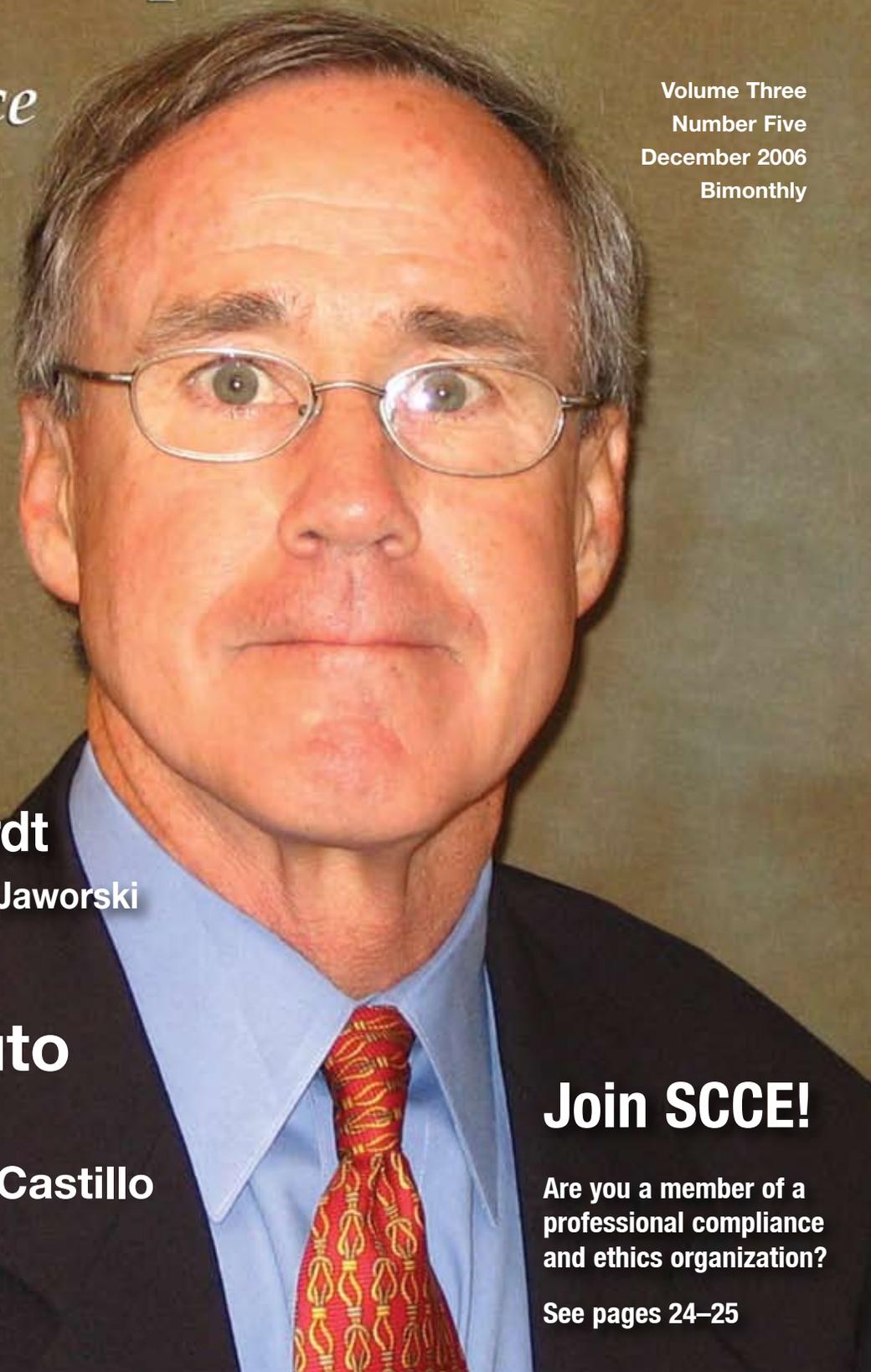




# Society of Corporate Compliance & Ethics

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**Meet  
Hal Degenhardt**  
Partner, Fulbright & Jaworski

**“The Caputo  
Opinion”**  
Judge Ruben Castillo  
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**Join SCCE!**

Are you a member of a  
professional compliance  
and ethics organization?

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# Letter from the CEO

**ROY SNELL**

## **SCCE participates in a panel at the United Nation's Conference in Warsaw**

As a result of Enron, WorldCom, Tyco, Hewlett-Packard, and many other companies, corporate compliance is a rapidly growing profession. Christian and Timbers, a leading executive search firm, lists it as the third-hottest growing job in all industries. SCCE finds itself in the middle of significant industry change and development.

Many of the companies that are involved in SCCE are multinationals. Although the challenges for a compliance professional in the retail industry are somewhat less complex than in health care (where annual fines and penalties tower over many other industries), when you add in the multinational component, the challenges for some of these other industries rival health care. You may have employees in countries with different laws and cultures that, at times, may conflict. For example, France and Germany have different laws than most other countries regarding the use of anonymous reporting mechanisms, such as hotlines.

As a result of these international conflicts and increased interest in compliance, SCCE has had some interesting requests in the past couple of months. We've had two requests to speak in Warsaw, Poland, and one in Israel. All of these offers came with a commitment to cover expenses. The opportunities came with little notice, and we declined two of them due to the timing and other factors

The one request we did agree to came from the United Nations Conference on Anti-Corruption Measures, Good Governance and Human Rights. The main objective of this conference, which had a practical approach, was to advance the understanding of good governance practices that contribute to the fight against corruption by focusing on human rights. SCCE was invited to participate as a panelist representing compliance and ethics, with a focus on what the private sector could do to help fight corruption and promote human rights. We were honored that Global Compact, an organization serving the United Nations, recommended SCCE

for this panel. Global Compact came into existence in 1999, when the United Nations Secretary challenged business leaders to join an international initiative – the Global Compact. Their mission was to bring companies together with UN agencies, labor, and civil society to

support universal environmental and social principles. The Global Compact comprises approximately 2,800 companies from 90 countries around the world that have made a commitment to promote corporate compliance with law, rules, regulations, and ethical behavior. They are purely a voluntary initiative with two objectives; to maintain ten designated principles in business activities around the world, and to catalyze actions in support of UN goals. This past year, SCCE has been successful in establishing a working relationship with the Global Compact and we are discussing a possible international conference targeted toward Global Compact members. Our focus would be to provide the practical information needed to create and maintain compliance programs that would comply with the ten designated principles in the areas of human rights, labor, the environment and anti-corruption.

As a panelist, I shared the fundamental concepts of compliance programs and discussed the numerous efforts around the world to promote compliance with the rule of law. Specifically, I mentioned that many Stock Exchanges now have requirements that promote compliance with the rule of law. Several international banks, such as the World Bank, are involved in efforts to promote compliance with the rule of law. Participation in this meeting was one small step for SCCE that may lead to bigger things.

There are those who may prefer to redirect the current trend toward strong compliance programs in business. Our leadership (particularly Odell Guyton, Joe Murphy, and Dan Roach) has pondered the potential consequences of letting the profession be shaped by people who do not have our profession's best interests in mind. There are scenarios that could potentially cause a negative impact on the compliance profession, and also may cause it to revert back to the way it was before compliance became such an important player in business. That would not only bode poorly for compliance professionals, but it would also not bode well for business. As a result, we will continue to have a presence in the compliance industry. With our presence at the United Nations conference, SCCE took a significant step towards establishing a working relationship with many international companies in the future. ■



**ROY SNELL**