# **CUMBERLAND LAWYER**







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Pictured on the left:

Second-year student Kirkland Back, Lisha Graham '09 and Laura Gibson '92 take a photo break at the 2018 Jere F. White Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute.

Cover:

Dean Corky Strickland in his first-year civil procedure class

We hope you find this publication informative. If there are stories and topics you would like to see in future issues, please let us know. This is your publication, and we need your feedback. We welcome your feedback at **cumberlandlawyer@samford.edu.** 

#### FROM THE DEAN



# Strategic Plan

Legal education and the legal profession continue to go through a time of profound transition. Against that backdrop, Cumberland School of Law engaged over the past year in a strategic planning process to chart the next chapter of its growth and success. While remaining committed to its mission to "educate a diverse community of students with knowledge and practical skills, equipping them to become highly competent, ethical lawyers committed to professionalism and public service," everyone affiliated with the school recognizes that we must achieve that mission in a changed and changing environment.

The resulting strategic plan will seize opportunities to better prepare our students for the evolving 21st-century legal market, better serve our overall community and make Cumberland a stronger institution. By implementing the strategic plan, we will:

- Fashion an engaging and innovative curriculum that provides both a superior foundation to ensure bar exam passage and a coherent three-year progression that prepares students for 21st-century legal careers;
- Strengthen and expand Cumberland's nationally recognized advocacy program and develop additional signature programs that will benefit students and enhance the school's reputation;
- Promote student achievement by strengthening academic support services, strengthening writing skills and better equipping students with the skills, practical experiences and resources needed to succeed in their preferred career paths;
- Expand opportunities for public service and spiritual growth;
- Recruit, retain and support outstanding teacher-scholars by supporting faculty scholarship and encouraging innovative teaching and mentoring; and
- Establish a clear identity and brand for Cumberland and develop a coordinated strategy to share the brand with stakeholders, local and national audiences, and prospective students.

We developed the strategic plan with the assistance of Clarus Consulting Group. Working with a steering committee, Clarus conducted a listening session with our advisory board; surveyed the faculty and staff; conducted interviews with alumni, faculty, representatives of the broader business and legal community, and leadership of Samford University; and led a planning retreat. Faculty and staff continue to work on details of the plan, but I wanted to go ahead and share with you the plan's general goals and directions.

I look forward to discussing the strategic plan with you in detail at upcoming alumni gatherings and in future publications and newsletters. Some parts of the plan are ambitious and will require much work. Some will require additional funds. Cumberland alumni have already contributed valuable input and feedback to shape the plan, and we will seek your help again to execute it. With your help and the extraordinary work of Cumberland's faculty and staff, we will implement the plan and make our law school even stronger and better.

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# FROM THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

I had in mind a different topic for this short note, but after meeting with students most of the day, I decided to scrap it and instead answer a question I was recently asked, "What part of your role at Cumberland do you really love?" Easy to answer, yet difficult limiting my response to just one thing. In fact, I could write a lot, but I'll spare you.

The best part of my job at Cumberland School of Law is meeting and connecting really good people—most are lawyers, most of those are Cumberland lawyers, some are the law students. I meet lawyers working in nontraditional legal roles and practicing law in vastly unique places and spaces; as well as students being trained and working hard to do the same. Meeting you is just where the fun starts. The next part is sharing your stories or successes, and news about honorable service, unexpected awards, honors, promotions and appointments; as well as counseling students including suggestions of lawyers they should meet and get to know.

That's the best part—sharing information about the work and service of Cumberland alumni with our students (and prospective students) because I see inspiration in their faces and excitement about their own professional future. That is fun and inspiring to me.

The cherry on the cake is that I get to work next door to an Einstein's Bagels, a Chick-fil-A and O'Henry's Coffee, on beautiful grounds, surrounded by brilliant professors. Come visit us at your law school, find your class composite picture and tell me your story. I'd love to listen and share it if I may.



Anne Marovich
Director, Office of Alumni Relations

Join your Cumberland community!







#### Have you moved? Changed jobs or addresses? Received an award or honor?

Cumberland Connections is our digital alumni newsletter published five times per year and the *Cumberland Lawyer* magazine is mailed biannually.

Send us news about your new role or award, a marriage or birth announcement to publish in Class Notes, and submit updated contact information.

#### Go to

samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/update-your-info or email amarovic@samford.edu.

Stay connected to your classmates and the Cumberland School of Law alumni network! We can help you to do so.



# 2018 December Commencement

Samford University awarded 264 bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees during its winter commencement on Saturday, Dec. 15. The joint ceremony included graduates from schools across campus and Cumberland School of Law.

Timothy George, founding dean of Samford's Beeson Divinity School, delivered the commencement address. Through an exploration of the words on Samford's seal—Deo, Doctrinae, Aeternitati—For God, for learning, forever—George encouraged graduates to cherish the values of a "life fit for eternity."



Juris Doctor graduates from left, Michelle Herd, Christian Flowers, LaTracyenne Kennie-Miller and William Geiske Not Pictured: Carson Cash, Kacey Cooper, LizMarie Gaiter



Master of Science in health law and policy graduates from left, Linda Burns, Lee Brooks, Shelly Collins, Nancy Carr, Abigail Coplin Keller, Rebecca Hayslett, Arina Riley, Rochelle Wallace and Louis Hatcher











Lee Brooks, M.S. '18, and his son, Tyler Brooks '17 Not pictured: Brooks' daughter, Baleigh Brooks, senior at Samford University

# Cumberland's Public Interest Program Serving with Distinction

"During my first-year orientation, Judge Carroll detailed the importance of two core values that all attorneys must possess— ethics and service to others," said Brandi Russell '16. "The Public Interest Program afforded me unique hands-on opportunities to hone my purpose and to make a lasting impact in my community."

The Public Interest Program (PIP) has been a been a cornerstone program at Cumberland School of Law for almost two decades. Current students and graduates have participated in the program and have annually donated thousands of volunteer hours to local, state, national and international communities. Mainstay projects within the PIP include the annual first-year community service project, where more than 90 percent of the incoming class volunteers more than 550 hours in one day to help organizations throughout the greater Birmingham area.

Steve Rygiel '09, director of the Aiding Alabama Legal Program with Birmingham Aids Outreach, was an active and early participant. "The Public Interest Program manifests the credo of the Alabama State Bar: Lawyers Render Service," Rygiel said. "By emphasizing the role all lawyers occupy as public servants, the PIP affords its participants unique opportunities to speak for underrepresented causes and people who may be excluded from access to justice without such advocacy."

Law students are able to volunteer during Celebrate Pro Bono month every October and work alongside volunteer attorneys at the Wills for Heroes and Senior Citizens Wills Clinics that Cumberland hosts throughout Jefferson County.

Ben Cohn '11 notes, "Cumberland's Public Interest Program is invaluable for the community. It helps shape the education and minds of the law students through real life experiences, while providing the community with resources and legal services to people and families in need."

Cumberland students are important players in the success of the annual Project Homeless Connect event that is held at the Boutwell Auditorium. Every year, more than 600 homeless or near homeless individuals are provided much needed services to help move them into a more stable life situation.

"The Public Interest Program was a central component to my



legal education at Cumberland," said Amy Chiou '18. "It is our responsibility as professionals to take the knowledge that we have learned to better our community."

Last fall, the PIP launched a law student mediation program with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) Birmingham office. Law students will provide pro bono mediation services to individuals who are going through the complaint process in an effort to assist the EEOC in moving cases through their system.

Brian Hayes '15 is a volunteer mediator with Cumberland's Community Mediation Center. "For many people, this is their only experience with an attorney outside of television commercials, and calling a firm only to realize the firm wants a large retainer and hundreds of dollars per hour," Hayes said. "The PIP is a counterbalance to the negative misconceptions about attorneys and what we do for a living."

As Hilaire Armstrong '16 eloquently states, "The best legal services you can provide are for those who can give you nothing in return. That is what public interest work is all about. It has been the highlight of my legal career to provide legal assistance to those who need it most. The PIP was where it all began."

The PIP is a platform for law students to actively participate and develop their commitment to serving the community by developing their skills as future lawyers. The dedication, excellence and professionalism that Cumberland students exercise while serving the community reflects and puts into action the mission, vison and core values of Samford University and the legal profession. Now that's serving with distinction.

By Cassandra Adams Assistant Dean, Public Interest Program Director, Cumberland Community Mediation Center

See table of contents for our students volunteering at the February 2019 Project Homeless Connect event put on by Volunteer Lawyers Birmingham.

# New Legal Minds Entering the Market . . . How You Can Help

I have met Cumberland alumni in small towns across Alabama, in the bustle of Washington, D.C., and in the heart of Dallas, and I always hear the same question everywhere I go, "How can I help?" I hear that exact question from Cumberland alumni whether it's coming from the greenest associate or the president of a company. I think it's an incredible testament to any institution when people feel compelled not just to reflect on the past, but to take an active role in shaping the future.

My answer to that question is always the same, "Hire a student or a graduate." I know exciting efforts are underway to renovate classrooms and support scholarships for the next generation of lawyers, but I can't think of anything more life changing than giving a Cumberland student or graduate the chance to gain invaluable experience and prove themselves to your organization.

Whether you practice law or use your legal training in other ways, whether you practice in Alabama or across the nation, we can help connect you to Cumberland students and graduates who are ready to work in your city and field. There are Cumberland students and graduates ready to work in your city and your field. I urge you to reach out to our career office and share an opportunity with our recent group of students and graduates. Cumberland's recent graduates and students are passionate, smart and capable men and women. We need more job opportunities to help them grow.

Help Cumberland expand our on-campus interviewing (OCI) program by asking your firms to participate this fall or next spring. Reach out to our career office and post a job opportunity for a student or graduate. Join your firm's hiring committee and ask to include Cumberland resumes. If you can't hire or encourage your organization to hire, be willing to offer your own career advice to students.



I've seen the potential of Cumberland students because I've met so many of you. You're changing your firms, entire industries and serving as integral components of justice. I also know from talking to so many of you that you often started your current role because you worked hard and because someone gave you a chance. I invite you all now to create an opportunity and to give a Cumberland student a chance.

Thank you,
G. Allen Howell
Assistant Dean of External Relations and Career Development

# Fall and spring on-campus interviewing (OCI) dates

Employer registration opens March 28, 2019

Fall OCIs begin: Aug. 12, 2019 Fall OCIs end: Oct. 4, 2019 Employer registration opens Oct. 22, 2019

Spring OCIs begin: Feb. 3, 2020

SPRING BREAK TBA

Spring OCIs end: March 27, 2020

Recruitment Analytics System for Cumberland and Legal Employers (R.A.S.C.A.L.) law-samford.12twenty.com/hire

# From Law School to Ben & Jerry's— Influencing Social Change Through Ice Cream

"People often assume that the field of philanthropy is simply awarding grants to good organizations, but the field is much more sophisticated than that," said L. Simone Washington, global social equity manager for Ben & Jerry's Homemade Inc. in South Burlington, Vermont.

