Mr. Callaham has a balanced career of 19 years practicing as a defense attorney, representing major corporations, insurance companies, physicians and other individuals, as well as another 21 years on the plaintiffs’ side exclusively representing injury victims and their families in a variety of personal injury, wrongful death and catastrophic loss litigation. He has handled a variety of cases all throughout California and also in Washington, Idaho, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nevada and Montana.

Dorothea M. Capone

Thea Capone is a partner in the firm of Baumeister & Samuels. She has been involved in every major case handled by the firm, including most recently Continental Connection Flight 3407, Comair Flight 5191, the World Trade Center September 11th Litigation, and the Pan Am Flight 103 Libya terrorist litigation and has extensive experience interacting with and assisting family members involved in a catastrophic disaster working closely with each of the firm’s clients.

Thea is a member of the Governing Council for the Tort and Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Association. In addition, she serves as the Council’s Liaison to the American Bar Association’s Commission on the American Jury Project, and is a faculty member for the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section and The American Board of Trial Advocates National Trial Academy that prepares young lawyers for successful careers as trial lawyers. Thea is also a member of the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section Continuing Legal Education Board, the Plaintiffs’ Policy Task Force, the Section Conference Task Force, the Scholarship Fund Board, and is a past Chair of the Aviation and Space Law Committee.

Leslie D. Davis

Leslie Davis is a partner in the Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP Chicago office and concentrates her practice on complex commercial litigation, including class actions, tort litigation and media cases. She represents major corporations and institutions in a wide range of matters, including commercial contract disputes, products liability, fraud claims, and insurance class actions.

Leslie is an experienced trial lawyer. She has been the lead counsel for numerous jury trials, bench trials and arbitrations. In 2008, Leslie was secunded for seven months to a Fortune 500 insurance company where she gained invaluable experience about business issues and overall legal needs of in-house counsel. She continues to use that in-house experience, as well as her trial knowledge, to counsel and represent clients.

Philippa V. Ellis

Philippa Ellis is an original partner of Owen, Gleaton, Egan, Jones & Sweeney, LLP, in Atlanta, Georgia. She serves as lead trial counsel for the firm’s product liability team. Her defense of product manufacturers includes extensive jury trial experience handling catastrophic injury and wrongful death actions, commercial and consumer litigation for Fortune 500s, and complex insurance defense litigation.

Philippa has been routinely selected as a Georgia Super Lawyer since 2006, and has been selected by her peers for inclusion in the Best Lawyers in America® in the practice area of Product Liability Litigation – Defendants. Philippa has also received an AV® Preeminent™ rating, the highest Martindale-Hubbell peer review rating in legal ability and ethical standards.

Philippa is a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel and served as a faculty member for its national trial academy at Stanford University, teaching trial strategy and tactics to lawyers from across the nation. For several years, she has served as a National Institute for Trial Advocacy Georgia Deposition Skills Program faculty member, teaching deposition and interrogation skills.
Joan A. Lukey

Joan Lukey is a partner in the Choate, Hall & Stewart Law Firm and has tried complex business litigation, First Amendment, and other cases in state and federal court in Massachusetts and New Hampshire and nationwide for more than 30 years. She has tried approximately 90 jury trials, and a myriad of bench trials and arbitrations in all aspect of business disputes. In addition, she is an accomplished appellate lawyer, having argued approximately 60 federal and state appeals.

Ms. Lukey is a past President of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers, the first woman ever to hold this position. Since 1983, Ms. Lukey has been selected by her peers for each edition of The Best Lawyers in America in the areas of Business, Bet-the-Company, Commercial, Personal Injury, Employment and First Amendment Litigation. She has also been routinely recognized for the last several years in Chambers USA and Chambers Global as a Band One Litigator.

Chris A. Marks

Chris Marks, a partner at Sedgwick LLP, is a veteran trial attorney with verdicts in product liability and commercial litigation matters. He focuses his practice on defending high-exposure tort matters, including product liability cases related to asbestos, consumer products, transportation, and toxic torts. His commercial litigation and trial experience includes general contract and real estate disputes. Mr. Marks serves as national trial counsel for several clients, and is an advisor for corporate clients looking to develop nationwide strategies for mass tort litigation defense. He has obtained defense verdicts in state courts and has successfully argued before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and before several of Washington’s state appellate courts.

