

# Georgia Defense Lawyers Association 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

June 15-18, 2017  
The Breakers  
Palm Beach, Florida

Early Bird  
Registration  
Deadline and  
Hotel Deadline:  
**May 15**



# WHAT IS THE GDLA ANNUAL MEETING?

Civil defense lawyers from across the state will gather to celebrate GDLA's 50th Anniversary, convening at The Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida. You can find the weekend schedule on page 3, 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 celebrate GDLA's milestone with your colleagues and friends.

## Educational Opportunities

### Blockbuster CLE

This year's CLE seminar offers 6 CLE hours, 1 Professionalism Hour and 5 Trial Hours. See our impressive lineup on [page 4](#).

### Business Meeting & Elections

Saturday morning is the annual members' Business Meeting when proposed Bylaws changes are discussed, officers and board members are elected, and the outgoing president offers final remarks before the changing of the guard.

### 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 4](#).

## Networking Social Events

### Welcome, Y'all! Reception

As is tradition, the Welcome, Y'all! Reception will kick off the festivities on Thursday with a feast of heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. We'll gather on the Ocean Lawn, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

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

### President's Reception

On Friday, members and their guests are invited to join the GDLA Board of Directors and past presidents as we honor President Peter Muller for his year of service, and pay tribute to all of the past presidents who've led our association. [Participating Sponsor: Robson Forensic](#)

### 50th Anniversary Gala

This year's final event will be a white tie/black tie optional/medals and decorations gala on Saturday evening, where we'll enjoy dinner and dancing and toast to GDLA's 50th Anniversary. [Participating Sponsors: FORCON, Exponent, SEA, and DRI – The Voice of the Defense Bar](#)

### Poolside Bungalows

We've reserved three poolside bungalows where members and their guests can mingle, relax and enjoy a little shade. These will replace the annual golf and tennis tournaments, so everyone can spend more time together.

[Participating Sponsors: Collision Specialists, Inc., and ESI](#)



# WEEKEND SCHEDULE

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## Thursday, June 15

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

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## Friday, June 16

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

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

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

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

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

**12:30 - 4 pm**      **Poolside Bungalows Open**  
Participating Sponsors: Collision Specialists, Inc., and ESI

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

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## Saturday, June 17

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

**8:00 - 9:00 am**      **GDLA Annual Business Meeting:**  
Proposed Bylaws Changes  
Treasurer's Report  
Election of Officers/Board of Directors  
Outgoing President's Message

**9:00 - 10:45 am**      **CLE Program**

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

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

**12:45 - 4 pm**      **Poolside Bungalows Open**  
Participating Sponsors: Collision Specialists, Inc., and ESI

**6:30 pm**      **50th Anniversary Gala**  
White Tie/Black Tie Optional/Medals and Decorations  
Participating Sponsors: FORCON, Exponent, SEA, and DRI – The Voice of the Defense Bar

We are especially thankful to all of the GDLA Platinum Sponsors who are underwriting a portion of the events as noted above.

# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

## Friday, June 16

### **Say Ahhh: Sharpening the Teeth of 9-11-68**

Immediate Past President Matthew G. Moffett,  
Gray Rust St. Amand Moffett & Brieske, Atlanta  
Erica L Morton, Hicks Casey & Morton, Marietta  
Alycen A. Moss, Cozen O'Connor, Atlanta

### **Amicus Program Update**

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

### **What Happened Under the Gold Dome: A Legislative Update**

Jacob E. Daly, Freeman Mathis & Gary, Atlanta

### **Apportionment: Something for Everyone**

Sherrie M. Brady, Hawkins Parnell Thackston & Young, Atlanta  
Past President Kirby G. Mason, Hunter Maclean, Savannah  
Jeffrey S. Ward, Drew Eckl & Farnham, Brunswick

## Saturday, June 17

### **Understanding and Challenging Medical Bills: Should an Aspirin Cost \$20?**

Richard W. Brown, Fain Major & Brennan, Atlanta  
Past President Warner S. Fox,  
Hawkins Parnell Thackston & Young, Atlanta  
David N. Nelson, Chambless Higdon  
Richardson Katz & Griggs, Macon  
Will Ronning, Coastal Medical Billing, Savannah

### **A Day Late and a Million Dollars Short: Navigating the Landmine of Bad Faith in Georgia**

Stephanie F. Glickauf, Goodman McGuffey, Atlanta  
Past President Steven J. Kyle,  
Bovis Kyle Burch & Medlin, Atlanta  
Tracie G. Macke, Brennan Wasden & Painter, Savannah

### **Professionalism: A View from the Bench**

Hon. Susan Edlein, State Court of Fulton County, Atlanta  
Hon. Lawton Stephens, Western Circuit Superior Court, Athens

# GDLA SPONSORS

## PLATINUM

BAY Mediation & Arbitration Services  
Coastal Medical Billing  
Collision Specialists, Inc.  
Courtroom Sciences, Inc. (CSI)  
Elizabeth Gallo Court Reporting  
Engineering Systems, Inc. (ESI)  
Esquire Deposition Solutions  
Exponent  
FORCON International Corp.  
Forensic Engineering Technologies  
Georgia Academy of Mediators & Arbitrators  
LexisNexis  
Miles Mediation & Arbitration Services  
Nelson Forensics  
R&D Strategic Solutions  
Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc.  
Robson Forensic  
SEA Limited  
U.S. Legal Support

## GOLD

Courtroom Visuals  
MDD Forensic Accountants  
Tri-Starr Investigations

## SILVER

CED Technologies, Inc.  
South Georgia ADR Service  
Veritext

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

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

# THE BREAKERS

A spectacular resort destination on Florida's Atlantic coast, The Breakers Palm Beach, has lured generations of discerning travelers to its idyllic, Italian-Renaissance setting. Experience the irresistible charm and storied history of this legendary oceanfront resort, which seamlessly blends with an amazing range of modern amenities.