After serving as director of programs for the Community Foundation of South Alabama and consulting with national grantmaking foundations, Washington applied for her role at Ben & Jerry's in 2016.

"A couple of weeks before I applied, the company made a statement in support of racial justice. I recall telling a friend 'This is the type of company that I see myself working for. They get it!'," Washington said. "I loved the idea that a global company was willing to use its power as a beloved brand and global corporation to make bold statements in support of social justice. Its values and mission aligned with my own professional mission."

In this nontraditional role for those with legal backgrounds, Washington leads the company's global diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. Her work is centered around creating progressive structural change using a racial equity lens with an emphasis on systems thinking and design.

Throughout her career, she has contributed extensively to helping promote racial and economic equity by consulting with some of the nation's leading foundations including Casey Family Programs, Robert Wood Johnson, Open Society and Kellogg Foundations.

"I believe there is that moment in time where people begin to recognize that we have to have diversity in our world," Washington said. "We are starting to realize that our businesses have to be inclusive." According to Washington, lawyers have a tremendous power and influence to do good and affect social change in our communities. "Understanding our clients' stories is so important when it comes to social change because we have to know where they are coming from," she said.

"I don't think that everyone is called to dedicate their entire lives to this work, but you can do something as simple as serving on a nonprofit board or providing pro bono services to advocacy groups that are on the frontlines of addressing major quality of life issues," she said. "I would strongly encourage 'baby lawyers' to consider nontraditional career paths. Lawyers are trained to be imaginative, and the world needs more people willing to create a world where everyone is able to thrive."

Her work to influence social change at Ben & Jerry's has caught the attention of leaders at its parent company, Unilever. She now



spends a lot of time working with sister companies, such as Seventh Generation and the Unilever North America and Brazil teams to figure out how to embed intersectional equity into the broader culture and operations.

"I feel like I am truly helping to change the world one curious learner at a time, and these people will go on to further change systems," Washington closed.

#### More about L. Simone Washington '05

- Helped the Community Foundation of South Alabama secure \$7.5 million in outside funding to lead Alabama Gulf Coast's recovery efforts in the wake of the BP Oil Spill
- Teaches two courses on social equity at the University of Vermont
- Came up with the name of one of Ben & Jerry's best-selling limited batch flavors, "Gimme S'more," a subtle nod to an old Busta Rhymes' song and her love of hip-hop music

# It's a Small World



It's not every day that two alumni coincidentally meet halfway across the world. In October 2018, recent graduate Alexis Esneault '18 was attending the Smart Valor Crypto + ICO Summit, Europe's premiere cryptocurrency and blockchain conference in Zurich, Switzerland.

During the conference, an American law expert on blockchain technology, Bob Cornish, was a featured speaker who addressed the "Rise of Global Jurisdictions" and "U.S. Regulation for Cryptocurrencies and ICOs."

Esneault introduced herself to Cornish after his presentation to mention that she was also from America (she is currently living and working in Liechtenstein) and that she went to Cumberland School of Law in Alabama. Ironically for the two find out, Cornish also graduated from Cumberland, 25 years earlier than Esneault in 1993, proving that it's certainly a small world and that Cumberland alumni are truly making their mark internationally.

#### More about Alexis Esneault '18

How does a girl from Alabama end up practicing law in Liechtenstein? While in school at Cumberland, Esneault applied to the U.S. Fulbright Program to receive an LL.M. in intellectual property law at the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center.

Although she did not receive the Fulbright, her whole research proposal was related to blockchain technology, which she had heard was a big deal in Liechtenstein. She was invited for an interview at NÄGELE Attorneys at Law LLC in Vaduz, meeting with the firm over her last spring break at Cumberland. Between the blockchain connection and having audited 12 credit hours of German at Samford during her last year of law school due to the Fulbright application, it was the perfect fit. Esneault accepted a job offer and moved to the country in August 2018 where she is now an associate attorney at NÄGELE advising international clients on crypto and blockchain related projects.

#### More about Bob Cornish '93

Bob Cornish is a leading attorney in the digital assets arena, given his experience as in-house counsel for investment managers and for family offices. His experience on both sides of transactions provides useful insight for issuers, investors and intermediaries involved in the development, placement and compliance aspects of cryptocurrency and blockchain ventures. In addition, Cornish is one of the few attorneys in the U.S. who has significant capital markets experience and is also licensed to practice law in the state of Wyoming, which recently enacted block chain legislation to enable global players to domicile and conduct business within the state.

Cornish was an instrumental part of getting this legislation passed as a member of the Wyoming Blockchain Coalition. His work continues in Wyoming with others who are seeking to create banking laws to facilitate the custody and transfer of cryptocurrency.

Given this broad experience, Cornish is frequently asked to speak to audiences at significant events in the digital assets community. This past year, he was a panelist at Blockchain Unbound, also known as "Puerto Crypto," Money Conference 2018 in Dublin, and other events in the U.S. He has been involved in activities as counsel for clients in the U.S. and abroad.

# Using Law in the Mission Field



Photo credit: Olivia Allensworth '18

In 2014, Kimberly Hawkins graduated from Berry College with a degree in international studies. Throughout her time in college, she worked for a youth ministry teaching students about the gospel and race. Upon graduating, the Lord had made it abundantly clear to her that she was to move to Alabama to attend Cumberland School of Law.

"I wanted nothing more than to hop on the mission field overseas," Hawkins said. "So, when the Lord said that it wasn't time yet, I was frustrated." Then she remembered an organization that used lawyers in their plan to help eliminate slave trade all over the world—International Justice Mission (IJM).

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., IJM is currently the largest organization in the world that fights slavery. From issues such as sex trafficking and cybersex trafficking in the Philippines to the land theft of widows in Uganda, IJM works to rescue slaves by partnering with local law enforcement. The organization has successfully freed 45,000 people from slavery over the last 20 years.

"During my first month of law school, I was told that I had no chance of ever working with IJM because the organization only hires from the Department of Justice and Ivy League schools—not from Alabama," she stated.

Following her graduation from Cumberland in 2017, Hawkins went to work as the women's minister for Iron City Church in Birmingham, while waiting on her dream opportunity. It wasn't long after graduation that she received an "out-of-the-blue" email from the director of IJM's intern and fellows program who also happened to be the head of the field office based in Accra. Ghana.

The email came with an exciting offer for Hawkins—the offer to participate in a highly competitive international legal fellowship with their organization.

She accepted the fellowship and began her yearlong work in Ghana at the end of January 2019.

During the fellowship, Hawkins will to aid in the prosecution of human traffickers who lure families into giving them their sons with the promise of an education, only to entrap these boys in the fishing industry. Boys as young as six years old are starved, beaten and forced to dive in Lake Volta to fish where many of them drown due to the depths.

"The legal knowledge that I learned from my time at Cumberland is what I'm taking to help set the captives free," Hawkins closed.

To follow Kimberly's journey, go to inthewrinklesblog.wordpress.com.



Cumberland School of Law's advocacy teams kicked off the 2018-19 academic year with a great start competing in numerous national competitions.

Building on the momentum gained from the successful inaugural advocacy benefit last spring, the advocacy program has made substantial strides already this year. Using funds raised at the benefit, iPads were purchased for use in the Advanced Skills in Trial Advocacy class. Students use iPads for all exhibits and trial presentations.

Additionally, courtroom technology was upgraded to allow the seamless use of this wireless technology for trial purposes.

Beginning in the 2019–20 school year, the advocacy curriculum will

be expanded to include a new Deposition Skills and Technology class and a jury selection.

Also, the Appellate Advocacy class will now be offered in the fall to provide optimum training and experience for all Cumberland students and additional resources for our national moot court team members. This is an exciting time for advocacy education at Cumberland. We look forward to working with Cumberland alumni, friends and supporters to continue to advance one of the country's most prestigious advocacy programs.

#### Fall 2018 Successes

Winner: Battle of the Experts

**Best Advocate:** Battle of the Experts

Winner: Heninger Garrison Davis in

Summation Competition

Semi-finalist: Michigan National Trial

**Advocacy Tournament** 

Fifth Place: National Civil Trial Competition,

Marvin A. Wilson National Civil Trial

**Competition Team** 

Quarterfinalist: Lone Star Classic National

Tournament

**Quarterfinalist**: National Appellate Advocacy

Regional Moot Court Competition



# Cumberland Then and Now

**Dean Corky Strickland Reflects on the Last 30 Years and Looks to the Future** 



Henry C. "Corky" Strickland is Cumberland School of Law's dean and the Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law. A native of metropolitan Atlanta, Strickland received his undergraduate degree from Presbyterian College and his law degree from Vanderbilt University Law School. Following law school, Strickland served for two years as judicial law clerk for the Honorable Virgil Pittman, United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. He then practiced law in the Charlotte, North Carolina, law firm of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein, where he specialized in business and commercial litigation. He was admitted to practice law in Georgia and North Carolina.

The year 2019 marks his 30th year as a member of the Cumberland faculty and his fifth year as dean. We sat down with him to reflect on his tenure and to learn what he sees for the future at Cumberland and in legal education as a whole.

#### *Is this where you expected your career to go?*

I think I always had teaching in higher education at least in the back of my mind as a possibility, but I didn't have higher education administration as a goal or expectation early on. In college, I considered going to graduate school. In law school and practice, I was always interested in purely legal and policy issues, and law school tends to focus more on those types of issues. When I began teaching at Cumberland, I found that I truly loved classroom teaching. I really didn't think at that time about the possibility of serving as dean.

Over the years, I was assigned or took on a variety of administrative roles. I served on and chaired multiple standing committees, chaired Cumberland's self-study for our ABA site visit in the late 1990s, cochaired the dean search committee when Dean Carroll was selected, and eventually became associate dean under Carroll for some 10 years. I thus began thinking about the possibility of applying for a deanship simply because I thought my administrative experience prepared me for that role.

By the time I applied to be Cumberland's dean, legal education throughout the country was in a difficult time of transition with declining applications to law schools and a soft employment market for law graduates. Given the difficult times, I knew only a limited number of people would be interested in taking on the role of a law school dean—at Cumberland or at most law schools. Because of the economy, transitions in the legal profession and market pressures, Cumberland and most law schools were moving into a time of fiscal stress in which balancing revenues and expenses

would be difficult. The challenge of getting through that transitional time intrigued me. More importantly, having invested 25 years in Cumberland and having grown to love the school, its culture and its people, I felt a sense of duty to do whatever I could do to make sure Cumberland successfully navigated the transition to continue becoming an ever stronger and better law school.

