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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Defense Counsel of Rhode Island Elects Officers and Directors at Annual Meeting**

PROVIDENCE, RI – Defense Counsel of Rhode Island held its Annual Meeting on June 19, 2008 at The University Club in Providence, Rhode Island. A reception was sponsored by Capitol Court Reporting and promotional assistance was provided by WarRoom Document Solutions.

The featured speaker was Judge William E. Smith, United States District Court, District of Rhode Island. Judge Smith spoke about the federal judiciary and gave his insights into the issues involving caseloads and decreasing jury trials.

Brooks R. Magratten, the DRI Northeast Regional Director, extended his congratulations to outgoing president Michael J. Reed, Jr. on his successful tenure in office. A plaque expressing appreciation to Mr. Reed was also presented by incoming president Robert J. Quigley, Jr.

The officers and directors elected for 2008 - 2009 are:

President	Robert J. Quigley, Jr. of McKenney, Quigley, Izzo & Clarkin
President-Elect:	Brooks R. Magratten of Vetter & White
Vice President:	Howard A. Merten of Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP
Secretary:	Rebecca McSweeney of Jackson Lewis LLP
Treasurer:	Amy Beretta of the Law Offices of Amy Beretta
Directors:	Stephen B. Lang of Higgins, Cavanagh & Cooney, LLP Faith A. LaSalle of the Law Offices of Faith A. LaSalle Holly R. Rao of Olenn & Penza, LLP Rajaram Suryanarayan of Gunning & LaFazia

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Continuing on the board of directors are:

Michael J. Reed, Jr. of the Law Offices of Michael J. Reed, Jr.  
(Past President)

Kelly N. Michels of Hanson Curran LLP  
(DRI State Representative)

Joel K. Gerstenblatt of Gerstenblatt Law Offices, Ltd

James V. Murray of the Law Offices of James V. Murray

Patricia K. Rocha of Adler Pollock & Sheehan, P.C.

William F. White of White, Carlin & Kelly, P.C.

Defense Counsel of Rhode Island is the state association of lawyers whose practice primarily involves representing defendants in civil cases. Members of DCRI include lawyers engaged in private practice, corporate counsel and insurance company counsel. DCRI provides educational and support services for its members. DCRI also serves as an advocate for its members on legislative issues that impact the defense bar and the judicial system.