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October 2013

Our Debut Ranking Of Law Schools — Stanford Comes Out On Top

by Maya Itah



Stanford Law School



The Top 50 Law Schools

The West Coast wins this round: Though Yale University Law School comes first in nearly every ranking of the nation's best law schools—including the ubiquitous U.S. News & World Report ranking—Tipping the Scales' 2013 analysis puts Stanford Law School at the front of the pack.

Of course, the top of the list has no shortage of East Coast schools. No. 2 Yale is right on Stanford's heels, followed by No. 3 Harvard, No. 4 Penn—which is No. 7 on U.S. News' list—and No. 5 Columbia. Aside from Stanford, every top five school in our ranking is an Ivy League institution in a large, Northeastern metropolitan area.

U.S. News' top five includes at least one Midwestern school, putting Chicago at No. 4 (along with Columbia). In our ranking, however, Chicago is only No. 12, unexpectedly outdone by No. 7 Duke and No. 8 Northwestern.

TIPPING THE SCALES' APPROACH

What accounts for the differences? Tipping the Scales' ranking zeroes in on two key dimensions of the J.D. experience: the quality of the students getting into a law school and the success of the graduates going out. Bottom line is, these metrics are simple to understand and they get at what really counts in a law school education. Applicants want to know that their classmates will be as good as they are, that a school is highly selective in crafting its classes, and that at the end of the experience they will have a job and sizable compensation.

In our ranking, the scores for schools' acceptance rates and median LSAT results are weighted 25% each. We reward schools that can be choosy about the students they accept. Another 25% depends on the percentage of graduates that don their caps knowing they have jobs lined up. Along with the fact that this figure says a lot about schools' career services, states release bar exam results at different times., and we didn't want to give certain schools geography-based advantages. Finally, median private sector salaries and median public interest salaries count for 12.5% each. Money isn't everything, but it's undeniably important for the many lawyers saddled with student loans.

We left out information that's harder to quantify and far more likely to be suspect if not downright flawed. For example, in U.S. News' ranking, input from deans and other faculty members accounts for 25% of schools' index scores. Those opinion surveys are little more than popularity contests because deans and faculty have only limited knowledge of what is going on at schools other than their own. And they can be deeply flawed anyway due to possible sampling errors.

For similar reasons, we also don't believe that the opinions of legal professionals count for all that much. Most of them would only vote for their alma maters, anyway. Yet, U.S. News annually polls law firm partners, state attorneys general and federal and state judges and their opinions count for 15% of that magazine's methodology. And we certainly don't include a fuzzy category used by U.S. News called "faculty resources"—expenditures per student, student-faculty ratio, and library resources. Frankly, that's all well and good but only gets in the way of the more important criteria to determine the true quality of a law school.

The simpler a ranking is, the better. That's because rankings that measure school quality on too many metrics are harder to interpret. You often can't tell the exact reasons why a school is either falling or climbing in a ranking when there are too many factors influencing the result. And more often than not, the additional metrics only detract from the key measurements that are

really important. The TippingTheScales' methodology does away with this problem, bringing greater clarity to a school's specific ranking.

“INCUBATOR FOR INNOVATION”

True, Yale has been recognized as the best law school for so long that putting it at No. 2 feels blasphemous. It's harder to get into Yale than Stanford. Stanford's acceptance rate is slightly higher, and its median LSAT score is slightly lower. Stanford's index score in our ranking is just 0.125 higher than Yale's. Admittedly, that's not statistically meaningful. Still, a win is a win.

And how does Stanford come out ahead? Its students' post-graduation success—arguably the most important thing to consider when choosing a law school—tips the balance in favor of the Silicon Valley powerhouse. Stanford's biggest gain comes from the percentage of students who have jobs at graduation: 93.2% compared to Yale's 90.7%. The median private sector starting salary for graduates of both schools is \$160,000, which is typical for elite law schools, but at \$62,401, Stanford's median public interest starting salary is higher than Yale's \$60,000. The difference isn't enormous, but it breaks Stanford's way.

It's fitting for Stanford to do well in a ranking that puts tradition aside. The law school brands itself as an “incubator for innovation”: “Our neighbors include most of the world's leading high-tech, biotech, and venture capital firms,” its website proclaims. Students who choose to focus on science and technology have the opportunity to engage with industry leaders, work on cyberlaw cases, and combine their JDs with degrees in STEM fields like computer science and bioengineering—fields in which Stanford University has a stellar reputation.

Though collegiality doesn't factor into our ranking, it's worth noting that Stanford Law School's small size makes fostering community easier. 1L sections generally have 30 students—not 60—and most upper division classes have fewer than 25 students. (It's probably no coincidence that No. 2 Yale is a small school, too.)

MORE WINNERS AND LOSERS

The list yielded a few other surprises. Georgia State, No. 54 in U.S. News' ranking, is No. 24 in ours. The reason is simple: the school performs well in several categories we weight more heavily. For one, Georgia State has an acceptance rate of 26.8%, which means it's harder to get into than NYU, UT-Austin, Georgetown, and a number of other well-regarded law schools. Combine the competitive admissions process with the fact that 64.5% of Georgia State students graduate with a job lined up—not too bad for a law school—and the fact that the median public interest salary is a respectable \$54,268, and you have a winner. No. 25 George Mason also fared surprisingly well: in U.S. News' ranking, it's only No. 41. Like Georgia State, the school has a slightly higher acceptance rate than NYU.

Some of the surprises were less positive. Iowa, ranked No. 26 by U.S. News, is off our list entirely. Though the school still enjoys a solid reputation, it has a 48.7% acceptance rate, and almost the exact same percentage of the Class of 2011 graduated with a job lined up. Washington

and Lee, tied with Iowa in the U.S. News ranking, is still on our list—but it's at No. 44. A dismal 27.9% of the Class of 2011 was employed at graduation; it's hard to recover from that.

Rankings are important, but they occasionally make it hard for applicants to think in terms of return on investment. The top ten schools have promising statistics, but they also tend to be incredibly pricey. And though the schools farther down might not look as good on paper, their price tags alone make them worth considering. No. 16 Alabama costs \$32,920—for out-of-staters. That's \$15,148 less than California residents pay to go to Berkeley. And the difference between the two just about pays for a year of in-state tuition at Georgia State. That's one area where Stanford simply can't compete.

TippingTheScales Top 50 Law Schools

Rank & School	Index	USN	LSAT	Accept Rate	Jobs At Grad	Private Salary	Public Salary
1. <u>Stanford</u>	100.0	2	170	9.7%	93.2%	\$160,000	\$62,401
2. <u>Yale</u>	99.9	1	173	8.3%	90.7%	\$160,000	\$60,000
3. <u>Harvard</u>	98.4	2	173	16.1%	90.9%	\$160,000	\$57,408
4. <u>UPenn</u>	97.3	7	170	15.5%	83.6%	\$160,000	\$58,376
5. <u>Columbia</u>	97.2	4	172	18.4%	93.2%	\$160,000	\$55,000
6. <u>Duke</u>	95.1	11	169	19.1%	72.9%	\$160,000	\$57,000
7. <u>Northwestern</u>	94.8	12	170	23.7%	77.4%	\$160,000	\$60,000
8. <u>Berkeley</u>	94.7	9	167	11.6%	72.6%	\$160,000	\$55,000
9. <u>Virginia</u>	93.8	7	170	15.2%	97.3%	\$160,000	\$36,000
10. <u>Michigan</u>	93.7	9	169	24.5%	70.7%	\$160,000	\$61,245
11. <u>Chicago</u>	92.9	4	171	20.1%	90.6%	\$160,000	\$47,657
12. <u>New York</u>	92.6	6	171	27.9%	93.1%	\$160,000	\$53,500
13. <u>GW</u>	91.2	21	167	29.7%	81.7%	\$160,000	\$62,467
14. <u>Cornell</u>	90.5	13	167	29.1%	69.7%	\$160,000	\$62,467
15. <u>Georgetown</u>	90.1	14	169	28.4%	63.7%	\$160,000	\$61,245
16. <u>Alabama</u>	89.5	21	165	25.2%	66.5%	\$90,000	\$57,000
17. <u>UT-Austin</u>	88.3	15	167	27.2%	62.0%	\$155,000	\$55,017
18. <u>Minnesota</u>	87.7	19	167	23.2%	64.0%	\$110,000	\$50,000
19. <u>USC</u>	87.2	18	167	29.0%	54.6%	\$160,000	\$61,350
20. <u>Vanderbilt</u>	86.8	15	169	30.2%	65.2%	\$125,000	\$56,000
21. <u>UCLA</u>	86.2	17	168	23.7%	45.9%	\$145,000	\$60,000
22. <u>Wash U.</u>	85.2	19	166	28.5%	52.7%	\$105,000	\$58,000
23. <u>Washington</u>	84.5	26	164	21.8%	54.9%	\$100,000	\$50,000
24. <u>Georgia State</u>	83.8	54	159	26.8%	64.5%	\$67,838	\$54,268
25. <u>George Mason</u>	83.0	41	163	27.8%	49.4%	\$75,000	\$62,467
Rank & School	Index	USN	LSAT	Acceptance Rate	Jobs At Graduation	Private Salary	Public Salary
26. <u>Houston</u>	82.5	48	161	29.8%	58.0%	\$80,000	\$58,000
27. <u>Nevada-Las Vegas</u>	81.0	68	159	28.3%	52.3%	\$68,000	\$58,000

28.	<u>Emory University</u>	80.5	23	165	31.2%	52.4%	\$90,000	\$55,000
29.	<u>Boston College</u>	80.3	31	164	29.3%	51.9%	\$145,000	\$52,500
30.	<u>Notre Dame</u>	89.0	23	166	23.7%	48.9%	\$87,500	\$32,000
31.	<u>Maryland (Carey)</u>	79.4	41	162	26.6%	57.6%	\$64,000	\$45,000
32.	<u>UNC-Chapel Hill</u>	79.3	31	162	28.3%	46.6%	\$117,500	\$50,980
33.	<u>Arizona State</u>	78.9	25	163	33.5%	50.2%	\$125,000	\$56,000
34.	<u>Brigham Young</u>	78.0	44	162	29.8%	45.3%	\$84,500	\$55,500
34.	<u>Georgia</u>	78.0	33	164	31.4%	56.8%	\$65,000	\$54,000
36.	<u>Boston University</u>	77.0	29	166	30.5%	44.0%	\$132,500	\$52,500
37.	<u>Indiana-Bloomington</u>	76.4	25	164	45.9%	62.1%	\$98,000	\$53,600
38.	<u>Fordham</u>	75.5	38	164	31.6%	43.9%	\$138,000	\$52,125
38.	<u>Richmond</u>	75.5	53	162	21.4%	38.0%	\$71,250	\$48,000
40.	<u>William & Mary</u>	74.0	33	164	31.8%	45.6%	\$75,000	\$53,000
41.	<u>Baylor University</u>	73.5	54	162	21.2%	30.6%	\$67,500	\$52,450
42.	<u>SMU</u>	73.1	48	161	34.0%	43.0%	\$85,000	\$56,204
43.	<u>Utah (Quinney)</u>	70.8	41	160	35.2%	47.8%	\$70,000	\$54,000
44.	<u>Arizona</u>	70.2	38	161	39.9%	49.4%	\$82,343	\$50,287
45.	<u>UC-Hastings</u>	69.8	48	162	30.0%	26.0%	\$83,600	\$57,407
45.	<u>Wisconsin-Madison</u>	69.9	33	162	37.4%	46.5%	\$70,000	\$49,500
47.	<u>American University</u>	69.8	56	159	32.5	36.4%	\$86,250	\$52,904
48.	<u>Connecticut</u>	68.4	58	159	36.0%	31.3%	\$82,000	\$59,000
49.	<u>Wake Forest</u>	68.1	36	163	41.7%	39.9%	\$85,000	\$50,450
50.	<u>San Diego</u>	67.8	68	160	44.1%	37.1%	\$75,000	\$60,000

Source: TippingTheScales

BEST VALUE LAW SCHOOLS



They may not be the high-glitzy law schools in the nation's largest cities, but they do something else: get graduates jobs and don't saddle them with big debt

By Mike Stetz

“SIX-FIGURE DEBT” and “law degree” have almost become synonymous. Google the two and you get in the neighborhood of 30,000 hits.

But a law degree doesn't necessarily come with that hefty of a price tag.

In our annual list of Best Value Law Schools, only four of the 45 schools have student debt averages greater than \$100,000.

The University of Arkansas School of Law — second on the list — had a debt below \$60,000.

Law schools are not equal. Some provide unparalleled prestige, while others offer an opportunity to learn the practice of law at dramatically lower costs and place graduates in the work force at credible percentages.

Value?

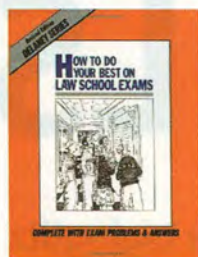
Like beauty, it's in the eye of the beholder.

Once again, The National Jurist magazine has identified which of the nation's law schools offer the best value. We analyzing tuition, cost of living expenses, bar passage rates, debt accumulation and — most important — employment success. (See side bar on page 26 for methodology).

For the second year in a row, the University of Alabama School of Law came out on top in our analysis. A good number of schools in last year's top 20 remain in this year's ranking, even though

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF LAW

not only tell you how to write exams, but they also tell you to study effectively and purge useless information from your outlines.”



He also recommends “How to Do Your Best on Law School Exams,” by John Delaney, which he applauds for giving some rather interesting advice, such as offering relaxation tips so you

remain calm and cool.

“The best part of this book [is] the sample essays it offers, so that you can look at their examples and get a feel about how to write a proper exam,” he wrote.

Still another resource he suggests is the “Nutshell Series,” which he said “is a basic, run-of-the-mill tool which will give you a solid introduction to what to expect in law school and on the exam. There is nothing surprising here to be discovered, but it is a great way to get a solid overview as to what a professor will look for on an exam.”

Steve Blaiklock, circulation and reserves supervisor for the library, said the reviews “help quell the general panic before the 1L students take their first law school exams.”

Before the reviews were available, the library staff was routinely asked which study aids were best. That’s when the library got the idea to turn to students.

“Several years ago we decided that that question was best answered by the students themselves,” Blaiklock said. “So we asked our student assistants to look at the available titles and pick the ones that they believed were most helpful for creating their course outlines, offered good hypotheticals or sample questions and answers, and best explained the topics.”

The library has noticed the many different titles available. “An overwhelming number of series [is] targeted to law students, so it must be a very lucrative market for the publishers,” Blaiklock said.

The library staff members, by following student habits, know which titles are the most sought-after, he said. And the students who do the reviews are asked to read and give their opinions on them.

But the students are so clued-in that they sometimes tell the library which titles will be in demand, he said.

Some of the best study aids, students say, are other exams. (Those are also available at the Wolf Law Library.)

Said one student, on a message board: “Exams are different, but the usefulness of putting up exams from other schools is to get different fact patterns in your head and help tease out the legal

issues. The best exams are always your professors’, but there is still value in looking at almost any similar law school exam.”

And still another:

“My school library has some recent exams and model answers for some of the 1L classes. You might inquire there, or even just ask your professor. You never know what you can get by just asking.”

See, a piece of cake.

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Top 20 Best Value Law Schools

Rank	Law school	Avg. Debt 2012 grads	Tuition	Cost of Living	Two-year Bar Pass Avg	Two-year Bar Pass State Avg.	Weighted Employment Rate
1	University of Alabama	\$67611	\$19660	\$16322	94.7%	86.0%	89.3%
2	University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	59384	12515	17492	78.7	78.0	86.6
3	Louisiana State University	78762	18618	19788	81.0	68.2	88.7
4	University of Nebraska	54989	14363	14480	92.5	86.4	81.0
5	University of South Dakota	54352	13288	14148	94.6	95.8	82.2
6	Brigham Young University	56112	10950	19876	90.8	84.2	80.3
7	University of Kentucky	75738	19404	15996	89.6	84.2	87.3
8	Georgia State University	68283	15154	15061	93.5	84.2	79.0
9	Florida State University	73114	19731	17700	87.3	78.8	80.9
10	William and Mary Law School	94852	27800	16300	91.3	80.2	87.9
11	University of Georgia	80775	18058	16902	94.8	84.0	79.4
12	UC — Irvine*	49602	44717	24057	90.3	77.0	91.9
13	University of New Mexico	68131	15098	14854	86.8	87.6	78.7
14	University of Texas	86312	32376	16412	93.8	84.1	87.4
15	University of Mississippi	55992	11293	19198	85.1	80.8	72.7
16	University of Oklahoma	77146	19763	18208	92.5	88.4	81.4
17	University of Montana	64539	11104	14790	90.0	92.1	74.7
18	University of Missouri — Columbia	78110	18649	17836	96.3	91.8	80.2
19	University of South Carolina	85602	21688	17304	84.8	78.2	82.1
20	University of Louisville	85634	17854	18802	90.6	84.2	80.3

* UC — Irvine provided substantial scholarships to inaugural class.

some have changed position slightly, showing they deliver value — at least through our analysis — consistently.

The University of Alabama led all but one school on our list with a weighted employment rate of nearly 90 percent. The University of California Irvine School of Law had the highest at nearly 92 percent.