#### How has transitioning from a faculty member to dean changed your approach to teaching, leading and the law?

I don't think the transition has changed the way I teach. The time demands of serving as dean, of course, limits the courses I can teach. Some courses I taught in the past I simply would not have the time to prepare properly. Serving as dean has made me appreciate my teaching role more. During my first year as dean, I did not teach any courses. During that year, I felt disconnected from students and the very purpose of everything we do. While it's difficult to carve out the time, I have taught Civil Procedure every year since. Not only does the class keep me connected to students and our mission, the time in class is my favorite part of the week.

I will say I spend far less time on pure law since becoming dean. With my time consumed with budgets, events, personnel matters, fundraising and such, it is difficult to make to time to delve deeply and thoughtfully into evolving legal issues.

# What are some differences from the beginning of your tenure on the faculty to now? Students? Legal teaching? Other?

The fiscal environment of legal education is very different today than when I began teaching. The 1980s through the early to mid-2000s were flush times for law schools. Nearly all law schools had far more qualified applicants than seats and, thus, were able to enroll outstanding classes without discounting tuition or awarding substantial scholarships. Because of a host of changes largely prompted by the great recession, that picture changed dramatically by 2012. Hiring of recent law graduates fell off and law school applications plummeted across the country. The resulting competition for good, qualified students forced law schools to reduce class size, shrink faculty and staff, discount tuition, and award scholarships from their operating budgets, all of which put great stress on law schools. The adjustments aligned law schools with the changing market for law graduates, leading to significant improvement in the employment prospects for new graduates. Employment numbers for Cumberland's class of 2017, for example, were the best since the ABA began collecting detailed data in 2010 (data on the class of 2018 is not yet complete). Law school applications have also rebounded. Cumberland's applications were up significantly last year and the applications to date this year are up over 10 percent compared to this time last year. Budgets remain very tight, but we seem to have arrived at a new normal that may provide some stability.

Law school accreditation has also changed in that time. Regional accrediting agencies that accredit colleges and universities once ignored law schools as long as they met ABA requirements. Today regional accrediting agencies scrutinize law schools to assure compliance with those agencies' sometimes very different requirements. ABA accreditation standards have also changed significantly. They once focused on inputs, like library volumes, size of the faculty and such. Current ABA standards focus on outputs. In addition to traditional measures like bar exam performance, the standards now require schools to implement on-going assessment processes to measure and improve student learning. That process entails articulating school-wide learning outcomes, devising and implementing processes to measure student achievement of those outcomes, and regularly analyzing the outcomes to improve the overall program.

Students have certainly changed over the past 30 years, but that change is much more difficult to pin down/articulate/define. Like any generalization about people, any statement about a generation of students will be inaccurate as applied to at least half of the individual students. The way students are educated from kindergarten through college has changed over time. The changes vary, depending on students' backgrounds. Substantively, most students have not taken subjects like civics unless they took

government courses in college. Most of today's students underwent far more frequent standardized testing than in the past. They also have used smart devices and done much of their reading on screens for their entire lives. We are just beginning to learn what effects, if any, these changes have on the way people think and learn. We always have smart, motivated students. The changes simply mean individual students arrive at law school with different strengths and weaknesses. We in legal education must simply adapt our approaches to assure each current student acquires the knowledge, skills and values needed to be successful, ethical lawyers.

# Is there a moment where you first saw yourself as a role model for students?

I don't think I've ever thought about myself as a role model. It takes a certain amount of arrogance to think about being a role model. I hope we all try to do the right thing all the time anyway—then we don't have to try to be good role models.

# What are other memorable moments that you've had in your tenure?

I have always loved interacting with Cumberland students, and class is always a special time. One always remembers one's first class, because the experience is new and because you enter each day nervous about whether you are sufficiently prepared. So I will always remember the class of 1991 who were in my first Civil Procedure class in fall 1988. No matter how many times I have taught a topic or case, the unique personalities of each class always make each class new. In addition to animating each class with their own unique backgrounds and personalities, students inevitably ask a question or see an angle that makes me think about issues in a new light.

Coaching Cumberland's negotiation teams and travelling with them to competitions created many memorable moments. The first year the team made nationals, the competition was in Boston. When the team did not make the finals, we had a free afternoon. We, thus, decided to take a trolley tour of the city, only to find ourselves on Boston Common freezing in subzero temperatures waiting endlessly for the next trolley. We visited only indoor sites the remainder of the day. Congresswoman Martha Roby was on the team another year, and she kept the group laughing throughout the competition weekend with her wit, jokes and impersonations. I will always remember Cynthia Ransburg-Brown and Jeff Pomeroy masterfully defeating Washington & Lee in the regional finals and then cruising through preliminary rounds of nationals to place third in the country (we all thought they were robbed of first place).

On a personal level, I will be forever grateful for the kindness and compassion that the Cumberland community—particularly students in my class—showed my wife and me when our son passed away.



"What we're mostly about is students. What Cumberland is really good at, and what I hope I'm good at, is helping individual students move to where they want and need to be. One of the truly unique features of Cumberland is a supportive, collegial, friendly community, and that's relatively rare in law schools. That's something that I hope we are nurturing and maintaining."

# What future trends do you see for legal education as a whole?

The rule of law is critical to democratic government, a market economy and indeed civilization. Law is probably more important to the United States than other countries. For those reasons, principled lawyers will continue to be indispensable to American society, and we will need law schools to educate and prepare good, principled lawyers.

The number of lawyers, however, probably will not grow rapidly. Technology, artificial intelligence, corporate in-house systems and other developments will continue to limit the number of lawyers required to provide the legal services society needs. Law schools have adjusted to that reality by reducing enrollment and they must continue to balance the supply of new lawyers with the market's demand.

Law schools will continue to offer programs like Cumberland's new Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.). These programs provide limited and focused legal background to mid-career professionals in specific industries. They meet a growing demand for professionals who can understand the regulations and legal issues pertaining to their industry, but who will not practice law and thus do not require the extensive training provided by the J.D.

Technology and online interaction will continue to play a growing role in legal education and the legal profession. Innovative

use of technology will play a role in providing legal services to underserved groups, including people in rural areas and citizens with modest incomes. Law students thus must be adept at developing and adapting new technologies. Technology and online education will also continue to be an increasingly important part of legal education, as it is in all higher education. Done well, online education can supplement live classes in ways that make both more effective.

At the same time, law schools and the legal profession must find ways to provide quality legal education in ways that do not create unreasonable student debt. There has been a little progress on that front in the last several years. Although tuition has not gone down, the amount of scholarships awarded by law schools have increased dramatically. Students' average net tuition thus has declined some. Sustaining that progress will require new funding sources or decreased expenditures. Online education, though useful, is unlikely to help significantly with reducing the cost of legal education. Good online education, as currently understood, tends to be more labor intensive and at least as costly as live classes. The challenge for law schools is thus, to find ways to prepare students for bar exams, for law practice and for new emerging roles without increasing students' cost.



## Valerie Price

Valerie Price, a
Birmingham native, is a
graduate of Miles
College. Her career
experience has included
banking and higher
education. One of her
most rewarding jobs
was teaching at Crown
Business Institute in

Atlanta, Georgia.

Her love for Samford University began in January 2008 as a temporary worker in the Bursar's Office. She later worked at Samford After Sundown where she enjoyed registering and getting to know the very creative students who reside in the Birmingham metro area. After a short stint at McWhorter School of Pharmacy, Price joined Cumberland School of Law in 2012. Since joining the

Cumberland staff, Price has supported the faculty advisers to the Black Law Students Association (BLSA). Through this role, she gets to know the students more closely and enjoys having them confide in her about some of their challenges and celebrations. She also serves as the administrator of the Judge James Edwin Horton Inn of Court.

Price enjoys Cumberland's "Birthday Bunch," which is a group of staff members who partner to celebrate each other's birthday with desserts. "During this gathering, we share funny stories that we have experienced," she said. Little did she know that working with law professors and students would be as rewarding as her time at Crown Business Institute. "I have gained so much wisdom from the professors and students and I hope that I have provided some wisdom along the way." Her pride and joy is her son, Terry Price Jr.



# Lynda Reynolds

Hired in 1983 by T. Brad Bishop, Lynda Reynolds was younger than the law students when she joined the Cumberland staff. She began working for a group of professors, including professor Howard Walthall.

Within a few weeks of her arrival, her typewriter was replaced with a computer that ran on two disk drives. After less than a year, she transitioned to the word processing department where she and two others typed faculty manuscripts, printed hard copies and transcribed their revisions electronically after their mark-ups. In late 1985, she moved to the journal office, where she still works.

Fast forward to 2015, Reynolds took over as the support staff for the *Cumberland Law Review*. That same year, Reynolds also became the program assistant to the university's Institutional Review Board (IRB).

"The biggest single change for the *Law Review* and the journal in the last 30 years has been the evolution to electronic research and editing," Reynolds noted. "I used to type, print draft copies and transcribe edits for all articles the journal published until about 8-10 years ago when the students began electronically editing the books."

"I have gained many skills by working with some of the brightest students to attend Cumberland in the last 35 years—about writing and editing, but also about myself," she added. "I've had to learn to build relationships quickly and adapt regularly! Nowadays, I have to learn to let go of some details and just keep the plates spinning the best I can."

Born in Springfield, Missouri, Reynolds attended Liberty University in Virginia where she met her husband. They moved to Birmingham in 1983 after they were married and have one daughter. In her free time, Reynolds enjoys the University of Alabama football and reading.

#### A GLIMPSE AT FACULTY ACTIVITIES



Judge John Carroll '74

In March 2018, Carroll was a presenter on a panel at the Bench and Bar retreat sponsored by the Birmingham Bar Association which focused on the Rule of Law. His presentation discussed the case of the Judicial Inquiry Commission v. Chief Justice Roy Moore.

In March and November 2018, Carroll attended meetings as a member of a drafting committee of the Uniform Law Commission which is drafting a uniform law relating to the Registration of Canadian Money Judgments. The draft uniform law will be presented for approval by the Uniform Law Commission at its annual meeting in July 2019.

In April and December 2018, Carroll attended meetings as a member of a drafting committee of the Alabama Law Institute which is drafting an act to relieve some of the collateral consequences of convictions which will allow persons who are released from prison to obtain gainful employment. The act will be presented to the legislature for enactment during the 2019 Alabama legislative session.

At the annual meeting of the Alabama State Bar in June 2018, Carroll gave a report on the progress of the Senior Lawyer-New Lawyer Task Force. Carroll is chair of the task force and Ashby Pate '07, is vice chair.

