

Georgia Defense Lawyers Association
2004 Annual Business Meeting Highlights

Sandestin, FL

August 7, 2004

Members of the board and past presidents attending were: Rick Rominger, Grant Smith, Johnny Foster, Bob Travis, Warner Fox, Staten Bitting, Jimmy Singer, Jo Jagor, Greg Ellington, Bubba Hughes, Ted Freeman, Lynn Roberson, Jerry Buchanan, Salty Forbes, Bruce Welch, Joe Chambless, Steve Kyle, George Duncan and Walter McClelland.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Rominger. Foster gave the treasurer's report and indicated that the association had positive cash flow in the past 12 months, was maintaining a healthy bank balance and overall is in excellent financial condition. Forbes gave the report of the nominating committee as follows:

Grant Smith President;
Johnny Foster Executive Vice President;
Warner Fox Secretary/Treasurer;
Rick Rominger Immediate Past President;
Bob Travis Vice President;
Staten Bitting Vice President;
Jimmy Singer Vice President;
Mel Haas Vice President;
Lynn Roberson Director, Northern District;
David Nelson Director, Middle District;
Clay Ratterree Director, Southern District;
Ted Freeman Director, State-at-Large;
Luanne Clarke Director, State-at-Large;
Art Glaser Director, State-at-Large

It was noted that Gary Seacrest, Jo Jagor, Greg Ellington, Jim Elliott, George Hall and Bubba Hughes were not up for re-election. The nominees of the Nominating Committee were elected unanimously.

President Rominger made some final comments. He noted:

1. The importance of bringing new blood into the Association and into the Board of Directors.
2. That Executive Director Steve Milano has been a major contributor to our success in the past year.
3. That we have 64 new members, largely attributable to the efforts of Mr. Milano and the Board.
4. That we held our first judicial reception and there will be more.
5. That plans are underway for a workers' compensation academy.
6. That we have cleaned up the Web site, which will be individually password protected.
7. That we have an improved newsletter, which is more helpful.
8. That we have a good renewal rate of members.
9. That we are continuing to build our sponsorship base.

10. That we are holding down meeting expenses and bringing in revenue through sponsorships.

Following President Rominger's final remarks, incoming president Grant Smith presented President Rominger with a gavel plaque as a token of the association's appreciation for his service. Mr. Smith commented that President Rominger had presided over the selection and hiring of Steve Milano and had set a high bar.

Following this, GDLA's State Representative to the DRI, George Duncan, presented President Rominger with DRI's exceptional performance citation. The business meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m. and the annual meeting program resumed.