The troubling employment struggles that recent law school graduates are going through have been well documented. Indeed, they remain alarming. That's why the employment success by schools is given our highest weight — 35 percent — when it comes to the study. The magazine gives full-time employment the most value, while less-than-full-time work is accounted for, but dinged.

"It is no surprise to us that employers have taken notice and found our graduates to be a desirable group to hire," said

Thomas Ksobiech, assistant dean for career services at the University of Alabama. "And we know that by keeping tuition as low as possible, we're enabling our graduates to pursue the careers that they want, even if it's in a sector that doesn't start with as high of a starting salary."

Employment: the key to success

This year, there are a number of new schools that cracked the Best Value top 20. The University of South Carolina School of Law vaulted from 47th place last year to 19th place this year. The reason? The weighted employment rate rose from 72 percent in 2011 to 82 percent last year.

The University of South Carolina has done better in the employment category for several reasons, said Robert Wilcox, the dean. For one, the economy is improving in South Carolina a little bit faster than the

rest of the nation. Secondly, the school has beefed up its career services office to give students more one-on-one guidance when it comes to job searches.

"We try to teach them the art of making a first impression and not relying on an email," he said.

The school has also brought more judges into the school to interact with the students and better prepare them for judicial clerkships. Finally, the school placed a greater emphasis on its writing program — a vital skill for young attorneys, he said.

His school does offer value, the kind of which has been overshadowed by the negativity that's been haunting law schools during the past several years, he said.

"One of the battles we're facing is of the student who goes to a major private law school and racks up a quarter-million dollars in debt and can't find a job," he said.

Grade	Law school	Avg. Debt 2012 grads	Tuition	Cost of Living	Two-year Bar Pass Avg	Two-year Bar Pass State Avg.	Weighted Employment Rate
A-	Brigham Young University - non LDS	\$74000#	\$21900	\$19876	90.8%	84.2%	80.3%
A-	Texas Tech University	69596	22518	15102	89.0	84.5	75.0
A-	University of Akron	66283	23085	16134	92.8	86.2	72.5
A-	University of Arizona	88052	27272	22050	89.5	77.6	78.8
A-	University of Arkansas at Little Rock	64207	12701	15643	75.9	78.0	72.4
A-	University of Connecticut	65641	22052	16726	92.5	85.1	73.5
A-	University of Florida	72974	21421	15740	89.2	78.5	69.9
A-	University of Iowa	95574	27344	17245	89.6	88.3	82.7
A-	University of Kansas	74454	18664	17058	92.2	89.9	77.0
A-	University of Memphis	72993	16834	15705	90.8	82.7	71.7
A-	University of Missouri — Kansas City	100887	17058	18250	92.8	91.8	80.9
A-	University of North Carolina	74485	21556	22338	90.8	79.7	78.0
A-	University of Tennessee	76381	17678	19318	85.1	82.7	74.1
A-	University of Washington	90348	29948	18807	81.9	67.8	81.5
A-	University of Wisconsin	77077	21347	18810	99.4	90.7	79.2

Estimate based on tuition and cost of living.

Best Value Methodology

Our Best Value Law Schools ranking, being published for the seventh time since 2004, is designed to find the law schools where graduates have excellent chances of passing the bar and getting a legal job without taking on a ton of debt.

To be considered for the overall list, a school must have an average debt of less than \$105,000; employment greater than 69.5 percent; and a bar pass rate greater than 75 percent, and no less than 3 percent below the state average.

To be considered for the private school list, a school must have an average debt of less than \$115,000 and meet all the other criteria for the overall list.

After we narrowed down the list based on these parameters, we then ranked the schools using this formula: percent of graduates who pass the bar exam (15 percent of study); employment rate (35 percent); tuition (25 percent); cost of living (10 percent); and average indebtedness upon graduation (15 percent).

For tuition and cost of living, we used the resident tuition in the ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2014 edition. For average indebtedness, we use the figure available through U.S. News & World Report.

For bar passage, we used a school's two-year average and compare it against the two-year state average. This data is taken from the ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2013 and 2014 editions.

For employment, we used the ABA's official employment statistics available through the ABA website for the class of 2012. This data breaks employment into 12 categories. We weighted each category to calculate a weighted average, not counting graduates seeking further education.

Bar Passage Required: Full-time, Long Term is counted at 100%.

Bar Passage Required: Full-time, short term 70%

JD Preferred: Full-time, Long Term 70%

Professional position: Full-time, Long Term 60%

Bar Passage Required: Part-time, Long Term 50%

JD Preferred: Part-time, Long Term 40%

JD Preferred: Full-time, short term 40%

Bar Passage Required: Part-Time, short term 30%

Professional position: Part-time, Long Term 30%

Professional position: Full-time, short term 30%

JD Preferred: Part-Time, short term 10%

Non-Professional position: Full-time, Long Term 10%

All other categories received no value.

“That’s the worst-case, the most extreme, scenario. But that’s the message [pre-law students have] been hearing.”

While that has no doubt shied perspective students from going to law school, it might not be an entirely bad thing, he said.

“Law school was often seen as a landing zone for people looking for something to do,” he said. “Our students today are a committed group. They are excited about being lawyers.”

Other schools have also seen success when it comes to the employment picture. Brigham Young University – J. Reuben Clark Law School was bounced from the Top 20 last year after posting a 69 percent weighted employment rate, a year after ranking No. 2.

This year it’s back, at No. 6, thanks to an improved employment rate of 80 percent. Brigham Young University is the only private law aschool on the list this year, and we have actually listed it twice. It charges more for non-Mormon students — \$21,900 compared to \$10,950 — but even with that higher tuition figure, it still gets an A- grade.

Associate dean Brett Scharffs said the weak economy impacted the school’s employment rate last year, just as it had impacted all schools. As the economy slowly improved, the employment rate followed suit. Also, the school increased its efforts to help students to find jobs.

But Brigham Young is unique, he said. It purposely keeps tuition low so students

Grade	Law school	Avg. Debt 2012 grads	Tuition	Cost of Living	Two-year Bar Pass Avg	Two-year Bar Pass State Avg.	Weighted Employment Rate
B+	Arizona State University	\$101560	\$26267	\$21388	85.9%	78.2%	81.4%
B+	Cleveland-Marshall College of Law	82269	21749	18142	84.0	86.2	70.4
B+	Florida International University	94937	18841	26024	85.2	78.9	78.0
B+	Northern Illinois University	72479	19811	15896	84.4	89.2	73.6
B+	Ohio State University	98674	27497	21788	91.3	86.2	78.8
B+	Temple University	87794	19788	21752	91.6	83.8	73.9
B+	University of Cincinnati	84140	23536	18336	92.7	85.8	69.5
B+	University of Houston	81721	28130	18600	90.7	84.5	78.2
B+	University of Minnesota	100699	36820	14244	94.1	90.5	84.2
B+	University of Tulsa	104785	31836	20760	88.0	88.4	81.8
B+	University of Utah	80608	22408	20660	88.0	88.8	78.6

aren't burdened with debt and can pursue whatever aspirations — legal or non-legal — they may have. For that reason, the school also attracts students who aren't necessarily interested in landing full-time jobs right after graduation. Their goals vary dramatically, he said.

"We have parents who decide to stay at home with their children and volunteer at their schools," he said. "To me, that's a success."

The law school has the heft to send graduates to Wall Street firms, and if a student wants to go in that direction, great, he said. The school is not about pushing people in any particular direction. It's about preparing them fully and then giving them the chance to choose. At other schools, some graduates are forced to take demanding jobs — ones they otherwise would not have chosen if they didn't have such heavy financial obligations, he said.

"We're glad to be on your list," Scharffs said. "But I don't totally buy into your concept. It's a slightly distorted conception of value. It's not a criticism. I just think it's a limitation."

But some schools have lower employment rates, and it's not because students are choosing not to pursue full-time jobs. They can't find

work. North Carolina Central University School of Law earned a B+ last year and had an employment rate of 65 percent. This year, that figure fell to 36.3 percent and the school dropped from the rankings.

The school faced two problems, according to Donald Corbett, associate dean for academic affairs and an associate professor of law. The law school's dean of student services position went unfilled for several months, and the assistant dean of career services left the school, he said. Both positions are now filled.

Secondly, the hiring market soured.

"The reduction in private financing in the state has also been impactful in areas where we've had high placement of grads — the attorney general's office, public defender's office, legal aid offices, etcetera," he said.

Unemployment in North Carolina has hovered near 9 percent, higher than the 7.6 percent U.S. average.

While that school imploded, The

University of South Dakota School of Law — not on the list last year — rocketed to near the top at fifth place this year. It was helped by an 82 percent employment rate. But that number needs explanation. The University of South Dakota has one of the smaller law class sizes in the nation — it graduated only 55 students last year — so the percentages can fluctuate dramatically because of the small sample size.

Debt rising

Our analysis is not all rosy — even when it comes to the schools heralded as having the Best Value. Most of the schools we list raised tuition from 2011 to 2012, even in these rocky economic times. While the debt accumulated by students is more manageable than what students rack up at many other schools, the increases still amount to greater debt.

Take the



TOP PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Grade	Law school	Avg. Debt 2012 grads	Tuition	Cost of Living	Two-year Bar Pass Avg	Two-year Bar Pass State Avg.	Weighted Employment Rate
A	Brigham Young University	56112	21900	19876	90.8	84.2	80.3%
B	Baylor University School of Law	99852	46420	16041	94.6	84.5	77.7%
B	Notre Dame Law School	101512	45980	18100	90.8	82.9	75.8%
B	Duquesne University	100081	35354	13980	84.1	83.8	70.3%
B	Hamline University	104647	36396	20339	90.3	92.3	72.0%
B-	Boston College Law School	106550	43511	19360	94.5	87.8	74.7%
B-	Boston University School of Law	110437	44168	17842	96.2	87.4	78.1%
B-	Chicago-Kent College of Law	112750	42030	20953	95.5	89.2	73.6%
B-	Drake University	106368	35282	18530	91.8	89.8	77.5%
B-	Emory University	105838	45098	26626	94.0	84.2	86.8%
B-	Lewis & Clark Law School	109419	38180	21400	80.6	76.0	71.7%
B-	Mercer University	113935	37260	18014	83.9	84.2	82.7%
B-	SMU Dedman	113266	44017	20238	84.9	84.5	86.7%
B-	South Texas College of Law	113551	27600	21900	87.1	84.5	79.5%
B-	St. Mary's University	111758	30566	17160	83.0	84.5	79.0%
B-	Stanford University	110275	50802	28260	94.9	76.0	96.1%
B-	University of Richmond	110830	36850	16130	82.8	78.9	72.8%
B-	Yale Law School	110741	53600	20080	95.6	82.2	92.4%

Schools that received a B- are listed alphabetically.

University of Wisconsin Law School, for instance. It raised its tuition from \$19,683 to \$21,347, an increase of 8.4 percent. The average debt climbed from \$66,987 to

\$77,077 — a 15 percent jump. Last year, it made the top 20. This year it fell out, but it still received an A- grade.

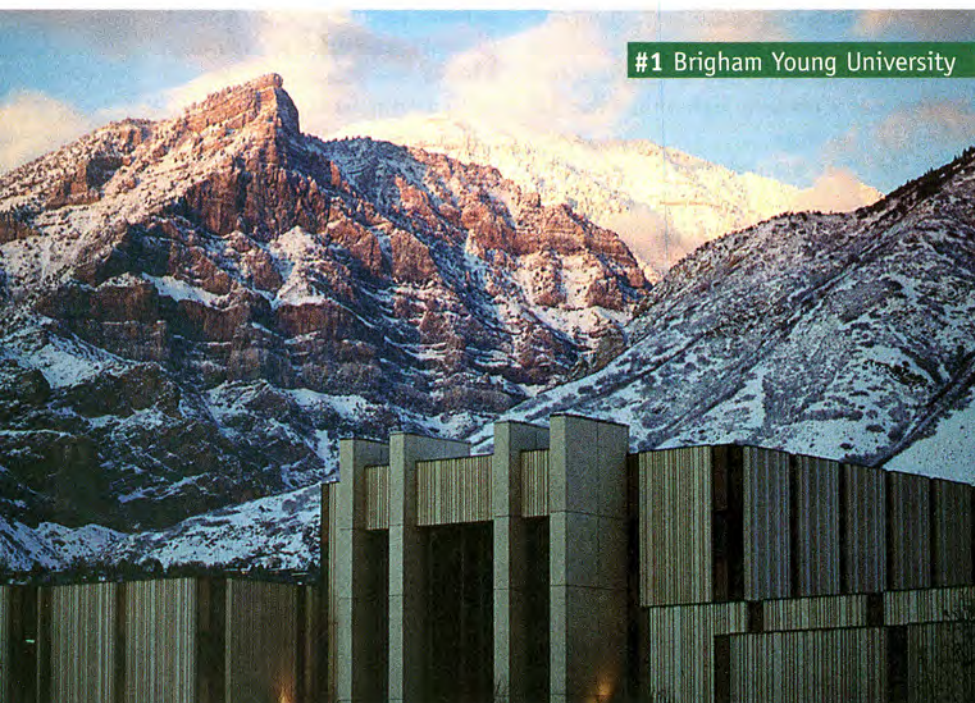
According to a study by Mark

Kantrowitz, publisher of Fastweb.com and FinAid.org, 36 percent of law students graduate with six-figure debts. It's hard to say where this number is headed because some law schools recently announced they are lowering tuitions because of industry woes. Those numbers aren't reflected in this most recent study.

A low debt allows students to take first jobs that may pay in the \$30,000 to \$40,000 range, noted Stacy Leeds, dean at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, which rose from 14th Best Value Law School last year to second. That might not be the kind of money they hoped to make initially, but, in time, their earnings can grow steeply, she said.

"That's the piece of the argument that's normally not mentioned," she said of the criticism regarding poor pay for new lawyers.

Like other law schools, her school is seeing a drop in applications because of the employment trends. While she's noticed students are more mindful of debt, that still hasn't translated to more interest at schools like University of Arkansas. That may change, she said.



The chance to go to law school and not be burdened by significant debt “might get students to look at schools they didn’t before,” Leeds said.

Keeping tuition low can be a struggle for the school, she said. It’s hard to do so and maintain academic benefits such as low teacher-to-student ratios. As a state school, it must get approval from the state legislature for tuition hikes.

It’s normally receptive if the increases are low, she said. It’s a source of state pride to keep the law school affordable, she said.

The impact of cost of living

Make a quick perusal of this year’s Best Value list and it’s easy to see that many of the schools are in small towns and in rural America. Among the top 20, there’s no school from New York, Washington, D.C., Illinois, Massachusetts or New Jersey. There is just one each from California, Texas and Florida. Only several big-city schools, such as Temple University — James E. Beasley School of Law, in Philadelphia, made the list.

Instead, you find schools based in Nebraska, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Montana and Louisiana. Students may not get the cultural benefits of living in a big city, but they won’t have to pay a ton for a cramped studio apartment either.

Cost of living is one of the factors in the study, and several schools on the list promote their remote settings as advantages.

The University of Montana School of Law — at \$14,790 yearly — is one of four schools among the top 20 coming in with a cost of living of less than \$15,000 a year. Based in Missoula, it highlights its scenic location and lower-stress vibe.

“The University of Montana School of Law offers an alternative to big, urban law schools,” the school’s website says. “People here are friendly, and there is a spirit of cooperation, not competition, among the students.”

On its website, the University of Nebraska College of Law — another school where the cost of living is under \$15,000 — even notes that gas is cheaper.

But its main selling point: “At Nebraska, we don’t want you to pay an insane amount of money to pursue your legal education. And we don’t think you should graduate with so much debt that you can’t pursue the career path you want.”

Among the top 20 Best Value Law Schools, the most expensive place to live was at UC — Irvine, at \$24,057 a year. On its website, it notes how the campus is between Los Angeles and San Diego and “surrounded by coastline, mountains and desert.” It doesn’t mention gas prices.

But UC — Irvine receives an asterisk. The school, which ranks 12th, is only four years old and was eligible for the first time for our Best Value Law Schools ranking. But the school offered free rides to its initial class. It also offered reduced tuition — but in smaller numbers — to the next two classes.

UC Irvine’s tuition, meanwhile, was by far the highest of all the law schools making the list at a cost of \$44,717



That means the school’s accumulated debt total for students — \$49,602 in 2012 — appears to be artificially low and not likely to stand up for long. That debt load is the lowest of all the 45 schools on the Best Value Law School ranking.

Its debt is lower than Brigham Young University, which had an accumulated debt of \$56,112, on a much lower yearly tuition of \$10,950.

UC Irvine’s tuition, meanwhile, was by far the highest of all the law schools making the list, at a cost of \$44,717. The next closest school was the University of Minnesota Law School, at \$36,820.

Tuition costs and debt are part of the

formula used to determine the Best Value Law Schools. An expected increase in debt load next year will probably mean UC — Irvine’s presence on the Best Value Law Schools list will be short-lived.

But it was a great bargain for the classes that got scholarships and reduced tuition. And that brings up another point about the Best Value law schools rankings. Law schools across the nation have been offering better scholarship options in hopes of attracting better-qualified candidates. That, some surmise, has lowered the net tuition figure for many schools. In fact, it is possible that during the next three years, average debt at some schools will remain flat, if not drop. It also means that some private schools — with much higher tuition — can still be a great bargain for individual students, assuming the students are offered hefty scholarships.

For the first time, The National Jurist compiled an expanded list of the Best Value Private Law Schools. Only five such schools met the criteria to make the overall list.