In July 2018, Judge Carroll presided over a meeting of the Fair Ballot Commission as its chair. The Fair Ballot Commission is charged with drafting plain language summaries of statewide amendments to the Alabama Constitution. The commission completed its work not long after the meeting and provided plain language summaries to the citizens of the state.

In August 2018, Judge Carroll spoke at the Alabama Bank Counsel Conference. His topic was "Ethical Minefields–E-discovery and Other Uses of Technology." He also spoke at the Susan B. Livingston Boot Camp for Success sponsored by Balch & Bingham. That program is aimed at giving minority and underrepresented law students information which will help them be successful in law school and the practice of law.

In September 2018, Judge Carroll spoke at the Alabama Banker's Association Annual Trust Conference. His topic was "Core Values & Ethics: What Can Business Learn from Marines, Lawyers & Judges." He was also a facilitator at the National Advocacy Training in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the American Inns of Court. That training brings together American lawyers and English barristers to train young American lawyers in trial advocacy.

In October 2018, Judge Carroll attend the American Inns of Court Celebration of Excellence at the United States Supreme Court. He was recognized at the event as a recipient of the American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the 11th Circuit.



**Brannon Denning** 

On Jan. 18, 2019, associate dean and Starnes professor of law Brannon Denning was a panelist at the ABA Tax Group's midyear meeting in New Orleans, speaking about the recent decision in Murphy v. NCAA, in which the Supreme Court invalidated a federal law prohibiting states from legalizing sports betting. The panel discussed the implications for federal legislation limiting the ability of state and local governments to exercise their taxing powers.



Michael E. DeBow

Steven Everett Wells professor in municipal law Michael E. DeBow contributed chapter 10, "Public Policy and the Future of For-Profit Higher Education," to *Unprofitable Schooling: Examining Causes of, and Fixes for, America's Broken Ivory Tower* published by Todd J. Zywicki & Neal P. McCluskey, eds., (Cato Institute, 2019). On Feb. 12, 2019, DeBow spoke at a conference on the book, *Putting the Ivory Tower Together Again: Identifying and Fixing the Faults*, which was conducted at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C.



Alyssa A. DiRusso

Whelan W. and Rosalie T. Palmer professor of law Alyssa DiRusso finalized her new textbook, *Wills, Trusts, and Estates in Focus*, coauthored with Naomi Cahn and Susan Gary. The textbook was published by Wolters Kluwer in early 2019. She also published two op-eds on reforming charitable giving tax law, both of which appeared in multiple newspapers across the country.

"Philanthropist Act Would Help Make Americans More Generous," published with Daniel Rashke on Sept. 13, 2018, is available online at the *Journal Standard* and the *Rockford Register Star*. Additionally, "A Proposed Tax Break for the Masses Designed to Spur Charitable Giving," originally published on The Conversation on Oct. 4, 2018, can also be found on the *Chicago Tribune* online.

#### A GLIMPSE AT FACULTY ACTIVITIES



D. Wendy Greene

Professor D. Wendy Greene, currently visiting at Washington & Lee University School of Law, authored a segment of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation report, "Discrimination Based on Perceived Characteristics," released and disseminated to policy and lawmakers nationwide in August 2018. The foundation is the educational arm of the HRC, the nation's largest civil rights organization advancing LGTBQ equality. The HRC Foundation cited Greene's article, "Categorically Black, White, or Wrong: The State of 'Misperception Discrimination' and Title VII Protection", 47 Mich. J. L. Ref. 101 (2013), as a definitive source in its report, which advocates for more comprehensive statutory protection on federal and state levels against "misperception discrimination," a term Greene coined in her seminal work that describes workplace discrimination animated by erroneous perceptions of an employee's or applicant's racial, ethnic, gender and/or religious identity. In September 2018, Greene presented her forthcoming book, #FreeTheHair: Locking Black Hair to Civil Rights Movements, to Cumberland's chapter of the American Constitution Society. In October 2018, Greene executed a book contract with the University of California-Berkeley Press for #FreeTheHair.

In January 2019, Greene participated in the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) annual meeting in New Orleans. There, she presented her scholarship on grooming codes discrimination in schools and workplaces during a panel exploring socio-economic pedagogy and implicit bias, and she served as an invited presenter for two sessions during the AALS Workshop for Pretenured Law School Teachers of Color. Also, in January 2019, Greene assumed several leadership positions within the AALS academic sections: secretary of the section on employment law, treasurer of the section on law and the humanities, and executive committee member of the section on employment discrimination for a seventh term. In February 2019, Greene delivered the keynote address for the inaugural Black History Month dinner at Washington & Lee University.



#### **Paul Kuruk**

In December 2018, professor Paul Kuruk was appointed by the Government of Ghana as its representative in the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law.

In his lectures, Kuruk regularly discusses treaties developed by UNCITRAL which have helped remove obstacles to the free flow of trade in the world. "I am very proud to have become part of UNCITRAL and blessed with a wonderful and rare opportunity to help shape global policy on international trade," he said.

Kuruk calls his appointment a "distinguished professional honor and a recognition of my expertise in international trade law." His participation in UNCITRAL will provide visibility for and enhance the reputation of Cumberland School of Law and Samford University globally and within the United Nations system.



**Tracey Roberts** 

Assistant professor Tracey Roberts presented two of her papers, "Climate Change Regulation, Efficiency, and the World Trade Organization" and "Stranded Assets and Competitive Pricing for Regulated Public Utilities: A Federal Tax Solution" at the 18th annual meeting of the Midwestern Law & Economics Association (MLEA), hosted by the Cross Disciplinary Legal Studies Program at the University of Alabama School of Law on Sept. 14-15, 2018. On Nov. 17, Roberts was the discussant for two papers on universal basic income by Miranda Perry Fleischer and Jonathan D. Grossberg for a panel on inequality and taxation at the National Tax Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans. Her edited volume, Tax Law and the Environment: A Multidisciplinary and Worldwide Perspective, co-edited with Roberta Mann, the Mr. & Mrs. L.L. Stewart professor of business law at the University of Oregon School of Law, was published in December 2018. Additionally, she presented two papers for at the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting in New Orleans "AI (Artificial Intelligence) and UBI (Universal Basic Income): Contextualizing Support for the Development of Physical and Human Capital," as part of the Nonprofits, Philanthropy and Education panel on Jan. 4, and "Climate Change Regulation, Efficiency and the World Trade Organization" for the Agriculture and Food Law, Environmental Law, and Natural Resources and Energy Law Work-in-Progress Program on Jan. 5, 2019.



#### William G. Ross

Albert P. Brewer professor of law and ethics William G. Ross is co-author of the fourth edition of *Constitutional Law in Context*, a textbook for constitutional law courses, which the Carolina Academic Press published in 2018. He has co-authored this book since 2010.



#### David M. Smolin

In 2018, professor David M. Smolin published several new articles including "Aborting Reason and Equality: A Religious Pro-Life Critique of Roe, Casey, and Abortion Rights Rhetoric" in *University of California Irvine Law Review* and "America's Creed: The Inevitable, Sometimes Dangerous, Mixing of Religion and Politics" in the *Washington & Lee Law Review* online.

In 2019, Smolin will publish his newest article in the *Cumberland Law Review* titled, "The One Hundred Thousand Dollar Baby: The Ideological Roots of a New American Export."

Smolin continues to serve on the Core Expert Group for International Social Service (ISS) developing international principles and standards for surrogacy.

# A Tribute to Cumberland School of Law Professor Emerita Sara Clark Dominick

In November 2018, Phillip McCallum '87, executive director of the Alabama State Bar, wrote about the state bar's oldest member, Sara Clark Dominick, who turned 100 years of age last year. Like the state bar, we honor professor Dominick who served Cumberland School of Law for more than a decade, starting in 1976 when Dean Donald Corley and T. Brad Bishop (dean of admissions at the time) hired her to be a secretary in the admission office. She went on to become assistant to the dean, director of the alumni association and then professor.

Many of you were fortunate enough to have been her students. Alumni have relayed fond memories of her classroom to both her daughter, Sarah "Sally" Clark Bowers '82, and to her granddaughter, A. Kathleen Bowers Ennis '13. They learned that Dominick conducted her classroom with grace, wit and tenacity. Twice, she was selected favorite professor by student vote.

Thank you, professor emerita Sara Clark Dominick, for your long tenure of esteemed example. Your past service at Cumberland and current membership in the state bar models loyalty and a clear illustration of work ethic and character for generations behind you.



From left, Kathleen Bowers Ennis '13, Sally Clark Bowers '82 and Sara Clark Dominick



# Sunny Shah Third-year law student

Sunny Shah is a third-year law student at Cumberland School of Law. Before attending law school, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in economics at Troy University.

Shah's family immigrated to the United States from London when he was five months old. Due to his challenging immigration history, Shah has been immersed in the hardships of the immigrant community since a young age. He and his family were taken advantage of by an unethical immigration attorney and were victimized by anti-immigrant sentiments after the 9/11 attacks. Because of the substantial impact this experience had on him and his desire to ameliorate the lives of other immigrants, Shah decided to pursue a career as an immigration attorney.

After completing his first year of law school, Shah interned with an immigration boutique firm in Atlanta, where he dedicated himself to learning the complexities surrounding immigration law. The majority of his time was spent preparing applications for immigrant and nonimmigrant visas and keeping up to date with immigration regulations. To better understand the immigration system's effects on various communities, Shah enhanced his immigration experience at the Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) chapter of Alabama. Through this role he helped organize an immigrants' rights symposium which highlighted relevant immigration issues, including the travel ban and DACA,

and had the opportunity to address civil rights issues affecting immigrant communities.

This past summer, Shah had the opportunity to intern at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) in Washington, D.C. There, he researched and analyzed legislation on immigration reform and grasped a better understanding of the impact of law and policy on communities of color. "Working at NAPABA allowed me to effectively advocate for my immigrant community on the national level," Shah said. "With the opportunities this clerkship provided, I was able to develop key professional skills while simultaneously addressing immigration issues these communities face today."

Upon graduating, Shah plans to practice immigration law in Atlanta and hopes to engage in challenging work to guide him in his ambition of advocating on behalf of immigrants. "Not only have my past experiences allowed me to draw parallels between my family's challenging immigrant background and the general immigrant community, but they have empowered me to encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties and promote justice on behalf of immigrant communities by inspiring others to speak out about their experiences and joining coalitions dedicated to preserving the rights of all immigrants," Shah said. "Now more than ever, we need leaders of color like myself who are committed to advocating for comprehensive immigration reform."



