

September 2023

ACC Litigation Network Monthly Newsletter

Message from the Network Chair – George L. Washington, Jr.

We are excited to see Network friends and to make new friends next month at ACC's Annual Meeting. And, before then, we look forward to getting together virtually for our State AG Investigation webinar and our monthly Legal Update and also "live and in-person" at our CLE seminar at Cozen O'Connor in Washington, D.C. See below for additional information on all of the above.

Upcoming Events

- September 25, 2023** State AG Authority: Is Your Company at Risk of a State AG Investigation? [Register Here](#)
- September 26, 2023** Legal Update – The Mallory Case: Did You Just Get Railroaded? [Register HERE](#)
- September 27, 2023** Key Legal Issues Keeping In-House Counsel Up at Night - In person event in Washington, DC, Offices of Cozen O'Connor. [More Info and Register HERE](#)
- October 22 – 25, 2023** **Annual Meeting in San Antonio** - [More Info Here](#)

Have an idea or request for a legal update topic? Email the program chairs at: ihannel@zoeholdingco.com and Brian.Parsons@centene.com.

New and Newsworthy – Annual Meeting Addition

The Litigation Network has SO MUCH content for you at the Annual Meeting in San Antonio!

1. Sunday, October 22, 2023 - Attend the Cozen O'Connor kick-off Reception at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio River Walk Terrace on 5th (600 E Market Street). The party begins at 8:30 pm.
2. There are 3 sessions the Litigation Network is sponsoring or co-sponsoring:
 - a. Monday, October 23, 2023 - #202 – Ethics Lessons from Better Call Saul
 - b. Monday, October 23, 2023 - #401 – I Always Feel Like Someone is Watching Me
 - c. Tuesday, October 23, 2023 - #503 – Data Incident to Date Breach: A Table-Top Exercise
3. Monday, October 23, 2023, at 12:15pm - Join us at the Litigation NetConnect for a special networking session.
4. Visit our Litigation Network Sponsor Cozen O'Connor at their booth (#703) in the Exhibit Hall throughout the Conference for prizes and giveaways!

Spotlight on Cozen O'Connor – Lynnette Espy-Williams – lepsy-williams@cozen.com



Lynnette Espy-Williams serves as Cozen O'Connor's Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer and is a member of the Commercial Litigation Department. Lynnette provides strategic counsel to her clients and has extensive experience in defending many high-exposure liability matters. Specifically, Lynnette has experience litigating a wide variety of civil and commercial matters, including matters pertaining to mass and complex torts, professional liability, product liability, and contract disputes. Her experience in the commercial litigation industry experience is widely recognized in the industry and she has acted as lead counsel in many complex commercial litigation matters. When Lynnette is not actively practicing law, she routinely speaks on issues of import in the industry.



Lynnette’s litigation prowess extends to both state and federal courts, and she is well-versed in every facet of the litigation process. This includes conducting fact and expert depositions, crafting persuasive motions, negotiating with opposing counsel, and participating in pre-trial conferences. Lynnette's experience also encompasses consumer class action litigation, particularly cases involving alleged violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) and Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA).

Beyond her legal acumen, Lynnette’s role as Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer underscores her commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion within the legal profession. Her multifaceted contributions, both in the legal arena and as a champion of diversity, exemplify her dedication to excellence and equity.

Prior to earning her JD from the University of Maryland, Lynnette graduated from Spelman College, *cum laude*, with honors in economics.

Litigation Member Spotlight – Jeffrey Reese – jreese@umaeducation.org

Jeffrey Reese serves as Associate Vice President and Deputy General Counsel – Governance, Privacy & Cyber Affairs for UMA Education, Inc., a not-for-profit organization that operates healthcare educational institutions, including Ultimate Medical Academy and American Institute. UMA Education, Inc. serves more than 10,000 students and more than 80,000 alumni across the United States.



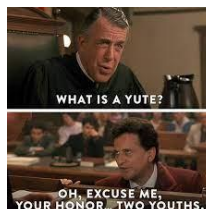
In his role at UMA Education, Inc., Jeff manages litigation, eDiscovery, information governance, data privacy, cybersecurity, and commercial contracts among other responsibilities. Jeff has been working with the organization’s Information Technology team to address changes to the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act as it relates to information governance and data management, as well as responsible use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI). Jeff was recognized as a Top Corporate Counsel Honoree by the Tampa Bay Business Journal in 2021 and holds a Certified Industry Privacy Profession – US certification.

Jeff and his wife love to travel and are currently in Japan for two weeks touring the country, attending the Formula 1 Grand Prix, and doing some diving in Okinawa. Jeff earned his bachelor’s degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology and his law degree from the Villanova University School of Law. Jeff will be presenting in the Litigation Network panel “I Always Feel Like Someone is Watching Me” and “Choose Your Own Mobile Device Adventure,” which is not a Litigation Network panel but would still be highly relevant to this group, during the ACC Annual Meeting.

Do you have a recommendation for a litigation network member who should be given the spotlight in our newsletter? Send an email to jennifer.denny@cardinalfinancial.com with your suggestion (self-nominations welcome!).

Litigation Laughs – What is your favorite legal movie? Let us know in the Litigation Discussion Room!

Me, after three years of law school, spotting incredibly obvious legal errors in movie scripts:



2022-2023 ACC Litigation Network Leadership		
Chair	George Washington Chief Litigation Counsel Orange Business Services (703) 471-3342 george.washington@orange.com	
Vice-Chair	M. Richard Coel Senior Counsel Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (202) 962-6096 RCoel@wmata.com	
Secretary	William Hochul General Counsel Delaware North (716) 858-5207 whochul@delawarenorth.com	
Program Chairs	Ivan Hannel General /Counsel Zoe Holding Company (602) 710-7573 ihannel@zoeholdingco.com	Brian Parsons Senior Corporate Counsel Centene Corporation 314-488-6761 Brian.Parsons@centene.com
Annual Meeting Chairs	Abby Adams Assistant General Counsel BBB National Programs (703) 247-9355 aadams@bbbnp.org	S. Michael Lee General Counsel TeamBlind (408) 475-8547 smichael.lee@gmail.com
Membership Chairs	David K. Bock Corporate Counsel VCA Inc. (619)876-2299 David.bock@vca.com	Jennifer Denny Senior Litigation Counsel Cardinal Financial Company, LP (636) 565-0716 jennifer.denny@cardinalfinancial.com
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