But an additional 13 schools met the criteria when the debt level was raised from \$105,000 to \$115,000.

Brigham Young University and Baylor University School of Law, which top the private list, had debt loads under \$100,000.

Notre Dame Law School — at \$101,512 — did better than Hamline University School of Law at \$104,647, despite the fact that its tuition is higher. That most likely reflects the fact that Notre Dame gives out more in scholarships. Duquesne University School of Law was the fifth private school with debt under \$105,000.

A few of the nation’s most prestigious schools also made the list. Yale Law School and Stanford University Law School both have debt loads slightly higher than \$110,000. With tuitions higher than \$50,000 a year, the two schools clearly are offering ample scholarships.

“With rising tuition, it has become increasingly difficult for private law schools to make the Best Value list,” said Editor in Chief Jack Crittenden. “But some schools have made great strides to keep debt low through scholarships, even if tuition is high. We felt it was important to recognize the schools that deliver excellent results and have a lower debt load than most private law schools.” ■

A More Specialized Future

Law schools are busy launching LL.M. programs in an effort to keep up with the need to deliver more specialized education

BY MICHELLE WEYENBERG

The job market is tight and law firms are looking for graduates with specialized training. Enter the LL.M., a graduate degree that was once exclusive to tax lawyers and a few select others. The degree, however, has grown in popularity in recent years, and law schools are responding with even more specialized offerings.

“We’re probably seeing an increase in LL.M. programs to what’s going on in the marketplace due to the job market,” said Christopher Pietruszkiewicz, dean and professor of law at Stetson University College of Law.

There are more than 265 LL.M. programs in 42 practice areas for U.S. students. (See our ultimate guide to LL.M. programs for details on each school on the next page.) In addition, foreign students can earn an LL.M. in U.S. studies, and a handful of law schools open those programs to U.S. students as well.

The total number of programs has grown rapidly during the past 10 years. There were only 110 programs in 28 practice areas in 2000.

Stetson University launched an online LL.M. degree in advocacy this fall, one of several new programs nationwide. The program follows two national trends with LL.M. programs: It’s in a unique subject area and it delivers the education in an innovative way.

“The timing is right because we started a distance learning LL.M. program years ago in elder law, which was successful,” Pietruszkiewicz said. “[The Advocacy LL.M.

is] a natural outgrowth from what we’ve been doing. While you’ll see an increase [in distance learning], there is still the interaction in law school that serves an important goal.”

Online degrees are growing in popularity thanks to convenience and improved technology. There are now 31 programs offered by 22 law schools, and dozens of other schools are working on creating such programs.

Stetson University’s LL.M. is offered part-time during two years through a distance-learning platform, and there is limited in-person participation. The program is designed to meet the needs of busy legal practitioners who need this training for their practices, or want it to help advance their careers.

Rod Sullivan, an associate professor at Florida Coastal School of Law who is behind that school’s latest LL.M. offering, said most law students and recent graduates realize that in today’s legal market they need a specialty — something that sets them apart from other lawyers.

“We are trying to teach young lawyers about an industry, and make them experts so that they will have a marketable skill,” he said.

The practice of law is becoming more specialized and complex. That, in turn, is spurring law schools to create new and unique subject areas, a trend found throughout all higher education.

Sullivan is running the first LL.M. program in transportation and logistics law.

No. 1 in moot court

South Texas takes the top spot in the Blakely ranking

BY MICHELLE WEYENBERG

South Texas College of Law has done it again. The Houston law school took first place for the second year in a row in the Blakely Advocacy Institute's moot court ranking.

It was followed by Florida Coastal School of Law, the University of California, Hastings College of the Law and Stetson University College of Law. The schools, along with 13 others, will compete in the Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship, an invitational event, to crown the national champion in January.

Georgetown University Law Center,

which won the 2013 national championship, finished fifth in this year's ranking and will defend its title in January.

The University of Houston Law Center's Blakely Advocacy Institute started the national championship, six years ago. To determine the top 16 moot court programs it would invite, it started tallying winners, giving a school points for each moot court competition it won.

It is the last moot court ranking left standing. In 2007, Brian Koppen, then a student at Chicago-Kent College of Law at Illinois Institute of Technology, created a ranking of law school moot court competitions out of his own curiosity of how his school would rank. South Texas and

UC — Hastings ranked in the top spots nearly every year. But Koppen, a practicing attorney in Illinois, ceased ranking programs last year.

But before he stopped, he fired off some missives, attacking the Blakely rankings and, in particular, the championship.

"Who is [University of] Houston to name the best program?" he wrote on his blog. "Houston's ranking depends heavily on your valuation of other competitions' prestige. The valuation is subjective. So it would improve credibility if Houston were an authority on moot court excellence. It's not. Houston's record of moot court performance is actually quite bad."

"In my ranking — which depends not

2013 Moot Court Program Ranking

(from The Blakely Advocacy Institute at the University of Houston Law Center)

1.	South Texas College of Law
2.	Florida Coastal School of Law
3.	UC — Hastings
4.	Stetson University College of Law
5.	Georgetown University Law Center
6.	Loyola University Chicago
7.	Texas Tech University
8.	University of Georgia School of Law
9.	New York University
10.	Baylor University School of Law
11.	Seton Hall University
12.	Ohio State University
13.	SMU Dedman
14.	Pepperdine University
15.	Michigan State University
16.	University of Miami
17.	John Marshall Law School
18.	University of Florida
19.	University of Oklahoma
20.	Chicago-Kent College of Law



South Texas College of Law

115 win: students Marshall Holmes, Katherine Harrington and Colin Cox

116 win: Students Joe Glover, Erin Kee and Joseph Bramanti.

Leiter, professor at The University of Chicago Law School, wrote on his blog, Brian Leiter's Law School Reports. "It has all been careless, in some cases idiotic, misrepresentations; technical and conceptual confusions; or irrelevant ranting by ignoramuses. It all reminds me why, as I said long ago, blogs are bad for legal scholarship, since they provide a voice, sometimes — as with the ATL [Above the Law] cesspool — a loud voice for people who literally have nothing to say because they have no relevant competence or skill."

Leiter responded to some of the criticism the paper received in a blog post with his fair share of name-calling. In one post, he called Mystal a "predictable know-nothing" and Leichter a "benighted blogger." Leiter also called Campos a "familiar charlatan" and "an actual academic fraud."

Additionally, Leiter called attention to Brian Tamanaha, a law professor at Washington University School of Law, claiming his response to the paper was "a spectacular intellectual embarrassment and travesty: the conclusion now seems

inescapable that he has no idea what he is talking about."

Leiter wasn't the only one who stooped to name-calling. Campos titled one of his posts, "Steve Diamond, academic fraud." Campos' post was in response to a criticism of his critique of the Simkovic and McIntyre paper. Throughout the post, Campos criticizes Diamond, and accuses him of lying about what Campos wrote about the paper.

"In one sense Diamond is at the right institution: Santa Clara's law school has engaged in, even by the abysmal standards of its peers, what certainly appears to be egregiously fraudulent mischaracterization of its graduate employment outcomes, by for example classifying 90% of its vast numbers of unemployed graduates as unemployed by choice. He also likes to out anonymous critics and inappropriately reference their personal lives," Campos wrote.

William Henderson, professor at Indiana University Maurer School of Law



"It has all been careless, in some cases idiotic, misrepresentations; technical and conceptual confusions; or irrelevant ranting by ignoramuses." — BRIAN LEITER

— Bloomington, said the uncivil discourse of the debate was "not productive."

"[It was] not our best day as legal academics. Not our best day," he said. "I think that it's not productive to have a mudslinging academic debate over whether law school is a good deal or not," he said.

Henderson said the discussion would be more fruitful if emotions were left out of it, adding that he felt the debate became emotional because the legal academic landscape is changing and will not be the same in the future as it was 20 years ago.

"A lot of industries undergo change over a period of time," he said. "That change is very painful for the people working inside that industry."



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at all on teams' willingness to show up and pay me money – Houston recently ranked 105th out of 114 programs (2011)."

Koppen later posted a message on his blog stating he would only repost past winners from 2007 to 2011 and rank the 2012 teams after someone — presumably anyone — paid him \$15,000.

Jim Lawrence, director of the Blakely Advocacy Institute, cringes at the thought of Koppen's frustration. For Lawrence, the Blakely rankings recognize yearlong excellence in moot court from a particular law school, and the championship is designed to give students more opportunities. He even videotapes every round to give participants an opportunity to review their experiences and learn from it.

"If you talk to students who participate in these competitions, they say it's the highlight of their law school experience," he said. "It's partly because they are learning and participating in ways they never did in the classroom."

While some of Koppen's criticism may have merit, moot court competitions have never compared apples to apples.

Law schools operate their moot court programs under different models. Georgetown University's program, for example, is student-run. Other schools have faculty-run programs and devote considerable resources. Most of the top programs hold auditions for moot court participants and enter 16 to 25 competitions a year.

Educators agree that the programs are far more important for what they teach than for competition and comparison purposes.

"This is a time in legal education when we're much more focused on experiential education," said William Treanor, law dean of Georgetown University. "Moot court is really a part of that, and it's something that really advances the overall educational mission to students."

He said moot court helps with analysis, oral advocacy and written presentation.

"What you're trying to do in law school is to develop the full range of competencies that you need to succeed as

a lawyer," he said. "Those are all things you learn in moot court competition."

Gerald Treece, moot court program director at South Texas College of Law, agreed.

"Advocacy teaches something that's nothing more than presentation and confidence," he said.

And most important, he added, the moot court program encourages students to work together and get along.

"It teaches you a form of respect not only for the courtroom, but for your own colleagues," Treece said.

As for what it means to be No. 1, Treece said it gets people to take a look at the law school and see what it's doing.

"I think the law school itself has its own personality," he said.

"It takes a lot of hard work and great opportunity and luck all at the same time," said Kellie Casey Monk, moot court program direc-



The UGA School of Law placed second in the nation out of more than 150 teams from across the country at the 63rd Annual National Moot Court Competition. Representing the law school were: (l. to r.) third-year students Lucas D. Bradley, Michael C. Gretchen and Matthew V.H. Noller. Additionally, Gretchen was named best oralist of the competition.

tor at the University of Georgia School of Law, which ranked eighth in the Blakely Advocacy Institute's ranking in 2013.



Stetson University College of Law

students Erin Okuno, Chad Burgess and Morgan Vasigh won the Best Brief Award at the prestigious Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship.

"You have to have that hard work and dedication intercepting with that luck."

She has never met someone who regretted being a part of moot court.

"I competed on moot court 20 something years ago and made lifelong friends," she said. "It is a lot of work, but unlike other activities in law school it's a lot of fun."

She encourages students who don't make moot court to participate in as many intramural competitions as they can to work on their analytical skills because "the more you do it, the better you get."

Being able to concisely express your ideas in a short amount of time is a skill,

she said. If you can master that skill, it will translate to when you are in a meeting room – not just a courtroom.

As for the Blakely Advocacy Institute, it not only moved forward with its national championship competition, it has a new ranking in the works – an international dispute resolution ranking of law school programs.

"International competitions are becoming more common every year," Lawrence said.

The ranking will be worldwide and include every form of dispute resolution. He hopes to debut the rankings this fall. Long-term plans include a world championship in partnership with the City University of Hong Kong.



The risks of stimulant abuse

Adderall and heavy-dose caffeine products may seem like good study partners, but they come with risks **BY LAIRA MARTIN**

Exams are a week away and you still have a lot of studying to do. You are in your first semester in law school and the pressure to perform well is overpowering. You remember your friend gave you a little orange pill and it is tucked away in your desk drawer. You examine it and wonder: Is it worth taking? Will it help you study? Is it safe? Is it even legal?

Adderall, the brand name for the mixture of the stimulants amphetamine and dextroamphetamine, has been a favorite among students since it was released in 1996. In fact, abuse has steadily increased, making it the most abused prescription drug in the country.

Abovethelaw.com, a legal gossip website, surveyed 1,540 readers in December 2011 about their use of the drug and found that 30 percent had tried the stimulant.

Intended for treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, Adderall and other similar medications are prescribed to children as young as 3 years old. With the correct diagnosis and

dosage, ADHD medications such as Adderall, Ritalin and Vyvanse can be effective in treating such disorders.

But for those who acquire the drug illegally, without proper dosage or diagnosis, taking such medications can be risky. When taken occasionally, ADHD medications can lead to euphoria, insomnia, decreased appetite and an increased ability to focus. Although they're considered side effects, these are the qualities illicit drug users seek when taking a drug like Adderall.

Alan DeSantis, a professor at University of Kentucky, has done extensive research on stimulant use in the undergraduate setting. Little research on the subject has been done on law students but DeSantis thinks the undergraduate perception of stimulants is probably similar for law students.

"About a third of our campus said they had used a stimulant at least once a year," he said. "They're not embarrassed by it and they don't try to hide it. I think you would find comparable if not higher numbers of students in law school that

have the propensity to take a stimulant. [Law students] are more in tune with the fact that it's illegal and try to cover up [using stimulants]. Law school is a great unexamined area."

According to a study by the University of Southern California's Science Review, Adderall is also used for recreational purposes.

"[Adderall] is becoming increasingly common in collegiate lifestyles," the report by Nahel Kapadia reads. "The National Survey on Drug Use and Health reports that 15 percent of college students have admitted to using some form of psychotherapeutic drugs for non-medical use. Of those 15 percent, 7 percent have claimed to use Adderall to either increase attention span, party, or improve grades. The survey found that college students most likely to abuse Adderall "were male, Caucasian, fraternity and sorority members, and students with lower grade point averages."

Students often attach less of a stigma to the use of legal stimulants than to the use of illegal drugs.

2013 Forty Under Forty

EDITED BY SUSAN PERCY



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For the 17th year, Georgia Trend presents a group of 40 outstanding Georgians under the age of 40. The honorees represent business, government, politics, nonprofits, science, conservation and education.

The 40 were chosen from nominations made by readers throughout the state. Final selections were made by the Georgia Trend editorial staff. We're proud of our selections and glad we can share the stories of these Georgians and their achievements in the following pages.

Jason Bearden, 39
CEO
Highland Rivers Health
Canton

Bearden leads this public-private behavioral healthcare provider in a role that integrates his "professional expertise with bloom-where-planted faith," he says. Under Gov. Sonny Perdue, Bearden served as Planning and Budget Director of Health and Human Services. "I developed a passion for helping people with developmental disabilities, mental illness and addiction because I saw that even during the darkest times, there's tremendous potential for recovery," he says.

Last year, Highland Rivers, which treats more than 15,000 patients in a 12-county area of northwest Georgia, became one

of 93 programs nationally to win a \$1.6-million federal grant to improve the “whole health” of patients. “Around 90 percent of our patients with mental illness have significant physical issues, including high rates of obesity, diabetes and smoking,” he says. Bearden also serves on the board of the Georgia Supportive Housing Association, working to address homelessness.
– CD

Matt Bishop, 38

Director
J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development
University of Georgia
Athens

Last fall, Bishop became the new director of the Fanning Institute as it broadened its mission. “Over time, we’ve seen the challenges shift from technical needs to more adaptive needs in community leadership,” he says, explaining that collaborative skills are critical, along with an appreciation for diversity and honest communication about strengths and weaknesses. “People need to learn to put aside individual agendas.”

Bishop is focusing on nonprofits and outreach to at-risk youths to tap their potential – work that comes naturally to the son of a Methodist minister who grew up in the small town of Lumpkin. “I got exposed to a lot of community engagement early on,” he says. A 2008 graduate of Leadership Georgia, Bishop also volunteers for Leadership Athens. “I’m looking at community development from several levels – local to statewide – and that gives me a holistic perspective. Strong leadership is vital to job creation.” – CD

Otis Brumby III, 32

Chairman and Publisher
The Marietta Daily Journal, Neighbor Newspapers, Cherokee Tribune

Brumby oversees one of the state’s largest print-media empires, which includes 23 newspapers that reach 375,000 homes in nine suburban Atlanta counties. Yet when he’s asked about his job, he says, “I just say I work for The Marietta Daily Journal,” referring to the daily his grandfather, Otis Brumby Sr., founded in 1916 and his father, Otis Brumby Jr., ran for many years. “I didn’t go to journalism school because I grew up with a big dose of it at the kitchen table,” says Brumby, who majored in finance and then graduated from law school at the University of Georgia in 2006. “Working for the paper ingrains you deeply in your community and in ways of bettering where you live.”

Since assuming leadership seven years ago, he has enhanced the digital profile of his flagship publication while developing additional “niche products,” including two lifestyle magazines, Cobb Life and Cherokee Life. Brumby also co-chairs the capital campaign for renovation of The Strand Theatre. – CD

John Coleman, 32

Strategic and Business Planning Manager
Invesco
Atlanta

As head of strategic and business planning for Invesco, Coleman is responsible for running special projects and working with senior leadership to develop the strategic plan for the Atlanta-based investment firm with branch offices in 20 countries.

Away from Invesco, the Harvard MBA puts his experience to work for the DeKalb School Board as the District 1 representative. He was one of six new members appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal to replace suspended board members.