# Jacklyn "Jackie" Satchell Second-year Law Student

Jackie Satchell started at Cumberland School of Law in summer 2017, when she enrolled in Cumberland's pre-1L summer school courses. She entered Cumberland as part of the Class of 2020. During her first year, Satchell demonstrated an incredible work ethic, leadership skills and ability to learn. She balanced her busy schedule with success in school and life like no other. Satchell's display as a student came as no surprise after learning more about her.

She has a distinguished background in the United States Army as an engineer officer. She is the mother to a now four-year-old daughter and the wife of another U.S. Army engineer. Satchell excelled in her course work while mothering her daughter and serving as a company commander, leading the 148th Army Reserve Company.

Satchell is a graduate of Virginia Military Institute (VMI) and has substantial professional and military experience. She has worked with the Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center in El Paso, Texas, for more than three years and has served in several roles in the U.S. Army since her graduation from VMI. As platoon leader, logistics company executive officer, battalion victim advocate and assistant chief of engineer operations, Satchell has partnered to build new construction on military bases, managed maintenance operations and equipment, negotiated agreements, and planned and enforced quarantine efforts.

At the end of her first year of law school, Satchell learned that her reserve company would be deployed in early 2019. She has placed her legal education on hold to support Operation Enduring Freedom and Special Operations Command. As the company commander, Satchell will lead the 148th U.S. Army Reserve soldiers to provide tactical construction in support of Department of Defense operations in the United States and abroad. While deployed, the soldiers will conduct general engineering operations in approximately five countries. Satchell's company has carpentry and masonry specialists, heavy equipment operators, plumbers, electricians, surveyors and mechanics. The mission is to support military operations, but the company is also tasked with humanitarian projects and partnering with foreign militaries.

In her own words, Satchell is passionate about showing her daughter that there are no limits to what can be achieved, as long as she is willing to work for it, and about making the world a better place for women everywhere.

By Lynn Hogewood '03 Director of Academic Support Program and L.L.R. Instructor



## Clark Watson '81

A 1981 Cumberland graduate, Clark Watson is Samford University's general counsel. Prior to coming to Samford, Watson was a partner with Balch & Bingham LLP. As general counsel, Watson advises university President Andrew Westmoreland, the Board of Trustees and university administrators in university legal matters. Watson serves Cumberland as an adjunct professor teaching in the higher education law and compliance concentration offered in the Master of Laws (LL.M.) and Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.) online graduate degree programs.

# Is there anything your students would be surprised to know about you?

I am sincere when I say that I want students to be successful in my class. One measure of success is a good grade, but more importantly, I want students to understand the subject matter and be able to use that knowledge in real-life situations.

# Will you describe a mistake you've made while practicing law? And what, if anything, did you learn from it?

One mistake that I recall was taking a case for a lady who had a very sad story, which included having no money. She was a friend of a client, so I did not know the woman well, and her situation involved an area of law in which I had limited experience.

Nevertheless, it appeared to be a simple problem and I wanted to help her, so I decided to invest a "few" pro bono hours. As things evolved, the woman had misrepresented to me her tale of woe and her simple problem was actually complex and difficult. Only after I invested several hundred hours was I able to achieve a reasonable resolution. From that experience I learned that a lawyer should be very careful in taking on clients about which little is known, and always remember that the human element of lawyering can make "simple" situations very difficult.

# Who is one of your professional mentors? What have you learned from this mentor that you'd like young lawyers to know?

I have been fortunate to work with many outstanding lawyers who have positively influenced my career. If pressed to narrow that

group, I would select one practicing lawyer and one judge. The judge is United State District Judge James Hancock and the practicing lawyer is Jack Payne. In my clerkship with Judge Hancock and my years of practice with Jack Payne, I learned that there is no substitute for a thorough knowledge of the facts and the law. They also taught me to think not only about the law, but how to apply it wisely. Finally, and perhaps most significantly, both men wrote with clarity and precision. I still recall lessons learned from those men when I am writing something as simple as a letter or as complex as a detailed university policy.

#### What are two of your primary goals in teaching your course?

My course, Introduction to Higher Education Law and Governance, covers a broad array of topics including, among other things, federal statutes and regulations, constitutional law, litigation, real estate, finance, athletics, litigation, employment law, risk management, contracts, and corporate governance. Therefore, in terms of goals, I want to create lectures that concisely communicate the essential elements of each legal subject and to do so with clarity. Second, I want to know my students better. This is a challenge in online education, but I want to achieve a sense of community among a group of students who are geographically, educationally, culturally and vocationally diverse.



## Heather Fann

A native of Piedmont, Alabama, Heather Fann left her high school teaching career in 2003 to pursue a law degree and began volunteering for the Alabama State Bar Family Law Section before graduating from the University of Alabama School of Law in 2006. Fann served as chair of that section from 2014-16. She currently serves on the board of directors of the ACLU of Alabama and the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program. Fann serves Cumberland School of Law as an adjunct professor teaching domestic relations and advanced domestic relations.

# Is there anything your students would be surprised to know about you?

My last major teaching gig was at Spain Park High School. I had so much fun teaching *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Romeo and Juliet* every year. But, probably the thing that surprises people the most to hear about me is that I was consistently voted "quietest" in junior high school, and then went on to be a cheerleader.

#### Will you describe a mistake you've made while practicing law? And what, if anything, did you learn from it?

The mistake I make most often is staying in a case too long. Because family law is so intensely personal, and because the stakes are so high and the experience is so stressful for both attorney and client, a healthy attorney-client relationship is essential.

# Who is one of your professional mentors? Is there one thing that you've learned from this mentor that you'd like young lawyers to know?

Ron Boyd will always have a special place in my heart, and not just for what he taught me about the law. He treats others with respect and is particularly good at telling people when they've done a good job. It made a huge difference in my confidence as I built my practice as an associate. Because of him, I employ a rule for myself to "say the nice thing" that I'm thinking, as often as possible.

## Do you have a 5-10-year professional goal that you'd be willing to share?

I hope to have a larger team of lawyers to assist clients in the next few years. Right now, I do have an associate, but we stay very busy and can probably support more before long. I want to provide opportunities for young lawyers like I was who really have a passion for helping people with their family transitions. The difference between a lawyer just there to make money and a lawyer who truly cares about healthy solutions to your problems is all the difference in the world, and we need more lawyers who recognize the moral and social duties of the profession to society. I'd also like to publish something about my experiences as a family lawyer.

#### What are two of your primary goals in teaching your course?

I want students to understand that family law is a serious endeavor and that the work is complex, and requires just as much study and attention to detail as any other legal profession. I hope to help students in finding their path to success via practical advice and encouragement. The advanced course is structured to pair students with fantastic practicing attorneys so that they can really experience what family law practice really involves, and I'm so grateful that we have so many experienced, ethical local professionals willing to contribute to the profession by volunteering their time to that class as speakers and mentors.

## CLASS NOTES COLLECTED MAY 1, 2018-JAN. 31, 2019

#### 1971

**Professor T. Brad Bishop** was a co-chair for a panel session of the semiannual state seminar for municipal court judges, prosecutors, court clerks and magistrates. The topic was "Alabama's Driver License Suspension Laws; Is there Ethical Reason for a Change?"

**Jimmy Rane** is a co-chair of Alabama Governor Kay Ivey's inaugural committee.

#### 1972

**W. Stancil Starnes** was inducted into the Alabama Academy of Honor.

#### 1974

**Ferrell Anders** completed 27 years of serving as editor of the Mobile Bar Association newsletter. Anders retired from the practice of law in 2018.

Judge John L. Carroll is a member of a drafting committee seeking approval of an act that would make it easier to enforce Canadian money judgments in the United States. Also, he spoke to the Alabama Bank Counsel Conference. His topic was "Ethical Minefields— E-discovery and Other Uses of Technology." In August, Judge Carroll served on a panel program at Cumberland School of Law organized by the Federalist Society student organization to discuss the constitutionality of Roy Moore's removal from the bench of the Alabama Supreme Court.

#### 1976.

**John F. Whitaker,** formerly a partner in the law firm of Whitaker Mudd Luke & Wells LLC, is now in-house general counsel with the Catholic Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 1977

**Judge Dennis Lee Hupp** retired after serving 26 years on the bench in the 26th Judicial Circuit of Virginia. He will continue to serve as a substitute judge as needed. Judge Sharon Lovelace Blackburn received the 2017 Judge Drayton N. James Award from the Young Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association.

**Michael Roberts** authored the reference book, *Alabama Tort Law*, published by Lexis Law Publishing, now in its sixth edition.

#### 1978

**David Drabkin** is the chairman of the Section 809 Panel in Arlington, Virginia. The 17-person expert panel, created in section 809 of the FY 2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and amended by section 863(d) of the NDAA for FY 2017, is tasked with finding ways to streamline and improve the defense acquisition process. The panel has two years to develop recommendations for changes in the regulation and associated statute to achieve those ends. He was also named to the list of 2019 Washington 100. This list is a premier group of private and public sector leaders selected by Executive Mosaic's organizational and editorial leadership as the most influential leaders in the GovCon sector.

**Honorable Glenn Thompson** retired from the 8th Judicial Circuit Court in Morgan County, Alabama, in January 2019.

#### 1979.

**Dennis R. Bailey** became a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

**Honorable J. Michael Joiner** retired from the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals in January 2019.

**Honorable Randy Pool** was elected to his sixth term as a district court judge and fourth as chief district judge of Circuit 29A in Rutherford County, North Carolina.

**Robert Lee Todd IV** was appointed to the board of the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission and to the board of trustees of the Georgia Firefighters Pension Fund by Georgia governor Nathan Deal.

#### 1981

**Gary England** is senior advisor for the regulatory and compliance team at Capital Forensics Inc. in Palatine,

**Honorable John Paluzzi**, Probate Court judge for Pickens County, Alabama, retired from the bench in January 2019.

#### 1982

**Mark Baker** is managing partner of McMichael Taylor Gray based in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### 1983

**Charles Henry Clark Jr.** is a partner of Clark May Price Lawley Duncan & Paul LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Sharon Ficquette** retired as counsel of Alabama Department of Human Resources.

**Thomas Kelly May** is a partner of Clark May Price Lawley Duncan & Paul LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

Mark Newell is the 2019 president of the Mobile Bar Association

**Honorable Laura Petro** retired from the 10th Judicial Circuit Court criminal division in Jefferson Country, Alabama, in January 2019.

#### 1984

**Timothy Davis** was selected to serve as newsletter editor of the business torts section of the *American Association for Justice*.

**Judge Scott Donaldson** has been appointed chief judge of the Court of the Judiciary by the Alabama Supreme Court. He succeeds judge J. Michael Joiner '82 who is retiring. The Court of the Judiciary hears complaints against Alabama judges filed by the Judicial Inquiry Commission.

