



Arkansas Association of Defense Counsel

October 14th 2015

Ninety Day Report On Your Arkansas Association Of Defense Counsel (ok I'm a little early)

Membership Growth

The week before our very successful 2015 meeting, our AADC membership stood at 174, a number that was the result of a slow decline over a number of years. Today, October 14th, 2015, that number stands at 221, an increase of 47 for a growth rate of 27% in under 90 days.

Yesterday we accepted 17 membership applications on a single day from the Kutak Rock firm. Thanks to these new members and their firm for this show of support.

My thanks and gratitude go out to President Elect Michael Harrison and the membership committee she chairs. I gave Michael a challenge; raise our membership to 200 by the end of 2015 and raise it to 225 by AADC 2016. The membership committee already met the first and will easily exceed the second.

Legislation/Government

We have a standing Government/Legislative Committee chaired by AADC Secretary Bryan Burns. That group is currently monitoring the off year work of the legislative committees and is preparing to monitor and report on the next legislative session. We anticipate twice weekly reports during the session and will let our elected officials know there is not only a voice; but a force of will on the defense side of the legal spectrum.

Newsletter

I am proud of all the accomplishments of the first 90 days of our AADC year; but I take some personal satisfaction in our weekly newsletter. I am grateful to those members who prepare these missives and am proud of the content they share. We have been able to share important, timely, information with our

members for which we continue to receive positive feedback.

Expert Witness Bank

We are in the beginning stages of forming and populating an expert witness bank. More on this later.

Web Site

Thanks to our Executive Director, Tracey Cline Pew, Jonathan Baker and the DRI, our AADC web page is about to be completely rebuilt. More on this later.

List Serve/Forum

Finally, we have a forum, or list serve of sorts. Our weekly newsletter is sent to our entire membership. We encourage members with a question or comment on those issues which effect or impact the defense bar to simply hit "reply all" and raise your question. Need an expert? Have a question about someone else's expert? Need a legal reference or brief? Reply all and you get all of us.

Conclusion

For those of you who remember Steve Martin in "The Jerk", the best reference for the AADC is Martin's immortal line: "things are going to start happening to [us] now!"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7aIf1YnbbU>

It's been a great quarter for the AADC and even better things are coming.

Scott Strauss – President Arkansas Association of Defense Counsel

We Are Better Together: Support The AADC

Membership Applications at

<http://www.arkansasdefensecounsel.net/application.php> Please share this with friends and colleagues.