



FDCC E-Newsletter

News from and about your fellow members and friends.

March 2017

Toxic Tort and Environmental Section Update

Well, it looks like President Trump has already put a damper on the

explosion of regulations on employers and

businesses. Check out our blog post on OSHA's new regulations dramatically reducing the exposure limits to beryllium and the new president's executive order staying their implementation: [\[link to blog article on beryllium\]](#). 2017 promises to be an interesting year in toxic torts and environmental law.

Speaking of cutting edge topics, planning is well underway for the summer meeting in Montreux, Switzerland. We will be presenting jointly with the brand new Energy and Utilities Law Section, which is chaired by Marjorie Berger. The topic of our joint section meeting will address legal issues arising from oil and gas pipeline explosions. If you are interested in the topic, or have clients who may be interested, please contact **Chair Beth Bauer** beth.bauer@helperbroom.com or **Vice Chair, Paul Schumacher** pschumacher@dmclaw.com

We are looking for authors for our July submission to the FDCC *Insights* column. These articles do not have to be long, and they can be edited versions of FDCC presentations or other scholarly publications. As the title of the publication suggests, we are really looking for insights based on your own practical experience as defense and/or corporate counsel. Could you please consider sharing some new idea, practice pointer or scholarly research that you've developed? Or, even better, do you have a corporate or insurance client who you could jointly provide an article for the FDCC *Insights* publication? If so, please contact **Dave Erikson.** derikson@shb.com

Finally, our section presentation in Charleston on the "tsunami" of rising water litigation was well attended and very informative. Water rights claims, litigation related to extreme weather events, water safety claim -- like those arising in Boston, MA Flint, MI or Toledo, OH, -- and climate change lawsuits alleging failure to preserve resources for the next generation, are cascading into a jurisdiction near you. Are you poised and prepared to represent potential new clients in these types of cases? The materials from the section meeting are available, and **Bill Koska** is a great resource to consult on these types of claims.

Thanks to **Kurt Reeg** for organizing and hosting the dine around event in Charleston at 82 Queen. The reviews are in – both the food and the company were divine.

Congrats to **Vice Chair Jack Delany** on a great plenary session on use of technology in the courtroom with **Tom Oakes** and **Bob Christie**. Because technology is changing so quickly, I always learn something new at a session addressing this topic. Again, the materials are available if you missed it.