

Constant Contact Survey Results

Survey Name: Gotta Know - a CDLA Member Survey for 2013

Response Status: Partial & Completed

Filter: None

Feb 03, 2013 1:48:36 PM

1. Why are you a member of CDLA? Select all that apply - Other responses

Answer

newsletter/case update
see elow
Shared values
Annual Program
Annual conference is excellent CLE opportunity
Research legal issues
both paid and free cles
CDLA Newsletter
I like Bo
Keeping members informed
Educational materials
Have always been
I like Bo.

1. Why are you a member of CDLA? Select all that apply - Comments

Answer

Frankly, at this point I pay my CDLA dues mostly because belonging is an attribute of being a defense lawyer, and because I get some value from the newsletter and other updates (mostly provided now by Jeff Ruebel). I endorsed the "networking" item, but I haven't regularly attend CDLA functions since the monthly luncheons were abolished. I don't usually attend annual seminars because it has become "CLE light." (See my comment to the last question.) Therefore, I no longer get much "networking.
The organization supports my practice
This is a GREAT organization!
NA
See Above
Considered a requirement to be a defense lawyer when I started. Haven't used the benefits of membership much in recent years.
No Comment
Good people and a great organization.
L
Great group of people

3. What are your areas of practice? answer all that apply - Other responses

Answer

see below.
insurance Regulation/Legislation
Education law
Civil Rights/Public Entity Defense
Mass Tort - Daubert
Discipline defense
Appellate
appeals
environmental
Real Estate
government
Oil & Gas Litigation
Real estate, commercial
Defense of governments/public officials
Real Estate litigation

3. What are your areas of practice? answer all that apply - Comments

Answer

Defense of government entities.
ski, CO2 and explosion cases.
NA
See Above
No Comment

4. What is your primary area of interest in CLE topics? Answer only 1 please - Other responses**Answer**

see below.
All
Hot Topics, is abolishment of sudden emergency defense /andor bill v. paid, col
government
Defense of governments/public officials

4. What is your primary area of interest in CLE topics? Answer only 1 please - Comments**Answer**

ski, CO2, and explosion cases.
NA
See Above
To keep on top of the current case law, etc
No Comment

5. The next two questions concern CDLA's listserve, which provides members with the ability to pose questions, answers and discussions to other CDLA**Answer**

NA
This service has grown through the years and is now a very valuable resource. It puts us on even par with the plaintiff's bar and their listserv.
Not sure I am actively on the list serve, but would like to change that.
I have no excuse. I should use it and consult it more often. Perhaps an occasional reminder and/or index of what has been posted recently would help.
See Above
I just joined so I haven't had the opportunity to use it yet but I'm sure I will. It's a great resource.
Great resource tool
No Comment
I follow the listserve closely, but rarely will I actively post questions. I will respond more than I post, and I think it is a good source for sharing information and ideas.
but it needs to be improved.
Just started to use it but very impressed with the responses.
I do not post much, but I read it frequently.
Never heard of it

6. Which answer below most accurately describes your level of participation and use of CDLA's listserve through review of other members' questions, answers**Answer**

It seems the listserve has become a forum for auto liability practitioners to ask embarrassingly mundane questions that they could get answered by searching the archive or doing some research on their own.
NA
See response to Number 5 above.
See Above
I just joined so I haven't had the opportunity to use it yet but I'm sure I will. It's a great resource.
Great resource tool
No Comment
Never heard of it

7. Please provide information regarding your attendance at the CLE presentations CDLA offered to its members in 2012. - Comments**Answer**

Often times the announcement date of the CLE is so close in proximity to the CLE that I already have a conflict.
More advance notice would help.
NA

Care and Feeding of Your Managing Partner was terrific! The networking afterwards was also appreciated.
PT CLE was great hands-on experience!

Just changed jobs last year so didn't get to as many CLEs as usual.

Was less active this year due to maternity leave.

The free CLEs are appreciated but the past year was busy.

I wasn't a member in 2012 so I didn't attend any of these presentations.

No Comment

Would have appreciated more discussion of the affect of the cited cases, versus as much time reviewing a large number of cases.

Not a member until 2013

no comment

8. (7.continued) Please provide information regarding your attendance at the CLE presentations CDLA offered to its members in 2012. - Comments

Answer

A number of topics were of interest but the dates conflicted with my schedule.

NA

Great CLE at the Palm as well. Informative speakers, great food and a nice atmosphere.

Was less active this year due to maternity leave.