## Dining

Several on-site restaurants offer a myriad of choices for your dining pleasure. Begin with breakfast amid the pleasurable charm of The Circle. Order from a traditional steakhouse menu at The Flagler Steakhouse. Enjoy relaxed dining at The Beach Club Restaurant or the Ocean House. Eat with gusto at The Italian Restaurant. Sample the fresh catch at The Seafood Bar. Experience pan-Asian plates at Echo. Or simply raise a glass at HMF, a chic social club just off the grand lobby.

## The Spa

A dramatic \$8 million full-scale renovation has transformed Palm Beach's coveted destination for personal renewal. The new indoor/outdoor spa evokes The Breakers' seaside sophistication and Italian influence with a calming, modern style. The theme "held in our hands" expresses The Spa's commitment to nurturing and healing each guest with heightened comfort and care, manifest by expertly-trained, intuitive staff.

## Fitness

Just over a year ago, Ocean Fitness debuted as The Breakers' flagship fitness experience – a spectacular, 6,000-square-foot, indoor/outdoor oceanfront fitness facility situated in the resort's Mediterranean-style Beach Club complex. Complimentary to hotel guests, this exclusive amenity provides an amazing array of resources to help individuals reach their personal fitness goals, in an inspiring setting with breathtaking views of the Atlantic.

## Shopping

Just beyond the grand lobby, you'll find a quaint stretch of boutiques that surround the picturesque Palm Courtyard. Featuring some of the world's most recognized and pursued brands, these boutiques bring the best of Palm Beach shopping to the hotel.

## Golf & Tennis

While we're not having golf or tennis tournaments this year, feel free to enjoy either at your leisure. Home to Florida's oldest 18 holes and a renowned contemporary course, The Breakers is the envy of the golf world. Both courses feature the John Webster Golf Academy, for those wanting to sharpen their game. For the tennis buff, enjoy 10 beautifully groomed Har-Tru courts, as well as clinics and private court sessions with USPTA/USPTR-certified professional instructors.



## Families

For families who want to share vacation fun and quality time together, The Breakers has created a family-friendly environment – from an interactive camp to a secure, self-contained Family Entertainment Center – 1 of the first of its kind at any hotel or resort. There's also Camp Breakers, offering engaging activities for ages 3 to 12. Screened and experienced baby sitters can also be booked in advance when parents want to enjoy a date night.

# ACCOMMODATIONS



**The deadline to book accommodations is May 15, but rooms may sell out quickly.**

Below are our negotiated rates, based on availability (as inventory is limited for each room type), which are offered three days pre- and post-conference. Rates do not include taxes and fees. Cancellation policy\* is below:

- Deluxe Guest Room - Run of House (max guests 2) - \$290
- Accessible Guest Room with Resort View (max guests 2) - \$290
- Premium Guest Room - Run of House (max guests 4) - \$340
- Atlantic Guest Room with Oceanfront View (max guests 4) - \$430
- Classic Suite with Resort View (max guests 3) - \$440
- Deluxe Suite with Resort View (max guests 4) - \$515
- Atlantic Suite with Oceanfront View (max guests 4) - \$890

**B**  
**THE BREAKERS**



**Book online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/GDLA17> or call the resort at (888) 273-2537 and mention Georgia Defense Lawyers Association.**

**The Breakers | [thebreakers.com](http://thebreakers.com) | One South County Road | Palm Beach, FL 33480 | 561-655-6611**

*\*At the time of reservation, The Breakers requires a one-night room deposit excluding taxes. Reservations may be canceled without penalty 3-days prior to arrival; within 3-days of arrival, your deposit will be forfeited. Date changes and length of stay reductions, will result in a penalty or deposit forfeiture. Failure to check-in on your arrival date, will automatically cancel your entire reservation and forfeit your deposit.*

**Reserve your room online (link above) or call (888) 273-2537 and mention GDLA**

# REGISTRATION FORM

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

## SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION FEES - see footnote\*

Members age 37 and over + One Spouse/Guest:

- Early bird (postmarked by May 15) - \$595
- Late Registration  
(postmarked May 16 or after) - \$695

Members age 36 and under + One Spouse/Guest:

- Early bird (postmarked by May 15) - \$495
- Late Registration  
(postmarked May 16 or after) - \$595

## REGISTRATION FEE AMOUNT

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## ADDITIONAL FEES/EVENTS

# Persons      Event | Cost Per Person

_____	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)	\$ _____
_____	Sat. Dinner: Member + one spouse/guest   No charge (but please indicate number that will attend)	\$ 0.00
_____	Sat. Dinner: Children ages 3-10   \$45 per person	\$ _____
_____	Sat. Dinner: Youths ages 11-20   \$90 per person	\$ _____
_____	Sat. Dinner: Additional adult guests over 21   \$150 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 June 7. NO REFUNDS after June 8.

**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, in Additional Fees box.

*Credit card payment is available but adds a 5% convenience/processing fee to the total. If you wish to pay by credit card, e-mail your registration form to [jdavis@gdla.org](mailto:jdavis@gdla.org) and Jennifer will invoice you via PayPal (although you can use any credit card, and not just PayPal).*