**H. Russell Neighbors Jr.** was reelected as a North Carolina State Bar councilor.

**J. Allen Schreiber** cofounded The Neutral Solution, a mediation and arbitration firm, in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 1985

**Kevin E. Collins** is senior vice president and senior wealth advisor at Iberia Wealth Advisors.

**S. Leslie Ramsey Barineau** was elected to a threeyear term on the board of trustees for the Alabama Law Foundation.

#### 1986

**Laurie K. Weatherford** was recognized by Continental Who's Who as a Pinnacle Professional Member in the field of law for her role as an attorney at Chapter 13 in Florida's Middle District.

#### 1987

**Honorable Evan Jenkins** was elected in November 2018 to fill a remaining six year term as a justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia due to the resignation of Robin Davis.

#### 1988.

**Sheryl Dugger Holtam** retired after 30 years of service to the state of Tennessee. After serving as law clerk to justice Robert E. Cooper of the Tennessee Supreme Court for one year, she worked for 29 years as an attorney, then general counsel, for the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency in Nashville. Holtam and her husband now reside in Perry, Florida.

**W. Daniel "Dee" Miles** was appointed interim colead class counsel in the Ford F-150 class action litigation.

**Darrell L. Scarlett** was appointed by Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam as circuit court judge for the 16th Judicial District, which serves Rutherford and Cannon counties. Scarlett practiced law for 30 years in Middle Tennessee, most recently with the firm of Catron & Scarlett.

#### 1990

**Louis Hatcher** earned a Master of Science degree in health law and policy from Cumberland School of Law.

**Sharon Stuart** was elected to the Birmingham Bar Association executive committee.

**Warren Todd** has been elected vice president of the Escambia Santa Rosa Bar Association. Previously, he held the title of secretary of the Florida organization and was a member of its executive council.

#### 1991

**Julia Beasley** won the Unlimited Amateur Championship (four-year-old) at the August Cutting Horse Futurity.

**Darrill Hill** of Lehigh Acres, Florida, was appointed by Governor Scott as a county judge for the 20th Judicial Circuit of Florida in Hendry County.

**Thomas B. Luzier** joined Williams Parker as a partner in Sarasota, Florida.

Mark E. Williams' firm, The Law Office of Mark E. Williams, was selected as a winner of Pika Best of Guam 2018 for "Best Law Office."

#### 1992

**Kristi Allen Dowdy** is senior vice president and assistant general counsel for Regions Bank in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 1993

**Justice Brad Mendheim** was re-appointed to the Alabama Supreme Court by Governor Kay Ivey.

**Thomas J. Skinner** cofounded The Neutral Solution, a mediation and arbitration firm. Skinner also serves as

chief of military justice for the 167th Theater Sustainment Command as a lieutenant colonel in the Alabama National Guard.

**Richard Minor** was elected to the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals.

#### 1994

**Stephen Leara** is executive vice president and general counsel at Retail Specialists LLC in Birmingham, Alabama. He is also of counsel at Galloway Scott Moss & Hancock LLC.

**Michael Odom** has joined McGlinchey Stafford PLLC as of counsel in the firm's Business and Corporate Matters section in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Frederic Ransom** is president of UW Health in Madison, Wisconsin. Ransom oversees UW Hospital, American Family Children's Hospital and UW Health at the American Center.

#### 1995.

Honorable Bobby L. Christine was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus award from Georgia Military College during its alumni weekend. Christine currently serves as U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Georgia.

Nanette Solveig Edwards is the executive director of the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff in Columbia, South Carolina.

Mike Fish recently participated in a panel discussion titled "What is the Value of a Compensable Claim in Your State" at the National Workers' Compensation Defense Network's national conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**Bentley Patrick** is an attorney and mediator with Baker Donelson in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 1996

**Martha Reeves Cook** is the 2019 Alabama State Bar liaison for the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers Section.

#### 1997

**Michael J. Barket** was elected to be a Miami-Dade County judge in Miami, Florida. He assumed the bench in January 2019.

**James Childs** is leading Maynard Venture Partners, previously known as the Emerging Growth Practice Group, at Maynard Cooper & Gale in Birmingham, Alabama.

Judge Elisabeth French was appointed to the Court of the Judiciary by the Alabama Circuit Judges Association. The Court of the Judiciary hears complaints against Alabama judges filed by the Judicial Inquiry Commission.

#### 1998

**Joel A. J. Callins** was invested as an associate civil court and magistrate court judge in Bibb County, Georgia.

**Courtney French** is a member of the board of trustees of Birmingham-Southern College.

**Lana Olsen** is secretary and treasurer of DRI—The Voice of the Defense Bar.

#### 1000

**Brandy Birk Osborne Hambright** was elected to the 13th Judicial Circuit in Mobile County, Alabama, and was invested on Jan. 16, 2019.

**Jeffery S. DeArman**, of Adams and Reese LLP in Birmingham, Alabama, was appointed to be the group leader of the firm's transactions practice.

**Christopher Dunnagan** is a co-founder of Dunnagan Isaacs and Friley LLC in Zionville, North Carolina.

**Ken Riley** is a member of Leadership Birmingham's 2018-19 class.

**Kary Wolfe** was elected to the board of directors of the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama.

#### 2000

**Robert G. Jones** is a partner of Maynard Cooper & Gale PC in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Demetra L. Liggins** was selected to be a part of the 30th class of fellows of the American College of Bankruptcy. The class was officially inducted on March 15, 2019. She also received the Savvy Sister Award at the 12th Annual HER Awards luncheon by *Houston Woman Magazine*. The Savvy Sister Award is bestowed upon a woman who has made a significant career change, interesting business maneuver or an innovative change to her workplace. Liggins is a partner of Thompson & Knight LLC in Houston, Texas.

**Stephen Roberts** is a board member of Siloam Health. Roberts is the vice president and associate general counsel of Premise Health in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Aaron Thomas** is a member of Watkins & Eager LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 2001

**Meredith McCollum Aldridge** is director of development for the Children's Hospital expansion in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Jason Waddell,** a board certified Florida elder law attorney, was inducted as chair of the Florida Bar Elder Law Section during the Florida Bar's Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida.

#### 2002

**Charles Jackson Fleming Jr.** is a partner of Clark May Price Lawley Duncan & Paul LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Tim Howe** is editor and owner of Yellowhammer News.

#### 2004

**Michael E. Short** has joined Haygood Cleveland Pierce Thompson & Short LLP as a partner in Auburn, Alabama.

#### 2005

**Matthew Campbell Jordan** opened the Law Office of Matthew C. Jordan. Jordan will continue representing injured workers throughout Georgia. He is also a registered mediator and serves the citizens of Athens Clarke county as a municipal court judge.

**Mitchell M. Mataya** is an attorney at Vulcan Materials Company in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Alejandro Viernes Pascual IV** is an assistant United States attorney in the Southern District of Georgia under United States attorney Bobby Christine '95. Pascual is also the senior defense counsel for the Georgia Army National Guard Trial Defense Service.

**Stephanie Pollard** achieved board certification in family trial law by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

**Lauren Shine** is the 2019 chair of the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers Section.

**Matthew Simpson** was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives representing District 96.

#### 2006

**Todd Cox** is a vice president and trust advisor at Regions Bank in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Susan Nettles Han** is the 2019 Birmingham Bar Foundation liaison of the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers Section.

**Margaret (Maggie) Ann Harrell** is deputy chief of staff and legislative director and counsel for Congressman Chip Roy (Texas) in Washington, D.C.

**Robert (Bo) H. Harris II** joined MendenFreiman LLP as a senior associate attorney in its estate planning and trust, estate administration and business practice areas in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Patrick Moody** is a deputy attorney general and general counsel of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in Montgomery, Alabama.

**Kelli Flanders Robinson** is now associate counsel manager for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Ashley Ragsdale Santos** is assistant vice president of principal giving at The Citadel Foundation in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Sara Williams was awarded the Stetson University College of Law Edward D. Ohlbaum Professionalism Award for 2018. The award honors an individual whose life and practice display sterling character and unquestioned integrity, coupled with ongoing dedication to the highest standards of the legal profession and the rule of law. Williams is managing partner of Alexander Shunnarah Personal Injury Attorneys PC and a coach of the Cumberland School of Law National Trial Team.

#### 2007

Michelle Butler, procurement manager in the DeKalb County, Georgia, purchasing and contracting department, graduated from the DeKalb County's Bright Futures Leadership Development Program-Emerging Executives Track. This elite training program is offered by the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government (UGA/CVIOG) to develop leaders who will help transform government.

Mina A. Elmankabady has been named managing shareholder of Davis Matthews & Quigley PC in Atlanta, Georgia. Elmankabady's practice will continue to focus on commercial real estate, business law, corporate law, and mergers and acquisitions.

## CLASS NOTES COLLECTED MAY 1, 2018-JAN. 31, 2019

**Jakkara Jones** is an attorney in Microsoft's Office of Compliance and Investigations in Seattle, Washington.

**Kimberly Perkins** was elected as the 2019 secretary and treasurer of the Birmingham Bar Association.

**Ariel Zion** is deputy general counsel at Insight Global in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### 2008

**Meredith Hamilton Barnes** is general counsel of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency in Montgomery, Alabama.

Patrick Johnson, Pinal County, Arizona's deputy county attorney (prosecutor) was named the 2018 Arizona Felony Prosecutor of the Year and the 2018 Arizona Gang Investigator's Association Gang Prosecutor of the Year. This is the second time he has been honored with these awards.

**Andrew King** is an associate at Smith Spires Peddy Hamilton & Coleman in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Sean Mims** is a partner at Hall Booth Smith PC in Columbus, Georgia.

Luisa Kay Reyes published an essay in the I Am Strength! anthology, which debuted as number one in feminist theory on Amazon. It is featured in the "Odes to Women We Love" chapter and titled "I Can." She also published a short story titled "Camogie" on beneaththerainbow.com. Reyes wrote an essay "All Day Singings and Dinner on The Grounds" that was recorded by Catherine Campbell and aired on The Dirty Spoon radio hour in Asheville, North Carolina. In addition, she wrote an essay published in The Daily Abuse (newly released by Amazon), titled "Confident by Luisa Kay Reyes."

#### 2009

**Jeffrey P. Doss** was named a partner of Lightfoot Franklin & White LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**J. Andrew Isom** is counsel for Southern Company in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Margaret Head Jones** partner of Clark May Price Lawley Duncan & Paul LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Major Alan S. Kirk** is an assistant U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Ryan Thompson** is a shareholder of Maynard Cooper in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Summer Austin Wells** is the 2019 corresponding secretary for the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers section.