I wasn't a member in 2012 so I didn't attend any of these presentations.

No Comment

did not become a member until late December 2012

no comment

9. Please provide information regarding your attendance at CDLA's networking events held in 2012, which provided opportunities to network with your colleagues

Answer

Could not attend these due to scheduling conflicts, but wanted to.

The events seemed like they would be fun, but work always got in the way.

NA

With the birth of my second child full participation in CDLA events this past year was difficult.

See Above

Was less active this year due to maternity leave.

I wasn't a member in 2012 so I didn't attend any of these presentations.

No Comment

did not become a member until late December 2012

Didn't attend b/c of family conflicts, but I enjoy the networking events and hope to attend future ones, so don't do away with them!

assuming 2012 on the 4th event

No comment

10. In 2013, CDLA will roll out a totally revamped website to improve the search functions of our proprietary database of briefs, deposition transcripts, expert

Answer

I don't own a 4G phone or a tablet.

Improved search ability will be great!!!

I find it very difficult to search the prior entries on the list-serv - to the point where out of frustration I've given up and just posted the question again.

NA

This is great!

See Above

Awesome! Very excited about this!

I can't wait! It will be terrific to have a more searchable database! I visit the CDLA website and list serve archives at least one a week.

No Comment

11. Please evaluate the importance of the factors you consider when deciding whether to attend CDLA's annual conference held in late summer of every year. -

Answer

Since my employer does not reimburse my CDLA expenses, the cost of the annual conference can be too high for me.

Allow for more social interacting. Do not be so worried about the # of CLEs vs our ability to spend time conversing w/ one another.

Other - scheduling conflicts.

I loved Crested Butte last year. Vail was getting stale for me.

I go every year - I consider it a "tradition"

My firm pays for my attendance each year, so cost is not a factor for me personally. I do prefer locations that are closer to Denver. While a beautiful location, I felt Crested Butte was a bit far away.

It's really about cost and scheduling. I've had frequent conflicts, particularly when it was in July. Seeing long time friends.

The location needs to be easily accessible to most CDLA members, which was not the case last year. In general, the quality of the speakers and the quality of the presentations has been good, but there is definitely room for improvement.

12. The 2013 Annual Conference will be held in Beaver Creek, on August 1-3, 2013 and is themed "Jury Wrangling in Colorado." How likely are you to attend the
Answer

The cost and the Copper Triangle Bike Ride is scheduled for August 3, 2013.

My family takes an annual vacation to Hawaii the first 2 weeks in August and has done so for the last 20 years. . .

I already have my CLE credits for the year.

In trial with Curt Sullan....

Only because of a scheduling conflict!

If my firm lets me go.

See Above

My firm no longer pays for attendance, and the cost of the conference and hotel etc is outside my budget.

I will be there!

Meeting dates conflict with another conference at which I'm speaking

No Comment

The ability to obtain credits for CLE's in both Colorado and Wyoming virtually guarantees my attendance if not in trial.

13. Please note the importance of the benefits you receive as part of your CDLA membership. - Comments

Answer

I do not know what CDLA does in terms of lobbying, but think this is a vital part of the defense community's success in the future, esp. in light of how much lobbying power the CTLA has.

See Above

I enjoy receive Caitlin and Jeff's legislative updates.

No Comment

The lobbying is important, but is difficult for those of us who represent general contractors in third-party actions, because we are not always aligned with the majority of the CDLA on legislative topics.

14. Overall, how satisfied are you with your CDLA membership? - Comments

Answer

I am looking forward to the revamped website as it can be difficult to locate briefs and orders on the current website.

This organization has vastly improved under the direction and leadership of Bo.

Bo does an outstanding job. This is a much improved organization since his arrival.

Bo rocks!

See Above

Bo and Donna do a wonderful job. One of the main reasons I am a part of CDLA.

No Comment

I have only been a member for a week, so I am not qualified to answer this.

15. Due to the high attendance at our summer conference and its overall popularity, would you ever want the CDLA to consider moving the conference to a

Answer

Though it might be OK if in Wyoming

Depends on where outside of Colorado

maybe

Depends on the location/cost

No real preference - no opposition

maybe

15. Due to the high attendance at our summer conference and its overall popularity, would you ever want the CDLA to consider moving the conference to a

Answer

We have extraordinary venues in CO; keep it here and support our state economy.

If the conf is held in a smaller venue, scout out alternative venues for lodging, particularly if the hotel has limited room space.

