

Declaration of Candidacy

Candidates for election as Second Vice President or Director Elected Nationally must complete this form and submit it to the Executive Director at the principal headquarters of DRI by 5:00 PM (CDT) on July 1st of the year in which the election is held.

National Director Requirements - Directors Elected Nationally or by Region must be Individual Members of the Corporation admitted to the practice of law. Each such director must meet the following qualifications at the time of election: (a) The candidate shall have been a DRI member for a total of at least five (5) years, and (b) The candidate shall have been a member of at least one DRI substantive law committee for at least three (3) years, and (c) The candidate must have registered for and attended at least one (1) DRI Annual Meeting within the previous three (3) years, and, within the three (3) years prior to the final day of the Annual Meeting, the candidate must have 1) registered for and attended at least two (2) DRI seminars, or 2) registered for and attended one (1) DRI seminar and one (1) DRI Regional Meeting.

Position sought

Second Vice President* Secretary- Treasurer National Director

*If you have declared your candidacy for Second Vice President and are not the successful candidate, will you consider the Secretary - Treasurer Officer position?

Yes No

Name	Jason B. Hendren		
Firm/Company	Wright, Lindsey & Jennings, LLP		
Address	3333 Pinnacle Hills Pkwy, Ste. 510, Rogers, AR 72758		
Telephone	(479) 631-3277	Cell Phone	(479) 304-8884
E-mail	JHendren@wlj.com		
Born (location)	Gravette, AR		
Education	BA English & Communications, Univ. of Ark. 1994 (with honors) JD, UALR Bowen School of Law 1997 (with honors)		

Awards and achievements Mid-South Super Lawyers (2012-present); Chambers USA (2014);
Ark. Bar Foundation Legal Writing Award (1997); Adjunct Professor UALR Bowen (Trial
Team Coach 2000); Published in UALR Law Journal (1997 & 2005); Litigation Counsel of
America (2017); Martindale-Hubbell BV rating; UALR Bowen Alumni Board of Directors
(Pres. 2014-15); UALR Bowen Dean's Advisory Council (2016-present); Arkansas Bar
Foundation Vice President, Sustaining Fellow and Member of the Board of Directors
(Northwest District); Special Associate Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court (2017).

Areas of practice Medical Malpractice; Insurance Defense; General Litigation

Years as a defense attorney 20

Employment history Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP (1996-2014);
Wright, Lindsey & Jennings, LLP, Rogers (2015-present).

Noteworthy defense work: Handled hundreds of complex medical malpractice cases across the
state of Arkansas; numerous trials as first chair defense attorney in high-value cases; thought to
be the only attorney in Arkansas to try an EMTALA case to verdict; numerous appellate victories
including *Venable v. Fred's, Inc.*, 2014 Ark. App. 286.

Professional affiliations: Member of the following Bar Associations: Arkansas (1997); United
States Supreme Court (2009); US Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals (1997); US District Court (E.D.
& W.D. Ark. 1997); and US Tax Court (2000). W. B. Putman American Inn of Court (Barrister).

DRI member since 2006 (Member ID: 287897)

Please describe your previous involvement in DRI, including but not limited to, leadership
positions held. Projects contributed to, Committee memberships, presentations given, and
written materials authored. Special accomplishments should also be noted.

Arkansas State Representative (2014-17); Exceptional Performance Citation (2013).
Committees: Legal Ethics and Professionalism Committee (2006); Drug and Medical Device;
Medical Liability and Health Care Law; Membership; SLDO Relationship; Southwest Region
Community; and Trial Tactics. Attended numerous Annual Meetings (2013-16); SW Regional
Meetings (2013-17); Leadership Conferences (2014-17); and Medical Liability and Health Care
Law Seminars.

List any leadership roles in other defense organizations. Arkansas Association of Defense
Counsel: Program Chair for Annual Meeting (2005); Secretary-Treasurer (2011-12); Vice
President (2012-13); President (2013-14). Recognized by DRI for my work on behalf of AADC
with an *Exceptional Performance Citation* presented to me at our 2014 Annual Meeting.

Describe your goals if you are elected to the above position. My goals are to serve as Vice Chairman of one of the DRI standing committees (preferably Membership, SLDO Relationship or DRI for Life), and then succeed to Chairman. I would also like to focus on enhancing DRI's influence and involvement in smaller states like Arkansas.

What do you believe is the most important issue confronting the defense bar? There are several, including the increasing constraints of tort reform; the decreasing opportunity for civil jury trials; the lack of access to justice in smaller, rural communities; and the vulnerability of local attorneys to competition from out-of-state attorneys who obtain *pro hac vice* admission.

Define the appropriate role for DRI as the national defense bar organization. DRI needs to take the lead in terms of increasing diversity in the defense bar, increasing coordination and cooperation between in-house corporate attorneys and the defense bar, increasing the involvement (in DRI) of defense attorneys in smaller, rural areas of the country, working with national, state and local officials to collaborate on important legislative issues; enhancing the skills and professionalism of defense lawyers in general, and increasing the awareness of trial and appellate judges in terms of complicated and sophisticated legal issues facing our clients.

Hobbies and/or interests: Reading, cooking, traveling, and spending time with my family.

Family: Wife (and high school sweetheart) Tracey and our four children: Sam (14); Ethan (12); Molly (12) and Amelia (10). Tracey insists that I also include our two cats: Stella (8) and Wemedge (8).
