



OHIO ASSOCIATION OF CIVIL TRIAL ATTORNEYS  
The Source for Defense Success

# THE UPDATE

## NEWS & PRACTICE POINTERS FROM OACTA

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2023 OACTA President

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### President's Message

**By: David W. Orlandini**  
**2023 OACTA President**



I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and their vacations. This is a great time of the year to slow down and recharge.

While you are partaking in a fun cookout with friends and family, OACTA is working to put together the Litigation and Trial Skills workshop. This program will take place on Friday, August 18, 2023, at the SEA Ltd, facility in Columbus. This will be a one-day workshop styled program focusing on trial skills, such as voir dire, opening statements, cross and direct of expert witnesses, closing arguments, and post-verdict issues. This is a great opportunity to supplement the training of the attorneys in your office and to learn from some of the best trial attorneys and experts in Ohio.

The next Coffee Chat is July 21, 2023, between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. over Zoom. David "Chip" Comstock, Jr. will lead a discussion centered around the recent fires and train derailments that have occurred in and around Ohio.

The Lunch and Learn series will also continue this summer with Robson Forensic, Inc. putting on a webinar on the "The Combined Effect of Alcohol and Cannabis on Driving Impairment." This relevant and timely presentation will take place on August 30, 2023, between 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

After spending your summer honing your golf skills, OACTA invites you to show off your talents at the annual OACTA Foundation Golf Outing. This event will take place on September 5, 2023, at Pinnacle Golf Club in Grove City, Ohio. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this fun event.

Finally, please mark your calendar for the OACTA Annual Meeting scheduled for November 9-10 in Columbus.

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Save the Date!  
Annual Meeting

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**OACTA Board of  
Trustees**

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**Mark Your Calendar!**

**July 21, 2023**

OACTA Coffee Chat  
via Zoom

**[Register Today!](#)**

**August 18 2023**

OACTA Litigation & Trial Skills Workshop  
S-E-A, Ltd.  
7001 Buffalo Parkway  
Columbus, OH

**[Register Today!](#)**

**August 30, 2023**

OACTA Webinar  
"The Combined Effect of Alcohol and Cannabis  
on Driving Impairment"  
Noon-1:00 p.m.

**[Register Today!](#)**

***Sponsored by Robson Forensic Inc.***

**September 5, 2023**

OACTA Foundation Golf Outing  
Pinnacle Golf Club  
Grove City, OH

**[Register Today!](#)**

**November 9-10, 2023**

OACTA Annual Meeting  
Hyatt Regency Columbus  
Columbus, OH

**Save the Date!**



## 2023 Changes to Ohio Civil and Evidence Rules

A summary of recent **Changes to the Civil Rules** and **Changes to Ohio Evidence Rules** has been prepared by OACTA members **James L. McCrystal, Jr.**, Sutter O'Connell, and **Thomas F. Glassman**, Bonezzi, Switzer Polito & Hupp.

View the summary [HERE](#).

Copies of the 2023 Civil and Evidence Rules with Staff Notes in PDF format can be found and downloaded from the following sites:

<https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/docs/LegalResources/Rules/civil/CivilProcedure.pdf>

<https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/docs/LegalResources/Rules/evidence/evidence.pdf>

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## OACTA Award Nominations

### ***Consider nominating a colleague for an OACTA Award!***

OACTA welcomes members to submit nominations for any of the following OACTA awards:

- Excellence in Advocacy Award
- Respected Advocate Award
- Outstanding Advocacy Award
- Outstanding Young Lawyer Award
- Public Service Award
- Distinguished Contributions to the Profession Award

Nominations are to include a completed [Nomination Form](#) and written description of why you believe this candidate should be considered for the award.

View the [award descriptions and list of past recipients](#) or visit [www.oacta.org](http://www.oacta.org) for more information.

Nominations are due to the OACTA office by August 1st.

Awards are presented at the OACTA Annual Meeting in November at the Hyatt Regency Columbus.



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## Welcome New OACTA Members Since April!

**Scott Andrews**, Central Insurance Co.  
**Sarah Bertschy**, Capital University Law School  
**Carolyn Chin**, Capital University Law School  
**Raven Clark**, Northern Kentucky University  
**Mackenzie Compton**, Weston Hurd, LLP  
**Alexandra (Alex) Dixon**, Capital University Law School  
**Mariam Makni**, Capital University Law School  
**Natalie McBride**, Capital University Law School  
**Bryan Pritikin**, Carlile Patchen & Murphy LLP

**Justin Przedziecki**, Poling Law  
**Patrick Quallich**, Nationwide  
**Robert Read**, Case Western Reserve University  
**Lucy Reed**, Gallagher Gams Tallan Barnes & Littrell  
**Averee Richardson**, University of Dayton Law School  
**Milas Stevens**, Capital University Law School  
**Michala Stewart**, Capital University Law School  
**Deedra Thompson**, Cleveland State University  
**Bryce Walker**, University of Dayton Law School



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## OACTA Litigation and Trial Skills Workshop

Every other year OACTA conducts a Litigation and Trial Skills Workshop designed for new or young attorneys, as well as more experienced attorneys who want to brush up on their litigation and trial skills. This workshop is a great opportunity for firms, large and small, to send attorneys for some in-depth education. This one-day workshop will be held on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> and offers 6.75 CLE credits in Ohio and Kentucky. Members and non-members are welcome!