A regular writer and blogger for the Harvard Business Review, focusing on leadership and personal and professional development, Coleman has also authored two published business books. Now – as a husband and new dad – he is writing a third book with his wife on how to manage a two-career family. The book will be published by Profile Books in the UK. – MAD

Katie Connell, 34

Attorney, Partner

Boyd Collar Nolen & Tuggle

Atlanta

Connell always planned to be a tax lawyer, taking every tax class she could find both as an undergraduate and in law school. It wasn't until participating in moot court that she realized how important the litigation component of the legal profession was to her. That led her to family law.

"I didn't expect to feel as passionately about it as I do," Connell says. "It gives me an opportunity to help and have a personal side to what I do. I feel I'm making a contribution by helping families."

Connell has written on the topic of family law for The Huffington Post and was recently appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal to a four-year term on the Georgia Commission on Child Support. She also serves on the finance committee of her church, extending her gifts in the places closely aligned with her education and profession. – PR

Sonji Jacobs Dade, 39

Director of Communications for Mayor Kasim Reed and the City of Atlanta

Atlanta

As director of communications for one of America's largest cities and busiest mayors, Dade doesn't know what it's like to work an eight-hour day. Her workday often begins when the first news reports start coming out around 6 a.m., and she frequently gets her last work-related phone call or text after midnight.

In the hours between, she has responsibility for all of the mayor's communications – from press releases and proclamations to letters and speeches – and for supervising a team of about 40 public affairs managers and officers. Still she finds time to be an active volunteer with organizations including Planned Parenthood and Jack & Jill of America, Inc. She is a divorced mom to a nine-year-old daughter.

Somehow she has managed the schedule since she joined the mayor's office shortly after his election in 2010. "We have a joke in the office that we don't have work/life balance – we have work/life integration," she says. – MAD

Sharah Denton, 32

Community and Parent Relations Specialist

Brooks County Board of Education

Valdosta

Denton relishes the problem-solving opportunities her job presents on a daily basis.

"I enjoy the whole dynamics of public relations, because you really get to solve problems and work with the media," says Denton, who is pursuing a doctorate from Capella University. "I like building the image of whatever organization I'm involved in."

Besides handling public and community relations for Brooks County schools, Denton devotes countless hours to her community. Two years ago, Denton founded the Valdosta-Lowndes section of the National Council of Negro Women, and she currently serves as section president. Denton is also a board member of Wiregrass Georgia Technical College and The Haven Battered Women's Shelter. In 2012, she received the Woman of the Year Award from the Valdosta Junior Woman's Club.

"One of my main goals right now is to really bring people together in a positive way," she says. – SB

Austin Dickson, 33

Executive Director

Literacy Action

Atlanta

Since he took charge of Georgia's oldest and largest nonprofit provider of adult basic education last fall, Dickson has increased revenues by 53 percent while helping students age 16 and up learn reading, writing and mathematics. "These

individuals in our program want a second chance and are motivated to work hard," he says. "As a pipeline for universities, technical colleges and the workforce, we're a grassroots nonprofit that drives economic development."

Dickson, who holds master's degrees from Emory, Georgia Tech and The University of Edinburgh, also teaches philosophy at Clayton State, with a practical bent. "Someone who can think critically and logically has the most transferable of all skill sets," he says.

He volunteers for the Atlanta Music Project, Community Farmers Markets and L'Arche Atlanta, and he especially enjoys calling bingo games every month at a low-income senior facility in his East Atlanta neighborhood. – CD

Angela Dotson, 37

Accountant/Partner
Habif, Arogeti and Wynne
Atlanta

Growing up with two community-oriented entrepreneurs left an indelible impression on Dotson.

"My parents both thought it was always important to give back to your community and help others," Dotson says. "Don't always focus on yourself; there's a bigger community that you're a part of."

In addition to working full time for a clock manufacturer in Athens, Dotson's father started several businesses, including two carwashes and a restaurant. Working alongside her parents and sister, Dotson developed a passion for business and later earned an accounting degree from UGA.

Today, Dotson provides financial planning advice for small businesses, and she draws from her own experiences to assist these companies.

A breast cancer survivor, Dotson volunteers with breast cancer patients through Turning Point Women's Healthcare and Elizabeth Baptist Church. She is also a board member of C5 Georgia, which operates a college readiness program for at-risk teen students. – SB

Amir Farokhi, 35

Founding Director
GeorgiaForward
Atlanta

Farokhi, a litigator by training, now engages in bridge building. "At Georgia-Forward, we try to create a platform for big conversations about the state's future in a non-partisan setting," he says. "We don't lobby. We try to pose questions that aren't being asked that need answers and get a cross section of thought leaders and decision-makers to partner, put their heads together and tackle the problems."

He worked at McKenna, Long & Aldridge before leaving in 2009 to run for Atlanta City Council. He lost the election in a runoff, but loved the policy conversations. GeorgiaForward arose from discussions with A.J. Robinson at Central Atlanta Progress, which offered seed funding for the organization. GeorgiaForward also encourages young professionals to bring their talents and experience to bear on Georgia's persistent challenges.

Farokhi, who is now COO of the National College Advising Corps, also serves on the boards of The Galloway School, Drew Charter School and the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition. – PR

Danielle Fields, 31

Owner
Fields Photography and Framing and Harold's Formal Wear
Milledgeville

In 2009, Danielle Fields' family went from being a two-income family to a no-income family. Not long after she left her job at Georgia College to become a stay-at-home mom, her husband was laid off from his job.

To support her family, she turned to what she knew and loved best – photography – and began to turn what was once a hobby into a business. Soon she and her husband added a framing shop, painting classes and tuxedo rental shop.

As her husband has assumed much of the day-to-day responsibilities for running their businesses, Fields is increasingly devoting time to supporting the community that has supported them, helping to implement First Fridays – themed celebrations held the first Friday of each month in downtown Milledgeville – and other programs that bring business and recognition to their town. “Milledgeville has been hit harder than many communities by the recession,” she says. “We are both very passionate about seeing our community recover.” – MAD

Adam Goldberg, 32

Dentist

Goldberg Dental Group

Augusta

Adam Goldberg has two lifelong interests: music and dentistry. As a child, he often accompanied his father – who himself was a second-generation dentist – to his Augusta dental office. When he wasn’t at the office, he was taking classical piano lessons from a Juilliard graduate and participating in competitions throughout the state.

Today, Goldberg practices dentistry himself and continues to be involved in music, serving on the Symphony Orchestra Augusta Board and in other volunteer capacities. Although his work tends to focus on administration and promotion, he says, “When I have the opportunity to play, I take it.”

His dentistry career is driven largely by his love for people and his father’s example. “I think what is driving my path to success is the relationship that we build in our patients. My dad has patients he has been seeing for 35 years,” he says. “I want to be doing the same thing.” – MAD

Shane Gottwals, 29

CEO

Gottwals Books/Walls of Books Franchise

Warner Robins

Gottwals saw opportunity with a business concept that few thought could work.

Undaunted by the popularity of electronic reading devices and the struggles of national bookstore chains, Gottwals and his wife, Abbey, opened a used bookstore in Warner Robins in 2007. Within two years, Gottwals Books began to thrive.

“The key for the used bookstore is that everybody has extra books,” Gottwals says. “Ninety percent of people who own books do not intend to keep them.”

Inventory is acquired by offering customers money and store credit, which leads to repeat business. The store’s success has created franchise opportunities, and Walls of Books now has four locations in Middle Georgia and one planned for New Orleans.

Outside of business, Gottwals serves as chairman of the trustees for Central Fellowship Baptist Church and is a board member of Central Fellowship Christian Academy and Covenant Care Services. – SB

Halima Horton, 37

Attorney/Partner

McGuireWoods, LLP

Atlanta

Helping others is a way of life for Horton, both in her professional career and her community service endeavors.

Horton, who specializes in labor and employment law, relishes the opportunity to improve labor relations between companies and their employees.

"These cases are human," says Horton, who earned her J.D. from Vanderbilt. "You know that if you've helped an employer solve an issue, then it's going to have a real impact helping everyday individuals."

In addition to her professional work, Horton has served as the scholarship committee chair for The Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys for the past four years and volunteers as a reading mentor for Everybody Wins! Atlanta.

"I think if I can cultivate a love of reading in a young person," Horton says, "then I can open a door for them to learn anything they want." – SB

Sonya O. Hunte, 35

Homeless Education Liaison
Atlanta Public Schools
Covington

As homeless liaison for Atlanta Public Schools, Sonya Hunte helps ensure that children without permanent homes get what they need to succeed in school – whether that means transportation, referrals to housing services, tutoring or school supplies.

Off the job, she demonstrates the same commitment to children and families through her volunteer work with organizations including My Sister's Keeper – a Georgia-based nonprofit that focuses on assisting women in the community in their educational pursuits and goals, acquisition of life skills and personal and professional development.

Her most recent accomplishment is being elected president of the National Association of Social Workers Georgia Chapter. "We're about 2,700 members strong and growing," says the Brooklyn, N.Y., native, who likes to call herself an apple peach. "We are really committed to promoting social work and the interests of social workers in the communities that we serve." – MAD

April Ingle, 39

Executive Director
Georgia River Network
Athens

The longer she stays "up the creek," the more Ingle enjoys her work restoring and promoting the state's rivers, says the naturalist who has traveled more than 900 miles of the state's waterways.

"I've developed a relationship with these rivers, and I've concluded that, of all the places in the world, Georgia claims the best ones in terms of spectacular beauty, natural resources and biodiversity," she says. "So it's important to protect them for future generations."

She advocates for legislation and policy on water management, coordinates 30 cleanup groups and organizes "Paddle Georgia," an annual field trip of more than 350 people down 100-plus miles of river with stops along the way to discuss historic sites, power generation and farm irrigation. Ingle, who studied natural resources and environmental science at Purdue University, also volunteers for BikeAthens and Canopy Studio, a nonprofit specializing in trapeze-centered arts. – CD

Hesam Lamei, 32

President
Aventis Systems, Inc.
Marietta

While attending Southern Polytechnic State University, La-mei sold computer memory chips that upgraded laptops, desktop computers and servers. But in 2008, at a friend's suggestion, he expanded his product line into selling servers. It was the start of the worst recession since 1929, but Lamei didn't feel it.

"People wanted to save, so they upgraded rather than making new purchases," he says. "We offered lower prices, technical

knowledge versus the manufacturer. We were one of the few small businesses that benefitted from the recession.”

Aventis Systems now offers a full range of computer/IT products and services. The company did \$14.1 million in sales in 2012 and was named No. 897 on the Inc. 5000 List of Fastest Growing Companies. Lamei was named one of Ernst & Young's top entrepreneurs of 2012, and Aventis Systems is actively engaged in the Technology Association of Georgia and the Cobb Chamber of Commerce. – PR

Lisa Liguori, 35

Associate Director

UGA Marine Extension Service (MAREX) and Georgia Sea Grant College Program

Darien

During a two-year study abroad program in Costa Rica, Liguori learned what happened when local people identified a problem but, because of lack of access to re-sources, were unable to address it. “I realized there was a role for someone who stepped between the people who knew what they needed, but were far from the resources to help them,” she says. “Extension work is the link.”

Liguori conducts and oversees research on Georgia's coast. “The whole point is conducting our research to help people solve problems that matter to them,” she says. She's had a hand in developing an affordable hair-testing program to determine mercury levels in women of childbearing age and assisting a local shrimper in field-testing and obtaining national certification for a turtle excluder device, mandatory on U.S. shrimp nets. Liguori helps out on land, too, serving as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer in Glynn County. – PR

Brooke Lucas, 33

Chief of Staff to

Secretary Mark Butler

Georgia Department of Labor

Atlanta

Lucas, a veteran economic development professional, does a little bit of everything in her work with the state's secretary of labor. She's had a hand in operations from finance to information technology, helping streamline processes to better serve employers and citizens looking for jobs, especially people who've never interacted with the Department of Labor.

She helped create a Special Workforce Assistance Team, allowing jobseekers to obtain better results by offering résumé help and interview coaching before attending a job expo. “The thing about economic and workforce development is that at the end of the day, the job is really about helping people find work to provide for their families,” she says. “You don't have trouble falling asleep at night when you do that. I can't imagine any more satisfying work.”

Lucas believes strongly in offering mentoring opportunities to girls and women, contributing her time by volunteering through Girl Scouts. – PR

Jay Markwalter, 39

Tourism Director

Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber of Commerce

Dahlonega

Markwalter had attended an annual professional conference in Dahlonega for seven years straight when he learned a job opened up in the local Chamber of Commerce. He jumped at the chance to serve as tourism director and to have a part in telling the Dahlonega and Lumpkin County story. He's equally passionate about product development, creating partnerships, packages and experiences for tourists to enjoy.

“We consider our wine region as a second gold rush, and right now ‘tying-the-knot’ tourism is exploding,” says Markwalter. “Tourism is all about those adjacent services.”

He created a Tourism Day, part of Lumpkin County's Youth Leadership program, giving young people a chance to

experience and learn about the economic impact tourism has on their community. Markwalter studied marketing at UGA and previously put his education to use serving as sales and merchandising co-chair of AthFest, a successful arts and music festival in Athens. – PR

James C. McCurry Jr., 39

Senior Director of Administration and Governmental Affairs
Georgia Ports Authority
Savannah

Growing up in Savannah, McCurry always had the goal of working with the Georgia Ports Authority. When he had the rare opportunity after college to work with U.S. Rep. Jack Kingston, he became interested in government affairs.

Today, McCurry is responsible not only for the government affairs activities of the ports authority but also for the property and risk management department, purchasing department, grants administration and navigation programs, including the harbor deepening project in Savannah.

In addition, he is an active volunteer in the city where he grew up, most notably for the school he attended – Savannah Christian Preparatory School.

“For the prosperity of any area, you are counting on a workforce that is educated for the job market and appreciates the job market and the need to give back,” he says. “It really all starts with education.” – MAD

Todd McDevitt, 38

Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineering
Director of Stem Cell Engineering Center
Georgia Tech
Atlanta

McDevitt decided to major in biomedical engineering almost 20 years ago when he started his undergraduate education. “I wanted to contribute to medicine in some way but I didn’t feel the calling to be a doctor, and I foolishly said I didn’t want to be in school that long,” he says.

Decades later, McDevitt is still “in school,” though now as a professor and researcher in the ever-expanding field of stem cell engineering, studying stem cells as a vehicle for therapies or even a diagnostic tool.

As director of Georgia Tech’s SCEC, McDevitt oversees a lab receiving more than \$12 million in research and National Institutes of Health grant funding, manages the work of 27 graduate students and still makes time to serve as program director for the upcoming Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society-Americas (TERMIS-AM) Conference, which will be held in Atlanta in November. – PR

Aaron Mumford, 38

General Legal Counsel
Glynn County
Brunswick

Mumford began working for the Glynn County government in 2002 and five years later was appointed in-house general counsel, advising commissioners, the police chief and other administrators on matters like zoning and real estate.

“Every day brings diverse challenges and experiences,” he says. “I enjoy facilitating a project from start to finish.” Whenever an international spotlight shines on the coast, Mumford’s duties shift from local to global. He collaborated with the Secret Service and other federal officials when the G8 Summit convened on Sea Island, and his scenic backdrop also necessitates the occasional entertainment law project. He negotiated contracts for the filming of Anchorman II and X Men: First Class.

Mumford also volunteers as a soccer coach at St. Mark’s Episcopal Day School, where his triplets are enrolled, and he serves on the board of directors for the southeastern chapter of the American Red Cross. – CD

Eric NeSmith, 33

Vice President of Business Development
Community Newspapers, Inc. (CNI)
Athens

The journalism bug bit NeSmith at an early age.

"I was probably about seven years old when I first started to insert sections of the paper," NeSmith says of his youth working alongside his father Dink, who was then publisher of The Press-Sentinel in Jesup.

After graduating from UGA's Grady College of Journalism, NeSmith worked for nearly a decade as a reporter, sales rep, editor and publisher for CNI's newspapers in Cashiers and Highlands, N.C. He moved to the Athens corporate office in January.

"I believe community newspapers are the fabric that holds the community together," NeSmith says. "There is no buffer between the stories we write and the impact they have."

In addition to serving as vice chair of the Grady Society Alumni Board, NeSmith is the 2013 recipient of the Daniel M. Phillips Leadership Award from the National Newspaper Association and was named as one of Editor & Publisher's "25 under 35." – SB

Byung Jin (B.J.) Pak, 39

Lilburn
Representative for District 108
Georgia House of Representatives

Pak, an attorney and Seoul native who calls himself a "huge Abraham Lincoln buff," was first sworn into the Bar in the only law office that president ever owned, a symbolic beginning for his aspirations.

In 2010, when he was elected to the General Assembly, he became the first American of Korean descent to serve in any state legislature in the Southeast, and he since has worked to bring other Asian Americans into public service.

"There aren't many of us at any level of government in Georgia," he says, "so I speak to different ethnic communities and youth groups to engage them in civic leadership."

Pak, a Republican, serves on several committees in the legislature, where he is working to reform the tax code and lower tuition costs in postsecondary education. He has three daughters and also is active in the Camp Creek Parent Teacher Association. – CD

Dan Peeples, 35

Vice President
Julian Peeples Funeral Homes
Mayor of Varnell
Varnell

As a child, Dan Peeples learned about serving others in the family-owned funeral home where he now serves as vice president. "My family has been in the funeral business my entire life," he says. "I really don't know any different than helping people in their time of need."