#### 2010

**Ashley Adams** is in operations and a training coach at Torrance Training Lab in Torrance, California.

**Taylor Bartlett** became a partner of Heninger Garrison Davis in Birmingham, Alabama.

**H. Finn Cox** is a shareholder of Maynard Cooper in Mobile. Alabama.

**Kyle Dulock** is associate general counsel of OptumRX in Duluth, Georgia.

**Shannon Dye** is the 2019 leadership development co-chair for the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers section.

**Roderick Evans** is a member of Wallace Jordan Ratliff & Brandt LLC, in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Ashley Peinhardt** is the 2019 projects co-chair for the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers section.

**Brittany Schaffer** was recognized by Billboard Women in Music 2018.

Andrea Shaw published an article in the Texas Environmental Law Journal, the official publication of the Environmental & Natural Resources Law section of the State Bar of Texas. Shaw's article entitled, "Environmental Consultant Risk a Decade After All Appropriate Inquiry."

**Amanda Williamson** is a partner of Heninger Garrison Davis in Birmingham, Alabama. She is also the 2019 assistant secretary for the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers section.

#### 2011

**Jonathan Bedwell** is a grants and contracts officer at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in Birmingham, Alabama.

**L. Cole Callihan** was elected to partner of Adams & Reese in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Benjamin D. Cohn** was selected to the 2019 board of directors of the Volunteer Lawyers Birmingham in Birmingham, Alabama. As well, Cohn was recognized as a Pro Bono Exemplar by the Alabama Access to Justice Commission and the Supreme Court of Alabama. Pro Bono Exemplars are lawyers who provide 50 or more hours of qualified pro bono legal services under RPC 6.1.

**Matthew Couch** is a partner of Cabaniss Johnston in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Martin Harrison Drake** was promoted to partner of Brown & Adams LLC in Columbus, Georgia.

**Charles Elliott** was invested to the bench of the 6th Judicial Circuit Court in Morgan County, Alabama.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{H. Carlton Hilson} was elected to partner of Burr \& Forman in Birmingham, Alabama. \end{tabular}$ 

**Jessica Davis King** is an associate at Hasner Law in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Alex Munderloh** is an associate at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis LLP in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Brandon Prince** announces the founding of his firm, BHM Law Group LLC, in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Hannah Thrasher** joined Stockham Cooper & Potts as counsel in Birmingham, Alabama.

**J. Patrick Warfield** was promoted to partner of Burr & Forman in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Kristen Peters Watson** was elected to partner of Burr & Forman in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 2012

**Brent Almond** was promoted to partner of Huie Fernambucq & Stewart LLP in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Hope Hodges Brown** is the business manager of DSLD Land Management, Birmingham, Alabama.

**Michael Brown** is an associate with Ross Molina & Oliveros PC in San Antonio, Texas.

**Laura Guarino Cunliffe** is an associate director for administrative positions in the Office of Management and Budget in the Executive Office of the President in Washington, D.C.

**F. Beau Darley III** was promoted to principal of Beasley Allen in Montgomery, Alabama.

**Beth Dyer** was promoted to underwriter II at Brotherhood Insurance Company in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

**Katie Kimbrell** is president of the Young Supporters Board of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Tina Lam** is the 2019 chair of Pinstripes and Pearls for the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers section

**Ryan Letson** joined Bradley Arant Boult and Cummings as an associate in its intellectual property group in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Calle Mendenhall** is an associate at Farris Riley & Pitt in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Ritesh Patel** is an associate at Cohen Pollock Merlin Turner PC in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Jeremy Richter** was promoted to shareholder of Webster Henry Bradwell Cohan Speagle & DeShazo PC.

**Jaclyn Terry** is a business development specialist with Jeff Roberts & Associates, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services Inc. in Birmingham, Alabama.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Neal Townsend} & was promoted to partner of Adams \& Reese in Mobile, Alabama. \end{tabular}$ 

#### **2013**.

**Albert Boykin III** is an associate at Evans & Evans in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Wilson "Will" Coffman III** is counsel of Corporate Affairs & Governance for the International Code Council in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Veronica Crenshaw** is a judicial assistant in the Fulton County, Georgia Magistrate Court. She also serves as program specialist in the family engagement and dispute resolution unit with the Georgia Department of Education. She is a founding board member for a new school opening in 2020 called Atlanta SMART Academy in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Kathleen Bowers Ennis** is a judicial clerk for the Honorable David E. Peebles, chief magistrate judge for the Northern District of New York.

**Christopher Friedman** coauthored a chapter on class action settlement in the recently published *ABA Class Action Strategy and Practice Guide*.

**Samantha Anne Horwitch** is corporate counsel with Sterling Construction Company in The Woodlands, Texas.

**Blake Hungerford** is an associate at Gregory Doyle Calhoun & Rogers LLC in Marietta, Georgia.

**April Jackson-MacLennon** is a staff attorney for the Honorable Scott Donaldson of the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals.

**Claire Martin** is an associate at Maynard Cooper & Gale in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Steven Miller** is staff council for Allstate with the Law Offices of Nancy W. Phillips in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Ryan Myers** is an associate with Belt & Bruner PC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**John Naramore** is corporate counsel for Empirion Health LLC in Montgomery, Alabama.

**Danny Patterson** is an associate with Hall Booth Smith PC in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Clinton Speegle** was named a *Birmingham Business Journal* Veteran of Influence for 2018.

**Avery Livingston Stewart** earned her Ph.D. in public policy from Auburn University and is the public policy director at Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence in Montgomery, Alabama.

**David Stewart** is the deputy district attorney for Elmore County, Alabama.

**Jerrika Walker** is an associate with Sumrell Sugg Carmichael Hicks & Hart in New Bern, North Carolina

**Olivia Woodard** is corporate counsel for LinkedIn in San Jose. California.

#### 2014

**Gabriel Castro** is an associate at Tafapolsky Smith Mehlman LLP in Los Angeles, California.

**Ricky Coates** is an associate with Bendin Sumrall & Ladner in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Christopher Friedman** is an associate at Bradley Arant in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Stephanie Gossett** is an associate at Maynard Cooper & Gale in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Lindsey Mims Guin** is an associate at Swensen Law Office in Centennial, Colorado.

**Blake Milner** is an assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama.

**Umang Patel** is the municipal courts director for the City of Vestavia Hills, Alabama.

**Ashley Rhea** founded Rhea Law LLC in Birmingham, Alabama. Her practice will focus on disability law.

**Carl Williams** is an associate at Hall Booth Smith in Birmingham. Alabama.

**Andrew Hill** is director II for LAD product development at Protective Life in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 2015

**Sean Vanden Heuval** is a defense contract administrator with Northrup Grumman in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Matthew Johnson** is a senior associate at Markstein in Washington, D.C.

**Sheena Johnson** is an associate at Gaines Gault Hendrix in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Emily Peake Mauck** is an associate at Lloyd & Hogan PC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Lindsey Mims** is an associate at Swenson Law Office PC in Centennial, Colorado.

**Sam Nokovich** is a vice president and wealth advisor at Regions Bank in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Samantha Page** is an associate at Merritt Watson LLP in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Spenser Templeton** is the 2019 co-chair of law student mentoring for the Birmingham Bar Association's Women Lawyers section.

**Ashley Schaid Waldrop** is assistant chief counsel at the United States Department of Homeland Security.

#### 2016

**Caroline Collins Atkins** is a compliance manager at SCL Health in Broomfield, Colorado.

**Hannah Baker** is the communications coordinator and office administrator for Veal Convention Services in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Jessie Vallimont Barnhill** is a licensed realtor with Brik Realty in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Jennifer Bottomley** is an associate at Grace Matthews & Debro in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Anna Schmarkey Cobb** is participating in a 13-week program sponsored by Regions Bank as a loaned executive to United Way of Central Alabama.

**Lauren Miller Collinsworth** is a senior international tax services associate at PwC in Dallas, Texas.

**Tyler Conger** is an attorney at Reli Title in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Autumn Flores** is associate general counsel of business transactions and operations for Shelby County Schools in Memphis, Tennessee.

**Elise M. and Matthew E. Hoyle** founded The Hoyle Law Firm in Dahlonega, Georgia.

**Asher Kitchings** is an associate at Balch & Bingham in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Alan Moore** recently earned his U.S. and European Certified Information Privacy Professional certifications from the International Association of Privacy Professionals.

**Alexandria Mullins** is a victim services coordinator for Lee County District Attorney Office in Opelika, Alabama.

**Brandi Russell** is assistant director of admissions for Culverhouse School of Law at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Alabama.

#### 2017

**Bowman Archer** is an associate at Luther Collier Hodges and Cash LLP in Mobile, Alabama.

**Katie Barnes** earned an LL.M. from the University of Florida and is a tax consultant II in international tax at Deloitte in Dallas/Ft. Worth. Texas.

**Steven Bode** is an associate with Cedo Group LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Brittany Ford** is an assistant district attorney in Talledega County, Alabama.

**Jonathan Griffith** is an associate at Wallace Jordan Ratliff & Brandt in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Adam Hoekenschnieder** is an associate at Brodowski McCurry & Mavnor in Huntsville. Alabama.

**Hamilton Jordan** is an associate at Cory Watson in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Wade Norwood** is an associate with Carr Allison in its workers' compensation practice group in Birmingham, Alahama

**Drew Panella** is an associate at Waldon Adelman Castilla Hiestand & Prout in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Alexandra Parish** is an associate at Huie Fernambucq & Stewart LLP in Birmingham, Alabama.

**P. Lynn Pulido** is an associate at Gaines Gault Hendrix PC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Jordan Thompson** is a client associate at Altera Advisors in Atlanta. Georgia.

**John Wilson** is an associate at Wooden Law Firm in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

**Rebecca M. Wright** is an associate at Hamer Law Group LLC in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Holly Harkins Worley** is an associate at Alexander Shunnarah Injury Lawyers PC in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### 2018

**Andrew Banks** is an associate at Beasley Allen in Montgomery, Alabama.

## CLASS NOTES COLLECTED MAY 1, 2018-JAN. 31, 2019

**Allison E. Booth** is an associate at Maynard Cooper in Huntsville. Alabama.

**Mallory Bullard** is a staff attorney at Beasley Allen in Montgomery, Alabama.

**Kellianne Campbell** is an associate at Huie Fernambucq & Stewart LLP in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Ashley Paige Caraway** is an associate at Hollis Wright Clay & Vale in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Lindsey Catlett** is an associate at Balch & Bingham in Birmingham. Alabama.

**Amy Chiou** is a staff attorney at Encompass Health in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Jeremy Crowley** opened the JC Law Firm in Pelham, Alabama.

**Sarah Emerson** is an assistant district attorney in the 25th Judicial Circuit in Hamilton, Alabama.

**Alexis Esneault** is an associate at Nagele Rechtsanwalre in Vaduz, Liechtenstein.

**Sydney Everett** is an associate at Beasley Allen in Montgomery, Alabama.

**Christian Feldman** is an associate at Sirote & Permutt in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Mary Katherine Flynn** is an associate at Tindal Goree LLC in Roanoke, Alabama.