I think attendance would go down significantly if the conference were moved outside Colorado, as many people depend on their firms to pay for the trip and firms may not be willing to shoulder any additional cost.

My firm currently pays for associates to attend the conference every other year. If it was held outside Colorado, they likely would not pay for us to attend.

My response is strictly personal as I do attend outside the state legal seminars that my company sends me to that are in addition to the CDLA..

Not that I've gone in the past few years, but keeping our money in Colorado is being good partners with Colorado business.

See Above

I would prefer Colorado but would consider out of state location as long as it was family friendly.

Moving it outside of Colorado would likely be cost-prohibitive and more likely for me to exclude my family.

I think that might be nice, although, I would likely not attend for reason stated above.

Absolutely keep it in Colorado!!!! I would not want to fly out of state. That would be an unnecessary expense.

Besides, Colorado has all of the resources, activities and attractions we need!

Depends on the time commitment and cost of travel

No Comment

Flying somewhere adds another level of hassle and expense. The ability to make it a weekend thing without missing large amounts of work is what allows for many of the younger members to go. If you move it out of state, you will only have partners at the events.

Moving the conference outside Colorado will increase cost and time involved in attending, and have a negative impact on my, and colleagues, ability/interest in attending.

You must be kidding. You're thinking about making it more difficult and expensive to attend?

My firm would likely not pay for my attendance if it was moved out of state unfortunately.

absolutely not!

16. Please indicate whether you would attend a winter mini-conference at one of Colorado's mountain resorts with the option to participate in winter activities,

Answer

maybe

maybe, depending on timing

Not sure. Depends on cost, timing.

maybe

Depending on the cost

maybe

Gotta have good snow!

Possibly. Depends on the cost.

Maybe, timing and cost are issues

Maybe

possibly

Possibly

Maybe, if the program was good.

possibly

maybe

maybe

17. Please tell us what CDLA can do to improve your overall satisfaction with your membership. - Responses

Answer

I have taken to calling the program content at the annual seminar "CLE light." I wish there was more serious content. Because there isn't, I no longer attend regularly.

I also feel that it is ridiculous to pay speakers many thousands of dollars, especially (though not exclusively) when they have no law-related contribution to make. (I am thinking now of the mountain-climbing author from some years ago (Brashears?), although there have been others.

See above re: timing of announcement of free CLEs, drinks at the summer conf and lodging.

Make the listserve postings word searchable. The current set up with words docs of postings by months is not helpful.

Very good as is.

I think CDLA does a great job. I would, obviously, like more workers' comp programing.

More communication on the state of the organization. There wasn't even an email notifying the members of the results of the appointments of board members and other positions this past year. Keep the membership informed.

Once the new website is up and running, it would be useful to systematically encourage members to post briefs and orders. It would also be useful, if it is not being done already, to attempt to categorize briefs and orders more thoroughly as Westlaw does to ensure ease of use.

Doing a good job

Make documents, pleadings, depositions more accessible.

NA

Looking forward to the new website!

n/a. CDLA rocks!

Doing great job.

Offer reduced membership rates to insurance companies' in house counsel - many have to pay their own way, limiting access to networking opportunities to the membership.

See Above

The process of electing CDLA officials changed for the worse several years ago. Bring back the popular election of the Board, for greater accountability and better representation. The "star chamber" method of interviewing for CDLA board members by a few selected people on a committee has not been successful in getting the best Board members.

I think the updated website will be a big improvement. The most important thing to me is ease in searching briefs, transcripts and topics from the list serve.

I like the idea of updating the website and search features. I can't wait to see the improvements.

Doing a good job.

Improving the searchability of the website will be a great benefit.

I am hopeful the new website will be user friendly with better access to common legal issues, research, briefs and motions.

I think the mid-year Conference is an excellent idea!

I am generally satisfied. the data base searchability and the ability to search list serve discussions would be helpful.

Keep up the good work!

I'm a happy member right now.

I have not been to the annual conference in years because my experience and what I hear from others is that the educational value is minimal (material is too basic).

Too many "replies to all" list serve.

CDLA should disseminate more info on what is available and how to use the web site.

Thanks!

I just don't have that much time to participate in CDLA events as often as I would like to but i appreciate that CDLA is there and available when I need it. A more user friendly website will be appreciated.

No additional comments.

In addition to the above, encourage members to be more circumspect about all of the message on the Listserv.

On-line dues payment and membership renewal

High quality CLE's with an emphasis on trial strategies.