For five years now, Peeples has also been serving the city of Varnell (voted in 2010 as the best small town to live and raise a family in Georgia by Bloomberg & BusinessWeek.com) as mayor. One of his greatest accomplishments, however, is a marriage enrichment class he and his wife started from scratch two years ago at Salem Baptist Church in Dalton. The class has grown to more than 40 couples, many of whom were facing divorce, he says.

"It's easy for people to fall in love, but it's harder to stay in love," he says. "We teach people how to stick through the tough times." – MAD

Courtney Reich, 39

Owner, Principal Planner
Ecological Planning Group
Savannah

When local governments need to develop a stormwater plan, create a structure to manage water resources or find funding to accomplish those things, they call on Courtney Reich and her Ecological Planning Group.

"Stormwater doesn't often rank high amongst priorities that local governments have to fund," says Reich. "We help them secure grants [and] set up user-fee systems, the idea being to effectively manage water resources not just for protection of drinking water resources and the environment but to protect folks from flooding events."

Though based in Savannah, her company works with entities statewide. Reich is also the Georgia coordinator for Confluence, a tri-state conference addressing regional water concerns in Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina.

Since 2009 she has been a Meals on Wheels driver, delivering food to shut-ins throughout Chatham County. "In some ways it's a big responsibility," Reich says. "In many cases you're the only contact for that person that day." – PR

Jocelyn Rogers, 38

Obstetrician/Gynecologist/Medical Director of Women's Services
Phoebe Sumter Medical Center
Americus

A high school career seminar put Rogers on a path to a medical career with an emphasis on women's health.

"Since 10th grade, I kind of knew I wanted to work in medicine and especially with women's health," says Rogers who enjoyed interacting with doctors through the seminar.

A graduate of UGA and Morehouse School of Medicine, Rogers completed a residency at Tulane University before joining Phoebe Sumter. Helping women learn more about their healthcare needs remains her primary focus.

"I notice that a lot of young female patients are not very knowledgeable about their health," Rogers says. "I just try to educate them on their health and how they can live a longer, healthier life."

Rogers serves on the board of directors at South Georgia Technical College and the Sumter Historic Trust, and she has traveled to Haiti for a medical mission. – SB

Rhonda Sexton, 37

Executive Assistant and Magistrate Judge
Effingham County
Springfield

A few years ago, Sexton became aware of some troubling limitations in her day job.

"There isn't much this court can do for victims of domestic violence, even though they come to us looking for help," she says. So in 2011, she began volunteering for the Effingham County Victim Witness Assistance Program, which provides counseling, childcare and job training as well as relocation assistance – and discretion – for people affected by crime and sexual assault.

"Because confidentiality is so crucial, I can't go into details," she says, "but it's a good feeling to know someone is safe and secure, especially if little ones are involved." The group has helped more than 2,500 clients since 1989.

Sexton also works with American Legion Post 209 to assist military families with living expenses. "I enjoy sending care packages overseas and to VA hospitals in Georgia during the holidays," she says. – CD

Ivan Shammass, 36

General Manager & General Sales Manager
Telemundo Atlanta
Brookhaven

A college internship opened up a new world of career opportunities for Shammass.

While he was interning for an advertising agency, Shammass worked with sales reps from several media outlets, which led to a job selling ads for Spanish-language television stations with Comcast Spotlight in 1999. After 13 years of working directly with local, regional and national clients within Atlanta's Hispanic community, the Georgia State graduate was tapped earlier this year to lead Telemundo Atlanta, a Spanish-language news operation that is part of a national network.

"In Atlanta, I'm pushing to take Telemundo to the next level," Shammass says. "We want to continue to provide Emmy Award-winning local news and local community content and deliver a consistent growing market."

Shammass serves as chairman of the Leadership Council for the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO), and he is a member of the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the membership committee of the Buckhead Club.
– SB

Timothy Sweeney, 36
Director of Health Policy
Georgia Budget and Policy Institute
Atlanta

As head of health policy for the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute – an independent nonprofit nonpartisan organization that rigorously analyzes budget and tax policies and provides education to inspire informed debate and responsible decision-making – Sweeney follows Medicaid and other health policy developments in Georgia closely, documenting the effects various budget and policy proposals have on state healthcare programs.

The author of Using a Medicaid Expansion to Target Georgia's Uninsured Adults in Poverty and co-author of Georgia's Medicaid Program: A Briefing for Community Leaders, Sweeney also served on the Healthcare Georgia Foundation's selection committee for the Joseph D. Greene Community Service Award.

He is a native of Oregon, where he was a member of the marching band at the University of Oregon, but now calls Georgia home with his wife and two-year-old daughter. – MAD

Trey Taylor, 39
CEO
Taylor Insurance Services
Valdosta

Taylor is the third-generation CEO of his family's insurance business, a position he accepted after his father's death in 2005 but intended to leave once the business stabilized.

He stayed and now can't imagine being elsewhere. The company serves small to mid-sized businesses, has agents in five states and offers all types of insurance. The core business is employee benefits.

"The reason we retain our accounts and have grown in double digits every year that we've been in business is because we're there for the sale, but we're also there for the service," Taylor says. The Eddie Taylor Family Foundation, named for Taylor's father, assists local charities and is funded through a percentage of yearly gross revenues.

Taylor is a trustee of Lowndes Associated Ministries to People and was a member of the 2012 cohort of the Conservative Policy Leadership Institute, a think tank formulating conservative responses to policy issues. – PR

Blake Tillery, 29
Chairman
Toombs County Commission

Vidalia

When Tillery was an undergraduate studying international affairs at the University of Georgia, he ran for a seat on the Clarke County Commission. "That was unsuccessful, but I came within 300 votes of unseating my English professor at the time," he says, "and that gave me a taste for politics. I'm one of those extroverts who loves being in a group discussion, whether it involves property taxes or the Braves."

He won his next race back in Toombs County, and now he is guiding his community toward consolidation. "We're working with neighboring counties to be among the first to integrate our services as much as possible to bring the most service to taxpayers for the lowest cost," he says. He practices trial law at Smith & Tillery, teaches at Brewton-Parker College and volunteers for the local Boys and Girls Club, Heart of Georgia Altamaha Workforce Investment Board and Kiwanis Club. – CD

James Thomas "Tripp" Turner III, 34

Chief Operating Officer
J.T. Turner Construction
Savannah

Thomas began working for his father when he was 13 and soaked up the values of the company while hammering nails.

"My dad preached that you don't just help your community financially – you spend time, energy and sweat."

So when Extreme Makeover: Home Edition selected the construction company as its featured builder, Turner led a team of 2,000 volunteers to complete a family's home within 106 hours. During that same time period, he organized a fund raiser to pay off the family's mortgage as well as a canned food drive that stocked the food bank, America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia, for one year.

Currently he is working with occupational therapists to design and build a playground accessible to special-needs children in Forysth Park, and he also volunteers to stabilize and preserve Cockspur Island Lighthouse, one of the oldest lighthouses on the eastern seaboard. – CD

Melissa Tymchuk, 39

Director of Public Relations & Marketing
Northeast Georgia Health System
Gainesville

As a new University of Georgia graduate, Melissa Tymchuk accepted a PR specialist position with Northeast Georgia Health System in Gainesville, thinking it would be a stepping stone to a bigger job in a bigger city. But along the way something unexpected happened: She discovered she loved it.

"I love the organization. What we do makes such a difference in people's lives," says Tymchuk, who 16 years later is responsible for all of the health system's media relations, advertising promotions and communications.

"Originally I stayed at the hospital longer than I thought I would because I loved what I did," she says, "but over time, Gainesville became the place I wanted to make my home for my family."

Tymchuk is active with the United Way, Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations. "I feel fortunate to not only be active and involved in my job, but also active and involved in such a great community." – MAD

Benjamin Vinson, 36

Attorney, Government Affairs Practice Group
McKenna, Long and Aldridge LLP
Brookhaven

For as long as he can remember, politics and the law have fascinated Vinson.

Vinson has vivid recollections of a childhood spent watching his father Ken, a Paulding County Superior Court Judge, discuss politics and legal issues with fellow attorneys.

"It's kind of the thrill of politics and all of the work that goes into making policy," says Vinson, describing the most rewarding part of his job.

Following graduation from UGA law school, Vinson clerked for a federal district court judge in Alabama. When the GOP took over the Georgia House in 2005, he was named legislative counsel for the majority.

Vinson was appointed to the Immigration Enforcement Review Board (IERB) by Gov. Nathan Deal in 2011. In addition to serving as chairman of the IERB, Vinson is a board member of the Federalist Society and chairman of the Governor's Commission on Brookhaven. – SB

Shannon Wallace, 36

District Attorney
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit
Woodstock

Elected as district attorney of Cherokee County in 2012, Wallace says being a prosecutor is all she ever wanted to do; it's in her blood. "I know it's a strong statement," she says, "but no matter how difficult the facts are of the cases I'm working, there's the knowledge that this is where I'm supposed to be."

Wallace has worked some gut-wrenching cases, including violent crimes against women and children. "My desire is that the victims know that there's someone there for them who believes them and fights for them," says Wallace. "I want to work a case the best I can to make sure that person receives justice."

In January 2013, she began reorganizing the grand jury process for assistant DAs and law enforcement officers alike, reducing inefficiencies and wasted time. She also started the county's first drug accountability court, a program for medium-to high-risk offenders. – PR

Nikema Williams, 34

Past Interim Chair
Democratic Party of Georgia
Atlanta

With a biology degree from Talladega College, Williams had planned to work in science but became distracted by other, more political life forms.

"I joined the Young Democrats in Fulton County and haven't looked back since," she says.

Previously the vice president for public policy at Planned Parenthood Southeast, she now is focusing on the 2014 roll-out of candidates. "Georgia currently doesn't send any women to Washington, and it would be good not just for Democrats but for all Georgians to elect a woman to congressional office."

An alumna of Leadership Atlanta, she has coordinated "Women in the Halls," a lobbying group, and she serves on the advisory board of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

"The highlight of my year is the SCLC's annual pilgrimage to Civil Rights sites for students," she says. "It's life changing, and you can see that in the children's faces at the end." – CD

Chris Woodruff, 34

Commercial Manager
W.C. Bradley Real Estate
Columbus

For a decade, Chris Woodruff has pursued his passion of real estate development and management. At 25, he became

president of his late father's real estate holding and development company, F&B Company, which required him to immediately renegotiate a 60-year lease deal.

He continues to own and operate the company today, while serving as commercial manager at W.C. Bradley Real Estate Company and managing another family business, Woodcrest Enterprises.

When he is not negotiating deals or managing projects – such as the award-winning Student Dorms at Fontaine Hall, a renovation of the historic Fontaine Building – Woodruff is busy with the J.W. and Ethel I. Woodruff Foundation, which supports nonprofit organizations, and as chairman of the board for the Greater Columbus Georgia Young Professionals. “We seek to empower, energize and engage young professionals between 21 and 49,” he says. “We also work with a lot of major companies in town to help facilitate a resource for their employees.” – MAD

Kiyoshi Yamazaki, 36

Sports Medicine Physician
Phoebe Physician Group, Inc.
Albany

Unbeknownst to him, Yamazaki's childhood served as preparation for a career in sports medicine.

The Los Angeles native played numerous sports and went on camping outings as a Boy Scout. The combination of sustaining various athletics-related injuries and mastering emergency preparedness skills as a scout inspired Yamazaki to focus on sports medicine.

“I'm trying to educate people on ways they can stay safe and stay active,” says Yamazaki, who earned his M.D. from the University of Saint Eustatius School of Medicine.

Since his arrival in Albany for a residency at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in 2008, Yamazaki has immersed himself in the community. He has served as team physician for several local high schools and two professional teams. Additionally, Yamazaki won the Southwest Georgia Medicine Residency Program's community service award in 2011, and he regularly mentors students interested in pre-med programs. – SB

10/1/13

Cobb DA spearheads animal abuse unit[print](#)by [Lindsay Field](#)

10.01.13 - 12:45 am

MARIETTA — In an attempt to streamline and bring expertise to felony animal abuse cases, Cobb District Attorney Vic Reynolds has created a new unit in his office.

Sherwin Figueroa and Theresa Schiefer, who both joined the District Attorney's Office earlier this year, will now be a part of the Animal Abuse Unit.

They will prosecute all cases where animal cruelty is the main charge, regardless of the superior courtroom the case is assigned to, in addition to their regular cases, at no extra cost to the taxpayer, Reynolds said.

"I'm very much in support of this," Reynolds said. "The last couple of (animal abuse cases) we've seen have been pretty brutal, and we want to get out in front of this thing while we can and we want folks to know that when you commit this type of crime here, there's going to be some consequences for it."

His office prosecuted five felony aggravated cruelty to animal cases in 2011 and 2012 and, so far in 2013, there have been two cases indicted.

A current case dates back to late June when Marcell Sibley of Smyrna was arrested on charges of aggravated cruelty to animals when he allegedly abused his dog after becoming frustrated with the dog's behavior.

Sibley reportedly got angry with the dog when it didn't behave the way Sibley wanted, slapped it, put it in its kennel, threw it off the second story balcony of the All Around Suites hotel in Marietta, and then threw the dog and the kennel into the hotel Dumpster, according to the arrest warrant.

Sibley allegedly told police that he thought the dog was dead when he threw it in the Dumpster, but the dog was alive, had blood in its mouth and suffered broken legs.

He was released the day of his arrest on a \$10,000 bond. If convicted, Sibley faces a maximum of one to five years in prison.

Misdemeanor animal cases are prosecuted by the Solicitor General's Office.

A need for the new unit

Figueroa, an east Cobb native and Walton High graduate, said the idea for the unit presented itself about a month ago after she was asked to speak to an animal rescue group, explaining the role of the prosecutor's office in animal abuse cases.

"I'm a very big advocate of animal protection," she said. "I have a rescue ... it's something I do on the side and I volunteer with animal groups."

She also serves as the vice president of the State Bar of Georgia's Animal Law Section.

Schiefer, 34, was asked to serve on the unit while working two active aggravated cruelty cases, including Sibley's.

Together, Figueroa and Schiefer hope to streamline the process once a case is reported and eventually, the unit will have a list of veterinarians, investigators or officers whose expertise they can access in these types of cases.

"Having go-to staff that we can get special care from is important," Figueroa said. "I think everyone is on the same page, the Legislature and the laws that have been passed, but we just want to be better prepared to follow the law and enforce the law."

The pair will continue training through the statewide Continuing Legal Education conferences, which are required of all prosecutors bi-annually to maintain their certification.

Connections with domestic violence?

Schiefer and Figueroa said they were also interested in prosecuting these types of cases because they have learned that there is a correlation between animal abuse and greater crimes like domestic violence or elderly abuse.

Last week, the National District Attorney's Association released new information regarding the link, Figueroa said.

"The type of people who abuse animals are five times more likely to commit acts of violence ... three times more likely to commit property crimes," Figueroa said, adding that this connection is something the Federal Bureau of Investigation has tracked since the 1970s.

"When I started doing work in domestic violence in law school 10-plus years ago, we saw all the time situations where children were scared of the abuser because he was threatening to kill (their pet)," Schiefer said. "It's not necessarily that the child would go to school with a black eye but the child was intimidated."

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Four UGA faculty members named SEC Administrative Fellows

By UGA NEWS SERVICE published Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Four University of Georgia faculty members—Julian Cook, Tracie Costantino, Sarah Covert and Tom Reichert—will gain expertise in academic leadership as SEC Administrative Fellows for 2013-2014.

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The Administrative Fellows program at UGA is part of a broader Academic Leadership Development Program of the Southeastern Conference. The program seeks to identify, prepare and advance academic leaders for roles within SEC institutions and beyond.



The SEC Academic Leadership Development Program Fellows are (l-r): Tracie Costantino, Tom Reichert, Sarah Covert and Julian Cook.

Based on their areas of interest, the UGA Administrative Fellows will work with select senior administrators and complete at least one significant project. The fellowship also includes two, three-day SEC-wide workshops that include lectures, panel discussions and opportunities for the fellows to interact with their counterparts from other SEC institutions. The fall workshop will be held Oct. 14-16 at UGA, and the spring workshop will be held at the University of South Carolina.

Cook joined the School of Law faculty in the fall of 2006 and was named a J. Alton Hosch Professor in 2008. He came to UGA with nearly 10 years of legal teaching experience, having most recently been at Michigan State University. Specializing in criminal law, criminal procedure and evidence, Cook served for several years as an assistant U.S. attorney in Nevada and the District of Columbia. He is the author of "Inside Investigative Criminal Procedure: What Matters and Why" (Aspen, 2012) and the forthcoming "Inside Adjudicative Criminal Procedure: What Matters and Why." He earned his bachelor's degree from Duke University, his master of public administration degree from Columbia University and his Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia. During his fellowship, Cook will learn more about the variety of administrative avenues at a Research I institution and engage with individuals from across campus for a broad look at university administration.

Costantino is an associate professor in the Lamar Dodd School of Art and co-chair of its Art Education Program. She joined the UGA faculty in 2004 and has been recognized for her teaching through a Richard B. Russell

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Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and participation in the Lilly Teaching Fellows program. She has co-edited two books on aesthetic education: "Essays on Aesthetic Education for the 21st Century" (Sense Publishers, 2010) and "Aesthetics, Empathy, and Education" (Peter Lang Publishing, 2013). She earned her undergraduate degree in art history and Italian studies at Boston College, her master's degree in art history from Brown University and her doctorate in aesthetic education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As a fellow, Costantino will work with the Office of the Vice President for Instruction and the Office of International Education to gain a better understanding of curricular, policy and planning issues in these administrative areas.