**K. Laney Gifford** is an associate at Bradley Arant Boult & Cummings in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Matthew Hambrick** is an associate at Phelps Dunbar LLP in Mobile, Alabama.

**Ryan Hawks** is earning his LL.M. at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

**Charles Hearn** is an associate at Sirote & Permutt, Birmingham, Alabama.

**Xan Ingram** is an associate at Butler Snow in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Sydney Jackson** is earning his LL.M. at New York University in New York, New York.

**Harrison Jones** is earning his LL.M. at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

**Ben Keen** is an associate at Beasley Allen in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Megan Moore Kelly** is an associate at Sirote & Permutt in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Stuart Lang** is currently a judicial clerk for Judge Ben Brooks in the 13th Judicial Circuit in Mobile, Alabama.

**Jacey Mann** is a lawyer with the Mezrano Law Firm in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Micah McKinney** is earning his LL.M. at the University of East Anglia, England.

**Mike Milton** is earning his LL.M. at the University of East Anglia, England.

**Rodney Patrick** is an associate with the TuckerMoore Group in Hyattsville, Maryland.

**Matt Pettit** is an associate of Frazer PLC in Nashville, Tennessee.

**William "Trey" Prosch** is an associate at Martenson Hasbrouck Simon in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Taylor Akers Pruett** is an associate at Schreiber Law Firm in Birmingham. Alabama.

**Kevin Putney** is an associate with Shine Law Firm in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Allyson Swecker** is a litigation associate at Reinisch Wilson Weierlae in Portland, Oregon.

**Connor Harrison Theune** is an associate with Lee Livingston Lee Nichols & Barron in Dothan, Alabama.

**Alex Thrasher** is an associate at Bradley Arant in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Ashton Traylor** is an associate at Beasley Allen in Montgomery, Alabama.

**Wesley Walker** is an associate at Taunton Snyder & Parish in Houston. Texas.

**Carmen Weite** is an associate at Friedman Dazzio Zulanas & Bowling in Birmingham, Alabama.

**David Wisdom** is an associate with Long & Associate in Guntersville, Alabama

**Jackson Young** is earning his LL.M. at the University of East Anglia, England.

**Michelle Herd** is the assistant director of chapters for the American Constitution Society.

#### Births.

**Lee Ellen Bagley '07** and **Franz F. "Dutch" Holscher III '07** welcomed a daughter, Elizabeth "Liza"
Clarke Holscher born Aug. 19, 2018.

**Caroline Hughes Benefield '13** and her husband, Jackson, welcomed their daughter, Charlotte, on Jan. 22, 2019

**John Browning '03** and his wife, Margaret Sue, welcomed a daughter, Katherine Jane Browning, on June 14, 2018.

Meg Williamson Clements '12 and her husband, Jon, welcomed a daughter, Amelia Anne Clements, on Nov. 12. 2018.

**Christopher Dunnagan '99** and his wife, Kim Horner, welcomed a daughter, Annalisa Eira Dunnagan, on April 28, 2018

**Michael Eldridge '12** and his wife, Sarah Beth, welcomed a son, Samuel Thomas Eldridge, on Oct. 24, 2018.

**Ashley Wallace Feltman '18** and her husband, Jacob, welcomed a daughter, Adelaide James Feltman, on Oct. 18. 2018.

**Katie Garrety Gibson '12** and her husband, James, welcomed a son, Thomas Hayden Gibson, on Sept. 4, 2018

**Christopher Gifford '10** and his wife, Katie, welcomed a son, William McLean "Mac" Gifford, on Oct. 5, 2018.

**Laura C. Herndon '09** and her husband, Zach Neill, welcomed a baby boy, David Yates Neill, on Feb. 12, 2018.

**Scott Holmes '05** and his wife, Lauren, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Vera Maxine Holmes, on Nov. 13, 2018

**Stephen Hudgens '12** and his wife, Noel, welcomed their son, Ford Hudgens, in March 2018.

**Abbey Lee Johnston '14** and her husband, Neil, welcomed the birth of their son, Neil "Tripp" Chunn Johnston III. on Dec. 3, 2018.

**Alan Kirk '09** and his wife, Melanie, welcomed a son, Byron Hardy Kirk, on Nov. 28, 2018.

**Kristin Jeffreys Pace '11** and her husband, David, welcomed their daughter, Abigail Sims Pace, on April 1, 2018

**Max Smith '15** and his wife, Hillary, announced the birth of their baby girl, Hadley Elizabeth Smith, on Sept. 24, 2018.

**W. Christopher Weaver '13** and his wife, Ashley, announced the birth of their son, Bryson James Weaver, on Aug. 8, 2018.

**Kaila Wilson '15** and her husband Brad, welcomed a son, Trystan Bradley Wilson, on Sept. 6, 2018.

**J. Breanna "Brie" Stanley Zarzour '12** and her husband, Grant, welcomed their daughter, Frances Louise Zarzour, on Jan. 11, 2019.

#### Adoption.

**Lindsey Catlett '18** and her husband, Jacob, proudly welcomed the newest member of their family, Rodney. Rodney is a sophomore at Spain Park High School in Hoover, Alabama.

#### **Marriage**

**A. Kathleen Bowers '13** married Henry Ennis on Oct. 6, 2018. They reside in New York.

**Jessica Catlin '16** married Lowell Blake Anderson on Nov. 10, 2018. The couple resides in Mobile, Alabama.

**Caroline Collins '16** married Michael Atkins on Aug. 25, 2018. The couple resides in Colorado.

**Ashley Crank '16** married Cody Scarpetta on Dec. 15, 2018. They reside in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Candace Deer '10** married David Williams on Jan. 12, 2019. They live in Birmingham, Alabama.

Christian Flowers '19 married Alexandra Stone in May 2018

**Ashley Heidger '13** married Capt. J. Brian Meskill on Nov. 3, 2018. The couple resides in Montgomery, Alabama.

**Holly Howell '18** married Daniel Brasher on Dec. 28, 2018. They live in Birmingham, Alabama.

Mark Kilgore '16 and Julie Musolf '16 married on Dec. 1, 2018. The couple resides in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Kayla Lawrence '13** married James Sullivan on Oct. 13, 2018. The couple resides in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Gary Lee '02** married Laura Elizabeth Montgomery on Nov. 10, 2018. The couple resides in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Jacey Mann '17** married Chris Jefferson on Oct. 21, 2018. The couple resides in Chelsea, Alabama.

**Charles Manush '16** married Sara Hamilton on July 14, 2018. The couple resides in Georgia.

Leirin Ragan '14 married Grant Sides on Dec. 15, 2018.

**Heather Searcy '11** married Michael Fly on Aug. 4, 2018. The couple lives in Fort Meyers, Florida.

**Kayla Shoen '14** married Clint Graben on Dec. 31, 2018. The couple resides in Trussville, Alabama.

**Stephanie Williams '11** married Chris Tooley on Oct. 27, 2018. The couple resides in Houston, Texas.

#### In Memoriam

**Michael Alan Anderson '85**, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, died on Jan. 22, 2019.

**Helen Ball '03**, of Birmingham, Alabama, passed away on Oct. 5, 2018.

**John Benn '78**, of Sheffield, Alabama, passed away on Sept. 5, 2018.

**Judge Billy C. Burney '66**, of Moulton, Alabama, passed away on Nov. 3, 2018.

**Charles Augustus Bryant '86** of Atlanta, Georgia, passed away on Sept. 10, 2018.

**John Lowery Capell III '63**, of Montgomery, Alabama, passed away on Aug.8, 2018.

**Arthur P. Clarke '72** of Mobile, Alabama, passed away on Jan. 9, 2019.

Margaret "Meg" Demeranville '09, of Mobile, Alabama, passed away on Oct. 12, 2018.

**Nicholas Dumich '77**, of Marietta, Georgia, passed away on Nov. 23, 2018.

**V. Edward Freeman II '86** passed away on Aug. 16, 2018. Freeman practiced in Bessemer, Alabama.

**Judge Jimmy Fry '79**, of Athens, Alabama, passed away on Nov. 14, 2018.

M. Richard Hughes '80 of Vestavia, Alabama, died on Dec. 19, 2018.

**Sam Delk Kennedy '50,** of Columbia, Tennessee, passed away on May 1, 2018.

**James H. McNeil Sr. '67**, of Fort Myers, Florida, passed away on Sept. 28, 2018.

**Mike Miller '00**, of Douglasville, Georgia, passed away on Nov. 19, 2018.

**Fred Sumner Moore '71**, of Birmingham, Alabama, passed away on Sept. 24, 2018.

**James V. Roberts Jr. '84** of Mobile, Alabama, passed away on Jan. 10, 2019.

**Charles Randolph Smith Jr. '67**, of Huntsville, Alabama, passed away on Oct. 12, 2018.

**Darryl Lee Webb '67**, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, passed away on Nov. 11, 2018.

**Phillip Stephen Witeka '78**, of Gainesville, Florida, passed away on Sept. 16, 2018.



Jim Morgan '69 of High Point, North Carolina, celebrating 50 years of practicing law.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Montgomery Alumni Luncheon April 25, 2019

Washington, D.C. Alumni Reception May 2, 2019

North Carolina
Alumni Reception
June 21, 2019
Asheville, North Carolina

Alabama State Bar Annual Meeting Cumberland Alumni Reception July 18, 2019 Point Clear, Alabama

samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/events

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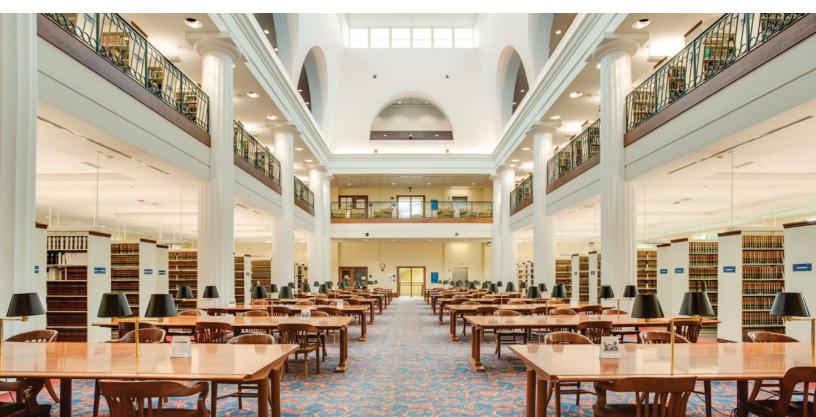
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