Elizabeth N. Mulvey

Liz Mulvey is a founding partner at Crowe & Mulvey with an outstanding reputation as a trial lawyer throughout New England and multi-million dollar verdicts to her credit in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. She is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and has been elected as an Advocate of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Liz was appointed by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court to serve a four-year term on the Board of Bar Overseers. She is a frequent lecturer to professional legal and medical groups and has taught trial advocacy at courses run by Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Harvard Law School, the National Institute of Trial Advocacy and the ABA.

Joseph J. Ortego

Joseph J. Ortego, a partner and Co-Practice Group Leader of Commercial Litigation and Leader of NP Trial in the New York City office of Nixon Peabody LLP has approximately thirty years of litigation and business experience. Mr. Ortego has tried over 100 cases to verdict for major corporations ranging from automotive to chemical companies, with trial experience in the trial of medical device, pharmaceutical, toxic tort, and complex commercial matters.

He focuses in the areas of commercial disputes, toxic tort, environmental, employment, intellectual property, and product liability matters. Mr. Ortego serves as National Trial Counsel for a number of clients who desire a consistent approach to lawsuits filed in multiple states, and represents small, mid-size, and publicly traded companies. Joe is a past Chairman of the Trial Academy.
Larry D. Ottaway

Mr. Ottaway, a partner at Foliart, Huff, Ottaway & Bottom, has defended cases in many states and tried products liability cases in Idaho, Colorado, Texas, Arkansas, and New York, in addition to his home state of Oklahoma.

Mr. Ottaway is a member of The American Board of Trial Advocates, Litigation Counsel of America, and the International Society of Barristers. He is a Fellow in the American College and International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Mr. Ottaway has been named one of the Top “Super Lawyers” in Oklahoma since 2006 and is listed in Best Lawyers in America (2015). Mr. Ottaway currently serves on the Oklahoma Judicial Nominating Commission.

Mr. Ottaway’s firm specializes in the trial of negligence and products liability actions on behalf of pharmaceutical and other manufacturing companies. Mr. Ottaway also has an active insurance practice including the defense of both carriers and their insureds.

Kathryn Pryor

Kathryn Pryor is a partner in the law firm of Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP in Little Rock, Arkansas. She has been engaged in an active trial practice for 25 years, with a focus on insurance defense and product liability litigation. Her practice centers on automobile liability defense, trucking and transportation defense, and insurance coverage dispute litigation, as well as the representation of corporate clients in product liability litigation, asbestos litigation, mass tort litigation and premises liability litigation.

Kathryn is an Associate of the American Board of Trial Advocates and 2014 President of the Arkansas Chapter. She is a Fellow of the International Society of Barristers and is recognized in Mid-South Super Lawyers in the area of Civil Litigation Defense. This is Kathryn’s fourth year to serve on the faculty of the ABA TIPS/ABOTA National Trial Academy.

Kenneth L. Thompson

Ken Thompson, a partner at Venable, LLP, is an experienced trial attorney who focuses his practice on civil and commercial litigation. A member of both the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American Board of Trial Advocates, organizations that represent the country’s leading trial attorneys, Mr. Thompson’s acumen as a trial attorney has been recognized on a national level.

Mr. Thompson is particularly well-known in Maryland, where individuals and groups - from local county officials involved in civil suits to developers whose projects are stalled due to others parties’ claims - rely on Mr. Thompson to handle their cases with integrity. With a focus on achieving his clients’ goals and getting results as quickly as possible, Mr. Thompson is able to identify issues that can be resolved outside of court while being able to adeptly navigate a courtroom when needed. His many years of trial experience well-position Mr. Thompson to perform risk assessments for companies, including assessments in connection with due diligence investigations.

Rodney L. Umberger

Rod Umberger is a member in the Seattle office of Williams Kastner, where he chairs the Business Litigation Practice Group and has served on the Board of Directors. He is first and foremost a trial lawyer with experience handling product liability, transportation, premises liability, toxic tort, class actions, construction and a variety of commercial litigation matters. In addition, Mr. Umberger has also defended physicians, hospitals, clinics, dentists, counselors, nursing homes and medical laboratories in medical negligence lawsuits and disciplinary proceedings.

Mr. Umberger is a frequent lecturer in the area of trial practice and advocacy. He has been named to Super Lawyers by Super Lawyers magazine for several years and recently was one of only sixteen attorneys in the state of Washington recognized as a top civil litigation defense attorney by the Corporate Counsel Edition of Super Lawyers magazine. He has been “AV Preeminent” peer-review rated by Martindale-Hubbell since 1998.