- Parents Weekend by Blane Marable Photography
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Covert is a professor and associate dean for academic affairs in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. She earned her undergraduate degree in biochemistry at Dartmouth College and her doctorate in bacteriology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She joined the faculty of the Warnell School in 1993 after serving as a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow in plant pathology at the University of Arizona and at UGA. Her research has focused on the genetics of fungal pathogens of plants, and she was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2007. Her areas of interest include decision-making processes at the senior administrative level for academic planning and resource allocation across units, and she will be meeting with senior administrators to gain more insight in these areas.

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Reichert is the Athletic Association Professor of Advertising and head of the department of advertising and public relations in the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

He has been teaching, researching and writing about advertising since 1993, and his research interests include advertising and mass communication content and effects. He has written or edited seven books about major issues and concerns regarding the uses and effects of advertising on professional practice and culture. Reichert earned his bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri and his doctorate in communication and marketing from the University of Arizona. He began his academic career at the University of Arizona and was a faculty member at the University of North Texas and the University of Alabama before joining the UGA faculty in 2004. During his fellowship year, he will work with the Office of the Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations to gain a better understanding of fundraising, stewardship and capital campaign planning.

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The application deadline for next year's Administrative Fellows Program is April 11. To learn more, see <http://provost.uga.edu/index.php/resources/fellowships/administrative-fellows-program/>.

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AFTERHOU

GreenLaw holds its awards ceremony. A Stephanie Benfield & Jewell Harper. Photos, page 9.

An **ALM**

Newsreel

Feds: Man to plead guilty in toddler slapping case

• A man accused of slapping a crying toddler on a plane will plead guilty, federal prosecutors said Wednesday.

An email from federal prosecutors didn't say what charge Joe Rickey Hundley will plead guilty to during an afternoon hearing. He faces a misdemeanor simple assault charge in the February incident. His trial had been set to begin Thursday in federal court in Atlanta.

Hundley used a racial slur to refer to the 19-month-old boy and then hit him under the right eye as the flight from Minneapolis began its descent to the Atlanta airport, authorities have said.

Hundley, who lived in Idaho at the time, was on a Delta flight on Feb. 8 and was seated in a window seat next to Jessica Bennett, who was sitting in the aisle seat and had her 19-month-old son on her lap, according to court filings.

As the plane descended into Atlanta, the child started crying. Hundley leaned over to Bennett and "told her to shut that (N-word) baby up," according to a sworn statement from an FBI agent who investigated the incident. Hundley then slapped the child in the face, leaving a scratch below his right eye, the FBI agent said.

Hundley's only son was in a coma in Atlanta following an insulin overdose that was the result of a suspected suicide attempt, and Hundley was flying there to meet his ex-wife so they could decide whether to take their son off life support, according to court filings.

Lawyers for Hundley had said in court filings that the amount of media coverage his case received was highly unusual for a misdemeanor charge and added that "it is impossible to avoid the reality that the national media has painted Mr. Hundley as a villain."

Hundley had faced up to a year in prison if he had gone to trial and been convicted.

—The Associated Press

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Sean McEvoy, left, and Joseph Fried represented the mother of a man killed in a truck accident. McEvoy said the highest settlement offer from the defense was \$250,000.

Atlanta lawyers win \$1M verdict

TRICKY PART was that the plaintiff's side couldn't discuss the truck accident that caused death of client's son

GREG LAND | gland@alm.com

A TRUCKING COMPANY that admitted its driver caused a fatal accident said that the \$1.2 million a Florida jury found it should pay the victim's mother was "excessive and beyond any reasonable compensation."

The company had offered to settle the case for \$250,000 just prior to trial, said one of the plaintiff's lawyers. Sean McEvoy of Atlanta's Fried Rog-

ers Goldberg. He described the case as tricky because the court would not allow the lawyers to provide any details about the accident in which a tractor-trailer crashed into the car carrying 65-year-old Dennis Brown, who had spent most of his life in state institutions because he had Down syndrome.

"The judge wouldn't let us testify about the accident at all, only that there had been an accident," said

See **Verdict**, page 4

ON THE MOVE

IP lawyer leaves Baker Donelson to go solo and simplify

MEREDITH HOBBS | mhobbs@alm.com

MIKE POWELL HAS opened a solo intellectual property practice, leaving Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz after 13 years to gain time for his family while helping clients simplify their intellectual property issues.

Powell said his focus at Powell IP Law is on mediation and advising, not litigation. "I help

See **On the Move**, page 2



JOHN DISNEY/DAILY REPORT

Michael Powell, father of four, says the move will let him be closer to his clients as well as to his family.

Gov. Deal to speak at Atlanta Bar's Celebrating Service luncheon

ANNUAL EVENT spotlights legal community's unsung heroes and their pro bono and service projects

JUDGE SUSAN EDLEIN
Special to the Daily Report

THE ATLANTA BAR Association's sixth annual Celebrating Service luncheon once again will spotlight Georgia's unsung legal heroes who lead by example in their commitment to serving others in our community.

The 90-minute awards program will begin at noon Oct. 18 at the Piedmont Driving Club. A pro bono fair precedes the luncheon at 11 a.m.

Governor Nathan Deal—this year's recipient of the bar's Public Service Award for his leadership in criminal justice and juvenile justice reform—will speak during the luncheon.

The Celebrating Service program was founded by Hunton & Williams partner and past Atlanta Bar president Rita Sheffey as an opportunity to publicly celebrate the lawyers who devote so much of their time and energy to serving others.

"We hope that people plan to come early

See **Awards**, page 3

Communications Office
Gregory C. Sowell
Alan Cook



▶ ON THE MOVE

IP lawyer leaves Baker Donelson to go solo and simplify

On the Move, from page 1
companies navigate their IP issues," he said, adding that he has formed an of counsel relationship with Casey Gilson for litigation.

"I've practiced IP law for years, and in my view it's become unnecessarily complex and costly," he said. "I had a desire to practice IP law while being closer to my family and my clients."

Powell, 47, has four children between the ages of seven and 12. "I want to enjoy my kids' childhoods," he said.

With a solo practice he can do more mediation and leave the consuming, bet-the-company IP litigation to the big firms, he said.

Powell gained mediation experience from his early career as a construction lawyer at Martin Caven & Andersen. Construction



The key is simplifying my practice. If I need to grow, I will. I've done it before.

—Michael Powell

law is an area that relies heavily on arbitration and mediation.

Powell has worked at a smaller shop before. He was part of the five-lawyer IP boutique Kennedy, Davis & Hodge, which

Baker Donelson acquired in 2000 to start its Atlanta office. Powell then served as the office's managing shareholder.

The Tennessee-based firm has grown quite a bit since then. It has about 600 lawyers, with 74 in Atlanta.

Powell said he plans to stay solo for now. "The key is simplifying my practice. If I need to grow, I will. I've done it before."

Real estate lawyer **Diane Lidz** has left a partnership at **Troutman Sanders**, where she spent 17 years, to become a partner at **Hartman Simons & Wood**. Lidz handles retail development projects, industrial leasing and loan workouts.

"The commercial real estate markets in Atlanta, the Southeast and across the nation are picking up, making this an ideal time to add a lawyer of Diane's considerable skill and experience to the firm," said Summey Orr, Hartman Simon's managing partner, in a statement.

Coby Nixon has joined **Taylor English Duma's** intellectual property practice as counsel from **Alston & Bird**, where he was a senior associate. Nixon handles IP counseling and patent litigation, including cases involving mobile devices, wireless communication and integrated circuits.

Fisher & Phillips has named a new managing partner for its Atlanta office. **D. Albert "Bert" Brannen** succeeds **Thomas Rebel**, who has completed his two-year term. The 45-lawyer Atlanta office is the labor and employment firm's largest.

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School has conferred a named chair in law on **Jeffrey**

Van Detta, a professor and the associate dean for scholarship. Van Detta was named the **John E. Ryan Professor of International Business and Workplace Law**. Ryan, now deceased, is a former dean of the law school.

The **Atlanta Legal Aid Society** is one of the first recipients of the **Latino Journey award from Caminar Latino**, which provides counseling to Latino families in crisis from domestic violence. The nonprofit offers separate therapy groups for abused spouses or partners, their children and their abusers. It has referred victims to Legal Aid.

Indigent defense in Georgia is the topic of an Oct. 4 conference at the University of Georgia School of Law called "**Honoring Gideon's Promise, Rallying Gideon's Army**." The event marks the 50th anniversary of *Gideon v. Wainwright*, the Supreme Court decision requiring states to provide defense counsel to indigent citizens accused of crimes.

Georgia public defenders and advocates will assess the statewide public defender system, now in its ninth year of operation, and there will be a screening of "Gideon's Army," a gripping HBO documentary featuring Georgia public defenders. One of them, **Travis Williams** (of the Northeastern circuit) is a panelist.

Other participants include the filmmaker, **Dawn Porter** (who is also a lawyer), **Stephen Bright** from the Southern Center for Human Rights and **Tim Saviello** from Gideon's Promise, which trains new public defenders in the South.

The all-day conference in Athens is free and open to the public. Lawyers can receive 6 CLE credits for a \$45 fee. Register at www.law.uga.edu. ☞

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11 Alive News, Fox 5 Atlanta, and Channel 2 Action News.

Mr. Abt is a former attorney with Sutherland and Paul, Hastings.
Co-counsel arrangements are available.



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10/4/13

GREENBERG TRAUIG EXPANDS GLOBAL IMMIGRATION PRACTICE WITH PROMINENT ATLANTA ATTORNEYS

Oct 04 2013 13:16:04

**Greenberg Traurig Expands Global Immigration Practice With Prominent Atlanta Attorneys
Immigration Practice Expands Presence in Atlanta**

PR Newswire

ATLANTA, Oct. 4, 2013

ATLANTA, Oct. 4, 2013 /PRNewswire/ – The international law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP welcomes four new attorneys to its Business Immigration & Compliance practice as the firm grows its Atlanta office to further address the market's global capabilities. Attorney Ian Macdonald, previously Co-Chair of Littler Mendelson's Global Mobility & Immigration Practice Group, joins as a shareholder. Scott Decker, Emily Liss and Avani Patel join as associates. The new team also includes a group of 12 paralegals and professional staff, making Greenberg Traurig's Immigration practice one of the largest in Georgia, as well as in the United States.

"Atlanta's growth as a hub for international business activity is exciting and unstoppable," said Ernest LaMont Greer, a Vice President at Greenberg Traurig and Managing Shareholder of its Atlanta office. "The addition of this group is just another example of our ability to move quickly to address opportunities to enhance what we offer clients and the marketplace."

"Ian's client base and reputation are evidence of the trust clients have in his experience," said Ted Blum, who serves as Managing Shareholder of the Atlanta Office and Chair of the firm's Atlanta Corporate and Securities Practice. "We are fortunate he is now putting his trust in Greenberg Traurig's global platform."

Macdonald focuses his practice on immigration-related employment and labor issues, as well as international law. His wide-ranging experience includes anti-discrimination rules to reduce or eliminate risk of employment litigation, employer sanction cases and I-9 compliance. Macdonald regularly assists clients with establishing risk-based performance standards (RBPS) and Department of Homeland Security protocol, providing risk assessment assistance to corporations subject to Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) and assisting clients with ITAR/Export Control compliance within the immigration context. He earned his B.A. from The New School and his J.D. from American University, Washington College of Law. Previously he had worked for the United Nations, various non-governmental think tanks and corporate law firms in the world's main business centers of London, New York, Washington, D.C. and Atlanta.

"We are pleased to continue to grow our Immigration practice in Atlanta," said Laura F. Reiff, Co-Chair of the firm's Business Immigration and Compliance Group. "These additions strengthen our market-leading business immigration team and add to our global platform, offering our clients a wide variety of experience in various business compliance and immigration issues."

"We are thrilled to have Ian and his group join our internationally recognized team of immigration professionals," said Martha Schoonover, Co-Chair of the firm's Business Immigration and Compliance Group. "His stellar reputation and recognition as an extraordinary immigration attorney enhance our practice immensely."

Decker focuses his practice on immigration-related employment law, counseling national and international employers on compliance, immigration policy and strategy. He is experienced conducting audits to assess I-9 compliance and representing employers before the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Decker earned his B.A., from SUNY Geneseo and his J.D. from Cornell University Law School.

Liss focuses her practice on business immigration, representing domestic and multinational employers before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of State. She regularly works with human resources managers and executive decision makers from strategy to execution and administration of corporate immigration registration, temporary assignments and permanent transfers, domestically and abroad. Liss earned her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from the University of Georgia and her J.D. from Georgia State University College of Law.

Patel focuses her practice on family and business immigration law. She represents individual and corporate clients before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Patel earned her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Vanderbilt University and her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law.

"These attorneys are a tremendous addition to not only the Immigration group, but the firm as a whole," said Matthew Gorson, Co-Chair of Greenberg Traurig. "The breadth of experience, skills and diversity they offer allow Greenberg Traurig to continue to offer our clients global solutions in an ever-changing marketplace."

About Greenberg Traurig's Business Immigration and Compliance Group

Greenberg Traurig's Business Immigration and Compliance Group is a full-service business immigration practice representing businesses, organizations, and individuals from around the world on a wide range of immigration-related matters. The group has achieved international recognition for legal advocacy, results-oriented service, and responsiveness to its clients.

Greenberg Traurig's Immigration Compliance blog (www.immigrationcomplianceblog.com) addresses the latest developments affecting employers, including the E-Verify program, Form I-9 compliance, Department of Labor issues (H-1B, H-2B and LCA), identity fraud in the workplace, electronic Forms I-9s, EB-5 investor regional center compliance, and ICE worksite enforcement audits.

GTs EB-5 Insights blog (www.eb5insights.com) addresses the broad range of challenges and opportunities presented by the EB-5 program, including the immigration, tax and securities compliance issues integral to creating and maintaining successful Regional Centers and projects.

About Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Greenberg Traurig, LLP is an international, multi-practice law firm with approximately 1750 attorneys serving clients from 36 offices in the United States, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Greenberg Traurig is among the Top 10 law firms on *The National Law Journal's* 2013 NLJ 350, an annual ranking of the largest firms in the U.S. For additional information, please visit www.gtlaw.com.

Contact: Elaine Walker
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Greenberg Traurig Expands Global Immigration Practice With Prominent Atlanta Attorneys

Immigration Practice Expands Presence in Atlanta

Published Friday, Oct. 04, 2013

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Contact: Elaine Walker (305) 579-0832 walkere@gtlaw.com

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UGA

Movie garners a little more respect for defenders of the poor

By LEE SHEARER updated Saturday, October 5, 2013 - 10:42pm

Public defenders work at a seemingly thankless job, defending poor people in criminal cases.

"Some people are just bad people," says one young lawyer in the new movie "Gideon's Army." She told of a time when one of her clients described raping a 12-year-old girl.

But those who have seen the movie seem to realize the importance of guaranteeing a fundamental right to representation when the state accuses someone of a crime, said the movie's producer and director Dawn Porter.

Porter was a panelist at the University of Georgia on Friday, where her movie was shown during a day-long conference about indigent defense at the UGA School of Law.

"For some people, it's the first time people have thought about the issue in this way," said Porter, a lawyer herself as well as a documentary filmmaker.

"This is tough work. This is grueling work. You're dealing with people that society has forgotten about, that society don't give (an expletive) about," said Trav Williams of Gainesville, another young lawyer in the film.

"It's truly something I think you have to have some kind of personality defect in order to do, and I have several," joked Williams, a UGA law school graduate.

Williams is an assistant public defender in the Hall County Public Defender's Office in Gainesville, and was also in Athens on Friday to answer questions after a screening of the film. The movie follows Williams and his client through a case in Hall County Superior Court, where the young, penniless defendant was accused of armed robbery.

Williams agreed to participate in the film so as not to portray the life of a public defender too negatively.

"I actually enjoy what I do," said Williams.

Even bad people deserve to be represented, and

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often, his clients did not commit the crimes they're accused of, said Williams, who sees his job as civil rights work, protecting as best he can society's most powerless.

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"Gideon's Promise" doesn't make the life of a public defender look anything near glamorous.

But it's helped some lawyers who defend poor people see themselves differently. Without realizing it, they can internalize the public's often negative attitudes about poor criminal defendants and the people who defend them, Porter said.

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"To see themselves celebrated is something new," Porter said.

MOST POPULAR

When her movie was shown at the Sundance Film Festival, a young man stood up, identified himself as a public defender, and said he'd like his parents to see the movie so they could understand why he loved his job, Porter said.

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The whole audience applauded him, she said.

With its portrayal of the long hours public defenders work, representing clients that often have the deck stacked against them, the movie might not be a good recruiting tool for new public defenders.

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"Worst case scenario, it will at least give us a better jury pool," Williams said.

A few years ago, public defenders got little or no training beyond law school about the demands of their jobs, but an Alabama-based, grant-funded group called Gideon's Army featured in the movie now provides some training for young public defenders.

The movie and the training program get their names from a U.S. Supreme Court decision 50 years ago, Gideon vs. Wainright. A poor Florida man, Clarence Earl Gideon, argued that even poor people should have the right to a fair trial, that poor people facing criminal charges deserve a lawyer, even if they can't afford to hire one. In a landmark decision, Supreme Court justices agreed.

