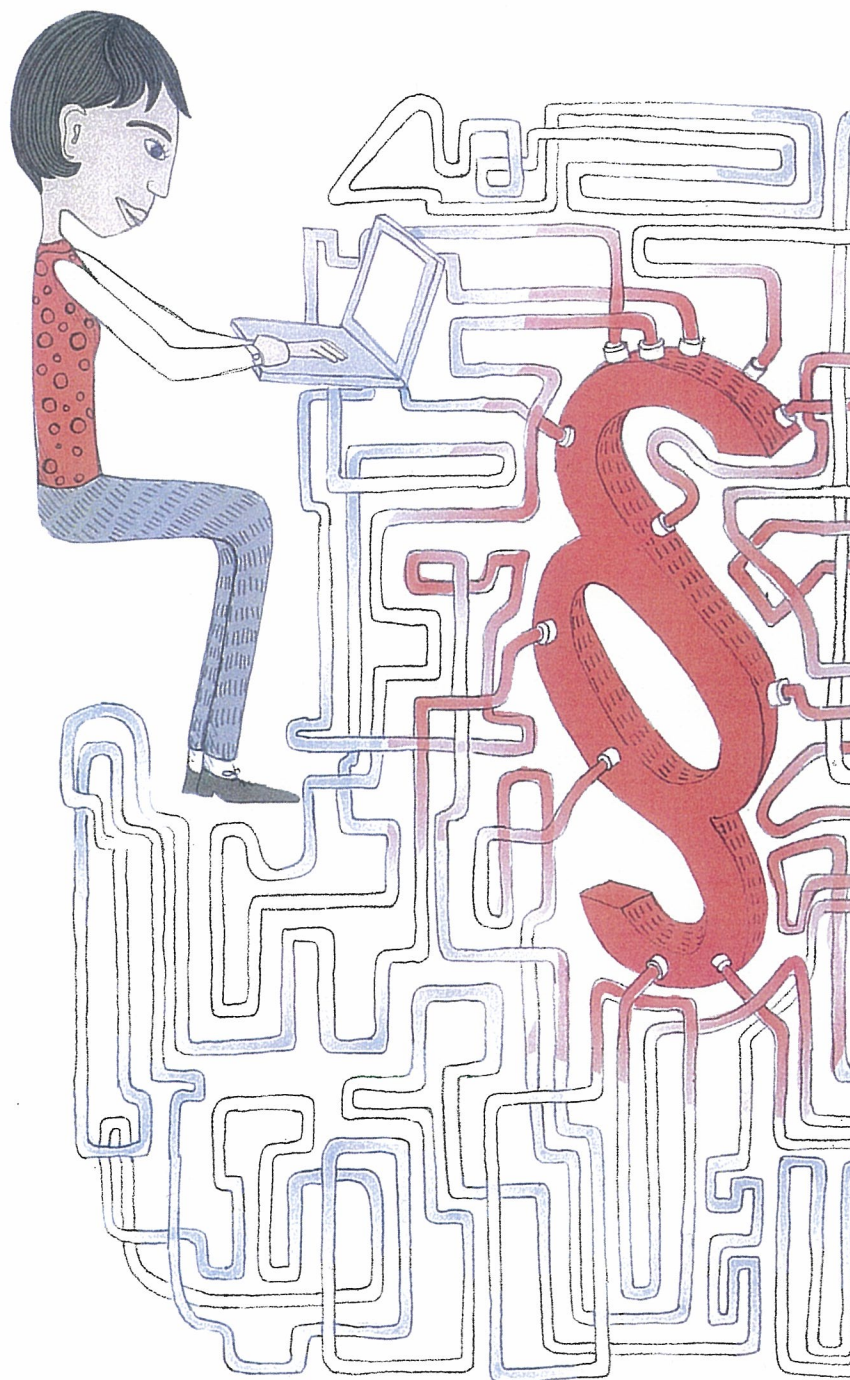


From the Chair

By Sara M. Turner

**M**embership in our committee is a must for the forward-thinking lawyer who strives to remain on the apex of the practice of law.