Presentations include:

- Adapting to Changing Juror Profiles: Strategies to Address the Rise in Nuclear Verdicts
- Opening Statements
- Effective Cross-Examination of Plaintiff's Experts
- Mechanics of a Persuasive Direct Examination of Your Own Experts
- Closing Arguments
- Post-Verdict Procedure for Polling the Jury and Post-Trial Motions

Thank you to S-E-A Ltd. for hosting this workshop at their Columbus office! We hope to see you there!

[Learn More & Register Today!](#)



**Know.**

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**U.S. Supreme Court Decides That Companies May Be Deemed to Have Consented**

## to General Personal Jurisdiction in States Where They Are Registered to Do Business

*By John B. Pinney, Partner, Bricker Graydon LLP*

In a case issued on June 27, 2023, a divided Supreme Court decided another important personal jurisdiction case – ***Mallory v. Norfolk Southern Railway Co.***, 2023 WL 4187749. The principal issue was whether a foreign corporation that registers to do business in a state will be deemed to have consented to the personal jurisdiction of that state’s courts (and correspondingly the federal courts in the state for diversity cases). The answer was a qualified “yes,” which suggests that an out-of-state company that is registered to do business in Ohio might be deemed to have agreed to be subject to general personal jurisdiction in Ohio courts irrespective of whether the underlying cause of action has any connection with the state.

[Read Full Article](#)

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### Women In The Law Committee Events



**Cincinnati event at  
Ghost Baby in Over the Rhine**



**Columbus event at the  
Columbus Museum of Art**

Members of the OACTA Women in the Law Committee met simultaneously in Ohio’s “Three C Cities” on June 15<sup>th</sup> for an after-work wind-down. Nicole Mitchell coordinated the Cincinnati event at Ghost Baby in Over the Rhine. Gretchen Mote organized in Columbus for BAM (Bar Art Music) at the Columbus Museum of Art. Karen Ross and Elisabeth Arko facilitated the gathering in Cleveland at Lindey’s Lakehouse. Everyone attending had a great time in these informal settings sharing conversation, food and networking!

The OACTA WIL Committee is beginning to make plans for the **2024 Regional Women in the Law Summit** to be held again in Cincinnati! Mark your calendars and save the dates, **April 25-26, 2024!** It’s sure to be another outstanding regional summit you won’t want to miss!

If you have ideas for the OACTA WIL Committee, please contact your OACTA WIL Committee Co-Chairs, Nicole Mitchell, [nmitchell@garveyshearer.com](mailto:nmitchell@garveyshearer.com), and Gretchen Mote, [gmote@oblic.com](mailto:gmote@oblic.com).

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## OACTA Coffee Chat

Join your peers at an OACTA Coffee Chat via Zoom! The next coffee chat will be held on **Friday, July 21 at 8:30 a.m.** The topic of discussion will be recent fires and train derailments.

**Save the date!**



[Register Today!](#)



## Upcoming OACTA Lunch & Learn Webinar

**The Combined Effect of Alcohol and Cannabis on Driving Impairment**

**Wednesday, August 30, 2023 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM**

***This webinar is sponsored by Robson Forensic and FREE to OACTA members.***

THE EXPERTS  
**Robson  
Forensic**

Alcohol or cannabis use alone are the most common and second most common detected drugs in fatally injured drivers, respectively. One in three traffic fatalities was attributed to alcohol in 2020 while the percent of motor vehicles crash fatalities positive for any cannabinoid increased from 9% in 2000 to 21.5% in 2018. Aside from co-use with tobacco, alcohol and cannabis are the most commonly co-used substances nationwide.

Join us as we hear from Dr. Michael Whitekus on the effects of these substances when used alone and in combination as related to driving impairment.

[Learn More & Register!](#)

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

**Ohio's Justice McLean: The Unappreciated Dred Scott Dissenter**



In addition to his stellar service in Congress and as U.S. Postmaster General, John McLean served on both the Ohio Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court. McLean became the 22nd Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court and served for more than 30 years until his death in 1861. As his biographer explained: "His lifelong battle against the nationalization of slavery by the Court was often futile, but he remained a voice for freedom, however lonely, on a Court dominated by judges who never knew the meaning of their own title—Justice— when it came to slavery and race." See Paul Finkelman, *John McLean: Moderate Abolitionist and Supreme Court Politician* (62 Vanderbilt Law Review 2, 2009). His voice for freedom resonated as one of the two lone dissenters in the infamous *Dred Scott* decision.

[Read Full Article](#)

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## THE EXPERTS **Robson Forensic**

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### Annual Meeting Save the Date

**November 9-10, 2023**  
OACTA 2023 Annual Meeting  
The Hyatt Regency  
Columbus, OH

*More information coming soon!*



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### OACTA Can Help You...

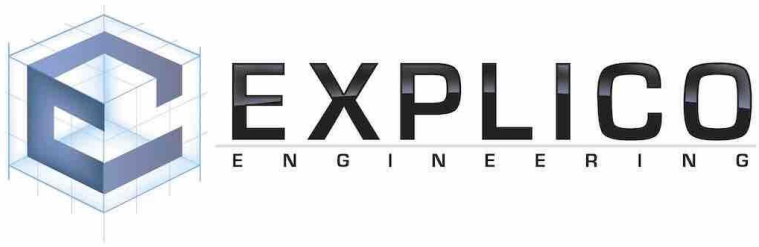
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