ADVERTISE WITH US

In researching the movie, Porter found that police arrest 12 to 15 million people a year in the United States, more than any other country. Most of them are poor. The United States also leads the world in the number of its people in prison, about 2.3 to 2.5 million.

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Statesboro attorney elected president Georgia State Conference NAACP

Published: October 5, 2013

By Ben Wright — benw@ledger-enquirer.com

A 34-year-old civil rights attorney from Statesboro was elected president of the Georgia State Conference NAACP Saturday at the Columbus Convention & Trade Center.

The election of Francys Johnson on the third day of the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People's 71st Annual State Conference ends the eight-year tenure of Columbus resident Edward DuBose.

"I'm humble and also exited about the challenge," Johnson said. "Georgia is ready to move forward."

The day stirred many emotions for DuBose who served 15 years with the NAACP. He was branch president for seven years before spending the last eight as state conference president.

"It's emotional to do something you have loved for 15 years, with seven years as branch president in this community and eight years at the Georgia State Conference," said DuBose, 55. "By the grace of God, I received the respect of the city of Columbus."

As Johnson takes over leadership of the state conference, he said the demographics of the state is changing.

"If we are going to compete as a global force in the world, we need the best education, best economic development plan, the best criminal justice system and the best universities and colleges," he said. "That doesn't just benefit African-Americans, that benefits all Americans."

In the days ahead, Johnson said there is a spirit that has awakened in the recent events of Trayvon Martin and in the wake of the George Zimmerman verdict of not guilty of second degree-murder of the unarmed teen.

"Our young people are clamoring to join our organization so we have to take the necessary steps to organize ourselves internally so we can effectively serve this present age," he said.

Johnson is a native of Sylvania, Ga., the son of a share cropper and maid. He was educated in the public school system and graduated from Georgia Southern University. He received a degree from the University of Georgia School of Law. In addition to his practice in Statesboro, he is the pastor of two churches.

Johnson has been active in the NAACP in Bulloch County. In 2006, he was appointed as Southeast region director of the National NAACP and later served as executive director of the Georgia State Conference.

He is married to Meca Renee Williams and they have two sons, Thurgood Joshua Johnson and Frederick Douglass Caleb Johnson.

With new leadership, DuBose said he will continue to serve on the national NAACP board four times a year, but running across the state has ended. "It's time to focus on business and focus on family," he said. "God has called me to the ministry. I now have time to do God's work."



University of Alabama law school is best bang for your buck, according to legal publication's rankings

Kelsey Stein | kstein@al.com By Kelsey Stein | kstein@al.com

[Email the author](#) | [Follow on Twitter](#)

on October 06, 2013 at 10:44 AM, updated October 06, 2013 at 11:07 AM

TUSCALOOSA, Alabama - For the second year in a row, the University of Alabama School of Law was selected as the best value law school in the nation in annual rankings compiled by The National Jurist.

The rankings, **featured in the legal education publication's October issue**, are designed to determine the schools where graduates have the highest chance of passing the bar and being hired, without racking up too much debt, according to the publication.

Alabama's law school scored well in most categories, including an average debt of about \$67,000 that is well below the average private law school debt that exceeds \$100,000.

The publication analyzed bar passage rates, employment success, tuition, cost of living and average debt.

Only one school – the University of California Irvine School of Law – had a higher employment rate, the factor given the most weight in the analysis. UC-Irvine's employment rate was 91.9 percent, followed by Alabama's at 89.3 percent.

Other Southern law schools that made the list include the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville at No. 2; Louisiana State University at No. 3; the University of Kentucky at No. 7; Georgia State University at No. 8 and the University of Georgia at No. 11.

National Jurist's methodology stipulates that schools on the list must have average debt below \$105,000, employment higher than 69.5 percent and a bar passage rate of at least 75 percent.

The rankings come amid soaring costs and declining enrollment that **have inspired much heated debate** about whether law school is worth the money.

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Dozens Vie For 3 Bench Openings In Oconee And Chattahoochee

Kathleen Baydala Joyner

Daily Report

2013-10-07 00:00:10.0

Thirty-one lawyers and judges have applied for three judicial vacancies in the Chattahoochee and Oconee Judicial circuits.

The Chattahoochee Circuit, which has two openings on its Superior Court bench, drew 23 nominations, and at least eight of them are African-American.

Race became an issue in the nominations after Chattahoochee Superior Court Chief Judge John Allen sent Governor Nathan Deal and Deal's Judicial Nominating Commission a memo urging them to consider diversity in filling his seat. Allen is the sole African-American on the circuit's bench and his retirement at the end of the month is creating one of the openings. The JNC extended the nominating deadlines for the Chattahoochee and Oconee circuits by two weeks to Oct. 3 in hopes of recruiting a more diverse slate of nominees.

When it extended the nomination deadline, the JNC said it was doing so to "permit time for more nominations in the interest of diversity and to provide the full opportunity for participation throughout the Circuit," adding that the governor wanted to "take extra steps to ensure that every potential nominee has the opportunity to be considered and that interested groups can encourage nominees."

In his memo, Allen cautioned that an all-white and male judiciary in the Columbus area circuit would be "egregiously unrepresentative of the population served."

Allen noted the high proportion of African-American residents in the circuit and referred to the "face of justice" created by judicial appointments. With his retirement, he said, the five remaining judges in the circuit would all be white males.

JNC co-chairman Randy Evans, a partner at McKenna Long & Aldridge, said he was encouraged about the increase in applicants, though the number of minorities was "not where we want to be."

"In a predominantly minority judicial circuit, you'd like for the applicant pool to be evenly divided," Evans said Friday. Having a nominee pool that is at least a third African-American "compared to other judgeship [nominee pools in the past] is way up based on my recollection. It means we're making progress, but we've still got a ways to go."

Allen declined to comment on the list of nominees when reached by the *Daily Report* on Friday. The *Daily Report's* attempts to contact presidents of the Gate City Bar and the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys also were unsuccessful.

The Chattahoochee Circuit's second judicial vacancy was created by legislation approved last session by the Georgia General Assembly and requested by the Judicial Council of Georgia to address the circuit's growing caseload. Oconee's opening also was created by legislation supported by the Judicial Council.

Notable among the Chattahoochee nominees is that several work in the Columbus district attorney's office, including the DA and six of her assistant prosecutors.

The Chattahoochee nominees are:

- Donna Hix, a solo practitioner who specializes in divorce and family law matters. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in 1993.
- Wesley Lambertus, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 2003.
- J. Ronald Mullins Jr., an insurance defense and government lawyer at Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford. He earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1976.
- Carter Page Schondelmayer, a solo practitioner who earlier worked as a labor and employment lawyer for Hatcher, Stubbs, Land, Hollis & Rothschild. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1998.
- Julia Slater, Chattahoochee Circuit district attorney. She earned her law degree from Washington & Lee University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.
- Alonza Whitaker, chief assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from Creighton University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.
- Mark Wortham, of counsel at Hall Booth Smith's Columbus office whose practice includes medical malpractice and appeals. Wortham graduated from law school at Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 1986.
- LaRae Dixon Moore, senior assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit who ran for Superior Court in 2012 but lost to incumbent Judge Arthur Smith III. She graduated from law school at Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1995.
- Sadhana Pandey Dailey, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.
- Jennifer Dunlap, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 2005.
- Rebecca Crowley, a lawyer practicing elder and fiduciary law. She earned her law degree from Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 1996. She also is married to state Sen. Josh McKoon's law partner in Columbus, Scott Crowley.
- Rachelle Denise Hunter, a public defender in Columbus. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 2003.
- Ben Richardson, solicitor-general for Columbus and Muscogee County. He was named solicitor-general of the year for 2008 by the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia. He earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1992.
- Peter Hoffman, a bankruptcy lawyer in Columbus. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1987.
- Danielle Forte, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Emory University and was admitted to the bar in 1996.
- Steven Douglas Smith, Columbus Municipal Court Judge and chief magistrate for Muscogee County. He earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1978.
- Raymond Tillery Jr., a solo practitioner in Columbus specializing in family, military and veterans' affairs law. He is also an Army veteran who remains in the JAG Army Reserve. He earned his law degree from West Virginia University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.

- Maureen Gottfried, a Muscogee County State Court judge since 1996. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1986.
- Cynthia Maisano, a solo practitioner in Columbus who ran for Municipal Court in 2012 but lost in a runoff with incumbent Judge Steven Smith. She also is a judge in the Recorder's Court of Columbus and Muscogee County. She earned her law degree from Howard University and was admitted to the bar in 1998.
- John Patrick Partin, a domestic and family law attorney with Hirsch & Partin who is also an Army veteran. He earned his law degree from the University of Virginia and was admitted to the bar in 1972.
- E. Wayne Jernigan Jr., assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from John Marshall and was admitted to the bar in 1996.
- Savannah Potter-Miller, a former administrative law judge and current solo practitioner. She earned her law degree from Rutgers University and was admitted to the bar in 1974.
- Don Riddick, a contract and negotiations executive with IBM. He earned his law degree from the University of Southern California and was admitted to the bar in 2011.

The Daily Report was not able to verify the race of all the nominees; however, the confirmed African-American nominees for the circuit are Whitaker, Moore, Dunlap, Hunter, Richardson, Forte, Tillery and Potter-Miller.

Of the eight Oconee Circuit nominees, the *Daily Report* was only able to confirm the race of five, all of whom are white.

The Oconee nominees are:

- Howard Kaufold Jr., a partner at Kaufold & Everett in Vidalia. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1978.
- Steven Harrison, a circuit public defender in Eastman. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1982.
- C. Michael Johnson, a solo general practitioner in Eastman and special assistant attorney general. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1986.
- Ramsey Way Jr., a general practice attorney at Way & Way in Hawkinsville. He graduated law school at Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1990.
- John Harrington, a trial lawyer at Smith & Harrington in Eastman who is also the attorney for Dodge County. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1984.
- Catherine Leek Williams, assistant federal defender of the Middle District of Georgia. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 2000.
- Gregory Oberry, a prosecutor in the Oconee Circuit district attorney's office. He earned his law degree from John Marshall and was admitted to the bar in 2004.
- Mark Straughan, a lawyer at Straughan & Straughan in McRae. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1982.

The JNC will accept application forms from the nominees through Oct. 24 and has scheduled interviews with candidates during the week of Nov. 4. The JNC will pare the candidates down to two shortlists of recommendations, and will provide those lists to the governor for his consideration in making the appointments.

UGA

UGA School of Law Sibley Lecture to address civil rights

published Monday, October 7, 2013

Robin L. West, Frederick Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy at Georgetown University, will present "Toward a Jurisprudence of the Civil Rights Acts" as the University of Georgia School of Law's 110th Sibley Lecturer Oct. 23 at 3:30 p.m. in the Hatton Lovejoy Courtroom of Hirsch Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

West, who specializes in constitutional law, contracts, interdisciplinary law, jurisprudence and philosophy, will discuss the meaning of the civil rights protected by the historic 1964 Civil Rights Act, as well as the meaning of "civil rights" more generally, contrasting both with constitutional rights developed over the last half century.

West has served for more than 20 years as a law professor at Georgetown, where she is also the faculty director of the Georgetown Center for Law and Humanities. She teaches in the areas of torts and contracts and leads seminars on feminist legal theory, legal justice, jurisprudence, contemporary legal scholarship, law and humanities, and law and literature.

Her scholarship has appeared in journals such as the Boston University Law Review, the Harvard Law Review, the University of Pennsylvania Law Review and the Yale Law Journal. In addition, West has authored "Normative Jurisprudence: An Introduction," which was published by Cambridge University Press, and she is currently authoring and co-editing the forthcoming books "Teaching Law" and "Common Ground in the Abortion Debates," respectively.

West has served on the editorial boards of several interdisciplinary journals including The Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law and has served on the Law and Society Association Board of Advisors. She has been recognized with numerous awards throughout her career, including the Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities 2009 James Boyd White Lifetime Achievement Award.

She earned her bachelor of arts and her Juris Doctor from the University of

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Maryland and her master of science of laws from Stanford University.

The Sibley Lecture Series, established in 1964 by the Charles Loidans Foundation of Atlanta in tribute to the late John A. Sibley, is designed to attract outstanding legal scholars of national prominence to Georgia Law. Sibley was a 1911 graduate of the law school.

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SCOTUSblog Supreme Court podcasts from UGA event go online; C-SPAN to broadcast

By UGA NEWS SERVICE published Monday, October 7, 2013

Podcasts of “SCOTUSblog: Supreme Court Coverage and Cases,” hosted Sept. 9 by the University of Georgia Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Peabody Awards and the UGA School of Law, are now available for viewing **online**.

The series of panels focusing on SCOTUSblog, the first blog to win a Peabody Award, include discussions of the Supreme Court’s upcoming term under Chief Justice John Roberts, the rise of a Peabody-winning digital medium and the role of digital media in Supreme Court coverage.

Broadcast of the day-long program by C-SPAN is anticipated sometime in October. The new Supreme Court term begins Oct. 7.

Podcasts of the panels can also be viewed at SCOTUSblog, <http://www.scotusblog.com/media>.

Panelists included Tom Goldstein, publisher of SCOTUSblog and veteran Supreme Court litigator; Amy Howe, attorney and SCOTUSblog editor; Pete Williams, NBC News Justice correspondent; Tony Mauro, Supreme Court correspondent for the National Law Journal; and Janet Murray, media professor at Georgia Tech and a member of the board of the Peabody Awards.

“The story of SCOTUSblog is a perfect illustration of why journalism matters more now than ever,” said Grady College Dean Charles Davis. “It is an inspirational example of an emerging media platform serving its readers with thoughtful, substantive content. It’s a triumph of the weighty over the spurious. Further, it is particularly significant that Grady, the School of Law and the Peabody’s joined forces on this event. I envision many such efforts as we move forward.”

During the discussions, Goldstein, SCOTUSblog publisher, said winning the Peabody Award helped the blog to acquire Senate press credentials, a necessary step in gaining press credentials to cover the court.

“The tipping point for us getting a Senate press credential was the Peabody,” Goldstein said of SCOTUSblog reporter Lyle Denniston receiving the

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UGA, Red & Black alumnus to be inducted into Atlanta Press Club Hall of Fame

Jana French @janalynnfrench | Posted: Monday, October 7, 2013 11:44 pm

Bill Shipp “stepped on everybody’s toes in sight” during his time as managing editor of The Red & Black in the mid-1950s.

That is, before he was expelled and the staff adviser took more editorial control of the paper.

“If you want to know how I affected the University of Georgia, I let the faculty really stick its nose into our business, because they didn’t want any criticism of the kind I did to the governor, the legislature or the regents,” Shipp said.

Shipp never stopped stepping on toes, but he’s no longer punished for it.

The Red & Black alum and former writer for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution will be inducted into the Atlanta Press Club Hall of Fame Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the InterContinental Buckhead, along with Ed Baker, Margaret Mitchell, Monica Pearson and Dale Russell.

Shipp's journey to this award began when he “found writing was the one thing [he] did pretty well with in school.”

“I also felt that the people I knew in journalism, like Bill Kenney in the local paper and some of the people around town — they were really in a position to make a difference on how the whole region conducted itself,” he said.

He began his career as the editor of the Pitchfork for Marietta High School and went on to become the managing editor for The Red & Black after he transferred to the University of Georgia

Shipp said he would have graduated as the class of 1955, but was asked to leave UGA prematurely after writing several columns in which he “spoke ill of the governor,” who at the time was Herman Talmadge, calling him an unfit governor.

He also wrote columns about how he felt Horace Ward, an African-American student, should have been admitted into the UGA School of Law.

“My rationale for getting into this was, I looked around the campus and I saw guys from the Middle East, from India, from various parts of the South Pacific and Africa who were enrolled in exchange student programs at the University of Georgia and they were just as black or blacker than anybody I have ever seen,” Shipp said “But the University of Georgia refused to accept an American citizen who happened to be black, and I thought that was a bloody outrage — and now that I think about it, I still think it is an outrage.”

Shipp interned with the Atlanta Constitution in the summer of 1953, and started working with them after returning from the Korean War.

Throughout Shipp's 30 years with the Atlanta Constitution and then the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, he covered the civil rights movement, the Space program and Jimmy Carter's time as governor of Georgia and President of the United States.

George Berry, who held several positions with the state and city of Atlanta government while Shipp was reporting, said he "was the premiere political reporter in the state of Georgia for a long period of time."

Berry described Shipp as "having an acute sense of right and wrong, and he was absolutely fearless in his practice of journalism."

Jim Galloway, political columnist for the AJC, has known Shipp since he was an intern for the AJC in 1976.

"Back then, he was kind of a very frightening figure in the newsroom — very important," Galloway said. "He scared the bejesus out of all of the interns."

Galloway said he thinks Shipp is being inducted because he "was an excellent reporter and editor. "More importantly, he was the first journalist to go really heavy into internet," he said.

In 1987, Shipp resigned from being the political editor of the AJC to start his own newsletter, "Bill Shipp's Georgia." The newsletter went on to be "the country's first serious political journal on the Internet," according to the New Georgia Encyclopedia.

Shipp said going online was like "being dropped in a jungle that no one had ever tread before and knowing that there was a wild animal that was going to eat you up."

"It was like stumbling through the darkness to find everything possible," he said.