# We Are All Becoming “Techies”



■ Sara M. Turner is an attorney in the Birmingham, Alabama, office of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC. She has extensive experience representing corporations in federal, state and administrative courts in both Alabama and Minnesota. Ms. Turner's trial work focuses on litigation of product liability, class action, commercial and transportation claims. In addition, her background includes reinsurance and complex insurance coverage matters.



Each year, new technologies continue to change the way we practice law. DRI's Technology Committee offers DRI members regular opportunities to explore and understand real cutting-edge technological advancements that touch

each and every area of the law. Ranging in scope from technology used at trial to social networking, the Technology Committee has one of the fastest growing scopes in DRI. Simply put, membership in the Technology Committee is a must for the forward-thinking lawyer who strives to remain at the apex of the practice of law. If you find yourself regularly perusing Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn and use Skype or text messages to stay in touch with friends and family, the Technology Committee has plenty of opportunities for you to get involved.

#### Build Credentials

Emerging technologies are discovered every day and are used in ways that no one thought was possible. For instance, Apple's iPad was 2010's "hot toy" of the year for techies—but even folks who would never qualify as a typical technology junkie found the iPad practical and useful. Although you might be reading this *FTD* article (once it's posted to DRI Today, <http://www.dritoday.org/ftd.aspx>) on your iPad, you—and fellow defense counsel reading this article—may not realize the iPad's trial capabilities. An article explaining a few nifty tips and tricks helps us all, and helps you to build your credentials and create name recognition by publishing an article through the Technology Committee. The committee's *E-News* newsletter is published at least three times a year, and the committee regularly publishes in *The Voice* and *In-House Defense Quarterly* as well. If you are interested in submitting an article, please contact Catherine Crosby Long of Baker Donelson in Birmingham, Alabama at [clong@bakerdonelson.com](mailto:clong@bakerdonelson.com).

#### Conference In

We regularly conduct webinars and webconferences on technology topics that provide useful information for every lawyer. Whether you're looking for insight into PowerPoints versus ELMOs or the iPhone

over the Droid, our webconferences keep you up-to-speed on the latest technologies that will bring your practice out of the dark ages and into the light. Within the past few years, committee members have provided invaluable instruction on topics ranging from using technology in modern litigation, to the "New Rules" for technology in light of social networking websites. Our webinar chair is always looking for great ideas, and can provide you with the necessary information to log in to one of our can't-miss webinars. Contact Thomas Patrick Owen, Jr., at [tpo@stanleyreuter.com](mailto:tpo@stanleyreuter.com) for more information.

#### Join the Exchange

Beyond the extraordinary networking opportunities available at DRI's Annual Meeting, the Technology Committee presents must-see CLE on wrangling new technology to your advantage. Attendees at the 2010 Annual Meeting in San Diego learned how to employ the Internet in bolstering a defense. Planning for the 2011 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., is underway. If you have a technology topic you'd like to see presented by the Technology Committee, contact our annual meeting chair, Joseph D. Cohen, at [jcohen@porterhedges.com](mailto:jcohen@porterhedges.com).

#### Climb the Ladder

Our committee has set a goal of expanding the circle of committee members involved in speaking, writing and leading. There is still room for increased participation! Our committee is one of the best at successfully advancing our members into positions of leadership within the committee. If you choose to get involved, a committee leadership opportunity will surely follow. The time is now to get involved in the DRI Technology Committee. Please contact me at [smturmer@bakerdonelson.com](mailto:smturmer@bakerdonelson.com) or Vice Chair Chad Goodwin at [cgoodwin@carrallison.com](mailto:cgoodwin@carrallison.com) for more information on how to get involved. We trust that you will enjoy the articles that follow and will find them to be both informative and beneficial to your practice. Slowly but surely it seems that we are all becoming "techies" in one way or another. Join the buzz by becoming a part of our committee today!