Shipp said he moved to an online format because he "saw pretty quickly that that was the way the news business was going."

"Journalism was headed online," he said. "There wasn't anything anyone could do about it."

Shipp said he sees his induction into the APC Hall of Fame as the capstone to his career.

"I was a charter member of the Atlanta Press Club way back in the '60s, so I guess it means I have traveled full circle," he said. "And it means, I guess, that I have been allowed to join some very powerful and famous people and that makes me very happy."

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Boro attorney, pastor is state NAACP president

Francys Johnson is youngest leader in Ga. civil rights organization's history

Text Size: Small Large Medium

Posted: October 7, 2013 4:56 p.m.
Updated: October 7, 2013 4:52 p.m.



Dr. Francys Johnson, a Statesboro attorney and pastor, has been elected the newest president of the

1 of 1 View Larger



BY Jeff Harrison
jharrison@statesboroherald.com
912-489-9454

A Statesboro civil rights attorney and pastor has been elected the newest leader of the Georgia State Conference NAACP.

At the 71st annual NAACP Georgia State Convention and Civil Rights Conference, held four days last week in Columbus, Dr. Francys Johnson was announced as the organization's next president. He becomes the group's first new president in eight years and the youngest in its history.

Johnson, 34, is a Georgia Southern University and University of Georgia graduate, and head of The Johnson Firm P.C. law firm in Statesboro. He has served in ordained ministry for 18 years, at both the Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Pembroke and Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church in Statesboro.

Johnson will serve a two-year term and succeed outgoing state President Edward Dubose.

"I am humbled," Johnson said. "The NAACP is the oldest and largest, and probably most venerated, civil rights organization in the country. When I think of the contributions of past presidents, of civil rights giants, I am truly humbled. I have served the NAACP before in various capacities, and I know we are ready to move Georgia forward."

Johnson has been involved with the NAACP for more than 25 years. He began working with the group while still a student in the public education system, served as an attorney for the organization after completing law school, and later was appointed as regional director to manage NAACP operations for a total of seven Southern states.

"I am looking forward to coming up with new solutions to some of our old problems and working with Gov. Nathan Deal, legislators and others in the public and private sectors to make a difference for the state of Georgia," Johnson said.

The new president said his focus will be on issues that affect all Georgians - battling for a fair criminal justice system, improving the status of the state's education system, and finding ways to ensure a robust, diverse economy.

"Folks sometimes are confused about the NAACP; they think the NAACP deals only in black and white issues. That is certainly not the case. We deal in red, white and blue issues - American issues," Johnson said. "Our real work is to make sure that the Constitution and laws of these United States are equitably applied to every citizen - to make real the promise of America's democracy. The issues that I'm focused on are issues that all Georgians should be concerned about."

In a news release issued by the NAACP, Leon Russell, the vice chairman of the organization's Board of Directors, said: "You can't look at young folks and say you're going to be the leaders of the future. You have to give them the opportunity to lead now, and that's what the NAACP believes. (Johnson) walks in the footsteps of the greats, including Savannah's Ralph Mark Gilbert and W.W. Law; Macon's Julius Caesar Hope; and Madison's Walter Curtis Butler. As a scholar, a practitioner of law, and a dynamic young leader, I am confident that the bar of excellence will be raised and more young professionals will be attracted to the work of the NAACP."

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'Key' community players

Four alumni to be recognized for their commitment to service

By Sara M. Freeland
freeland@uga.edu

The UGA chapter of the Blue Key National Honor Society will pay tribute to four alumni at its annual awards banquet Oct. 11. Kessel D. Stelling Jr., William D. Young Jr. and Thomas S. Landrum will receive Blue Key Service Awards. Jessica Langston McClellan will receive the Young Alumnus Award.

The Blue Key Honor Society is a national organization with members committed to leadership in student life, high scholastic achievement, service to others, citizenship and an adherence to principles of faith. It was established in 1924 at the University of Florida; the second chapter was established at UGA in 1926.

The banquet, which is open to the public, will be held at the UGA Hotel and Conference Center. A reception will begin at 6:30 p.m., and dinner will follow at 7:30 p.m. Individual tickets are \$30; sponsored eight-seat silver tables are \$300.

First Railroad and Banking Co. in Augusta; served as senior vice president of the First National Bank of Cobb County from 1985-90; and as executive vice president of the Chattahoochee Bank in Marietta from 1990-94. Stelling also served as chairman and CEO of Riverside Bancshares Inc. and Riverside Bank, which was sold to the Synovus in 2006. He was promoted to Synovus' regional CEO for the Atlanta market in 2008. Stelling is being honored for his commitment to community service and his dedication to higher education in Georgia.

Young, a 1978 UGA graduate, is vice president of General Wholesale Co., a family-owned beverage distribution company based in Atlanta with branches in Augusta and Spartanburg, S.C.

He has been a UGA Foundation trustee since 2003 and served as chair from 2007-2009 and again from 2011-2013. He also has been on the finance and development and public affairs committees. He has served on

programs, financial and development support services and the offices of donor relations and stewardship, special events and career counseling.

Since coming to UGA in 1976, he has worked as assistant director for publications, director of public relations and executive assistant to the vice president for development and university relations. He was an assistant to former UGA President Charles B. Knapp from 1992-1997 and chief of staff to former UGA President Michael F. Adams from 1997-2007. He is co-adviser of the UGA Blue Key chapter and a past vice chair of the national Blue Key board of directors. He is a member of the Grady College Board of Trust and the Grady Fellowship and a board member for the Wormsloe Institute for Environmental History. Landrum is being honored for his distinguished career and 37 years of service to UGA.

McClellan, an aviation and admiralty litigation and Deepwater Horizon trial attorney

ABOUT COLUMNS

Columns is available to the community by subscription for an annual fee of \$20 (second-class delivery) or \$40 (first-class delivery). Faculty and staff members with a disability may call 706-542-8017 for assistance in obtaining this publication in an alternate format.

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dinner will follow at 7:30 p.m. Individual tickets are \$30; sponsored eight-seat silver tables are \$300, and the eight-seat gold table is \$500. Tickets can be reserved by contacting Janet Lance at 706-542-0017 or jbolcomb@uga.edu.

Stelling, 6th Congressional District representative to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, will speak at the banquet. In addition, recipients of the AT&T Student Leadership Award, the Richard B. Russell Student Leadership Award and the Tucker Dorsey Memorial Scholarship will be announced.

Stelling, a 1978 UGA graduate, is a member of the Dean's Advisory Council at the Terry College of Business and the current chairman and CEO of Synovus Financial Corp. Stelling also is a board member of the Cobb Community Foundation, Wellstar Health Systems and The Georgian Club. He has worked for the

been on the finance and development and public affairs committees. He has served on the board of directors of the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America and was chairman of the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Georgia. He served on the Wine and Spirits Scholarship Foundation and belongs to the Benedicts of Atlanta, Peachtree Golf Club, Cherokee Town and Country Club, the Capital City Club and the Young Presidents Organization. Young is being honored for his professional leadership and civic contributions as well as his continuing support for UGA.

Landrum, vice president for development and alumni relations at UGA, earned a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in journalism from UGA in 1972 and 1987, respectively.

He is responsible for managing the university's fundraising and alumni relations

McClellan, an aviation and admiralty litigation and Deepwater Horizon trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, graduated from UGA summa cum laude in 2000 and cum laude with a Juris Doctor in 2003.

She previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of Georgia and as an associate with Hunter, Maclean, Exley and Dunn P.C. in Savannah. McClellan is involved in leadership positions with the Junior League of Savannah, the board of the Telfair Museum of Art and the UGA Alumni Association.

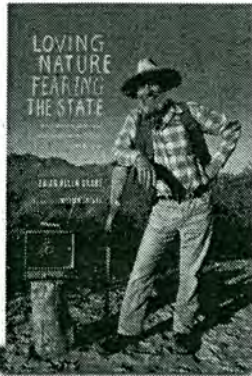
She is a member of Leadership Georgia and coach of the Georgia High School Association mock trial team. In 2013, she was nominated for the UGA Alumni Association's 40 Under 40 class. She is being honored for her professional leadership and civic contributions as well as her continuing support for UGA.

WEEKLY READER

New book explores environment, politics

A "conservative environmental tradition" in America may sound like a contradiction in terms, but as Brian Allen Drake, a lecturer in Franklin College's history department, shows in *Loving Nature, Fearing the State*, right-leaning politicians and activists have shaped American environmental consciousness since the environmental movement's beginnings.

Drake argues that "antistatist" beliefs—an individualist ethos and a mistrust of government—have colored the American passion for wilderness, but also complicated



Loving Nature, Fearing the State: Environmentalism and Antigovernment Politics before Reagan

Brian Allen Drake
University of Washington Press
Hardcover: \$34.95

environmental protection efforts. While most of the successes of the environmental movement have been enacted through the federal government, conservative and libertarian critiques of big-government environmentalism increasingly have resisted the idea that strengthening state power is the only way to protect the environment.

Loving Nature, Fearing the State traces the influence of conservative environmental thought through

the stories of important actors in post-war environmental movements.

CYBERSIGHTS

Campus Transit site shows real-time routes

<http://transit.uga.edu>

Members of the university community now can view live bus routes on their desktop computers and from mobile phones through Campus Transit System's updated website.

The redesigned website features a new map tool that allows users to view Campus Transit

routes, to find bus schedules by clicking on bus stop icons and to see in real time where each active bus currently is located on its route.

This new live map allows transit riders to more accurately gauge when the next bus they need will arrive at the campus bus stop closest to them.

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Columns - 10/7/13 "Key Community Players" cont.

WORKSHOP *from page 1*

programs," said Libby V. Morris, interim senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "I am especially appreciative of the staff who helped organize this event and the many administrators and faculty who will be sharing their expertise during presentations and panel discussions."

The four UGA faculty members who are participating in the workshop as SEC Academic Leadership Development Fellows are: Julian Cook, the J. Alton Hosch Professor in the School of Law; Tracie Costantino, an associate professor in the Lamar Dodd School of Art; Sarah Covert, professor and associate dean of academic affairs in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources; and Tom Reichert, an Athletic Association Professor and head of the advertising and public relations department in the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Based on their area of interest, the fellows will work with select senior administrators at UGA.

"As a department head, I'm really interested in learning more about development and fundraising so that I can better support my faculty and students," said Reichert, who will be working with the Office of the Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations. He will be writing a series of first-person accounts on his experiences for *Columns*.

Presentations at the October workshop include "The Land-Grant Mission in the 21st Century," "Budget and Finance," "Dialogues on Diversity," "First 90 Days and Leadership into the Future," "Focus on College Completion and Financial Aid" and "Enhancing the Student Experience."

The workshop also includes a reception and dinner with UGA President Jere W. Morehead, a campus tour led by students from the UGA Visitors Center and a tour and dinner at the Georgia Museum of Art.

In addition to lectures, panel discussions and other events, the workshop will include several opportunities for the UGA fellows to interact with their counterparts from other SEC institutions.

"I've spent my entire academic career at UGA, so the opportunity to learn about higher education administration at other universities really appealed to me," Covert said. "I'd like to be able to take what I learn about other universities and apply that to become a better administrator here at UGA."

The workshop is open to SEC Academic Leadership Development Program Fellows, and information on applying for the 2014-2015 fellowship is available at <http://t.uga.edu/aC>.

For more information on the fall workshop at UGA, see <http://provost.uga.edu/secu/>.



Peter Frey

UGA faculty participating in the workshop as SEC Academic Leadership Development Program Fellows are, from left, Tracie Costantino, Tom Reichert, Sarah Covert and Julian Cook.

DAILY REPORT

A SMART READ FOR SMART READERS



WHY I...

Duncan W. Miller turns in our new column to explain "Why I support Georgia Innocence Project," page 6.

Communications Office
Gregory C. Sowell
Alan Cook

Newsreel

Law firm leaders focus on women's empowerment

Top attorneys at several major firms in Washington said law firms must do more to help women succeed in the industry.

"I think one of the important roles of management is to be looking hard at promising young women and making sure that we can see the path for them," said Timothy Hester, chairman of Covington & Burling's management and executive committees.

Hester was one of four panelists who took part in the Women in Law Empowerment Forum, a group that seeks to promote women law firm leaders. The other panelists at the Oct. 4 event were Mike McNamara, U.S. managing partner of Dentons; Thomas Milch, chairman of Arnold & Porter and Claudette Christian, Hogan Lovells' Rio de Janeiro office managing partner. Major, Lindsey & Africa partner Jane Sullivan Roberts moderated the discussion.

The law firm leaders said it was important for firms to identify and promote women who show leadership potential. The first step, they said, is for firms to set internal benchmarks.

"Firm management must set the expectations of what it expects of itself and its partners with respect to promoting partners at the firm," Christian said. "What we really try to get are male partners in leadership roles to understand that it is their personal responsibility to promote women in the office."

All attorneys, not only women, Milch said, should look to build internal relationships with colleagues. Connecting with colleagues, he said, helps further relationships with clients. It not only establishes someone as a leader within a firm, he said, but also helps further business development.

One way for women to advance within law firms, Christian said, is to try to attract business for the firm. "I always tell women that what they need to do is build a book of business as early in their careers as they can, because at the end of the day service partners are expendable," she said.

—The National Law Journal

9 ASSOCIATES' CHOICE
Survey shows associates are linked to LinkedIn, interested in Pinterest, defriending Facebook.

11 NFL OPPOSITION
New book details how NFL fought studies linking football concussions to brain damage.

LETHAL INJECTION
Ohio announces alternative drug for executions. More on DailyReportOnline.com.

1B OPINIONS
Read summaries of opinions from Georgia court and Court of Appeals.

Tax liens sold on homeless shelter property

COMPANY BATTLING Task Force on ownership sues to halt buyers from foreclosing

GREG LAND | gland@alm.com

THE COMPANY THAT wants to evict a homeless shelter from Midtown is scrambling to prevent private tax-lien buyers from swooping in and foreclosing on the property before a trial next month resolves whether the company properly owns the deed.

Premium Funding Solutions, which claims to own the homeless shelter site at Peachtree and Pine streets, has asked a Fulton County judge to halt any possible attempts by InVesta Services LLC of Georgia and Tassa Enterprises LLC to foreclose on five tax liens they've purchased from the office of Fulton County Tax Commissioner Arthur Ferdinand since May 2012.

The petition noted that Premium Funding, which acquired the title to the property in 2011, has been unable



Richard Robbins says Premium Funding was surprised to learn of tax lien purchases.



Steven Hall represents the Metro Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless.

to commence dispossessory proceedings against the shelter, collect rent or pay taxes pending the trial's outcome.

Premium Funding's attorney, Richard Robbins, said he and his client were surprised to learn recently that Ferdinand had been selling the liens, and that he doesn't think Superior

See Shelter, page 4

Dozens vie for bench openings in Oconee and Chattahoochee

NOMINATION deadline was extended after retiring judge said circuit's bench lacked diversity

KATHLEEN BAYDALA JOYNER | kjoyner@alm.com

THIRTY-ONE LAWYERS and judges have applied for three judicial vacancies in the Chattahoochee and Oconee Judicial circuits.

The Chattahoochee Circuit, which has two openings on its Superior Court bench, drew 23 nominations, and at least eight of them are African-American.

Race became an issue in the nominations after Chattahoochee Superior Court Chief Judge John Allen sent Governor Nathan Deal and Deal's Judicial Nominating Commission a memo urging them to consider diversity in filling his seat. Allen is the sole African-American on the circuit's bench and his retirement at the end of the month is creating one of the openings. The JNC extended the nominating deadlines for the Chattahoochee and Oconee circuits by two weeks to Oct. 3 in hopes of recruiting a more diverse slate of nominees.

When it extended the nomination deadline, the JNC said it was doing so to "permit time for more nominations in the interest of diversity and to provide the full opportunity for participation throughout the Circuit," adding that the governor wanted to "take extra steps to ensure that every potential nominee has the opportunity to be considered and that interested groups can encourage nominees."

See Apply, page 2

Working but worrying: Lawyers deal with the shutdown in ATL

U.S. ATTORNEYS CONTINUE criminal litigation, but seek continuances in civil matters

ALYSON M. PALMER
apalmer@alm.com

THE FIRST WEEK OF the partial government shutdown had a limited impact on federal litigation in Atlanta—but the effect could be felt more acutely

if the shutdown stretches into a third week.

The federal judiciary said it has money for the first 10 business days of a shutdown, so federal courts are open for business. Federal public defender offices operate under that same

funding umbrella, so workers there were anxious about the future. As of Friday afternoon, there were no signs of a resolution in Washington.

"It's too bad we can't bring a civil action against Congress for

See Shutdown, page 5



Stephanie Kearns: Congress has caused "emotional distress."



Dozens vie for bench seats in Oconee and Chattahoochee

Apply from page 2

In his memo, Allen cautioned that an all-white and male judiciary in the Columbus area circuit would be "egregiously unrepresentative of the population served."

Allen noted the high proportion of African-American residents in the circuit and referred to the "face of justice" created by judicial appointments. With his retirement, he said, the five remaining judges in the circuit would all be white males.

JNC co-chairman Randy Evans, a partner at McKenna Long & Aldridge, said he was encouraged about the increase in applicants, though the number of minorities was "not where we want to be."

"In a predominantly minority judicial circuit, you'd like for the applicant pool to be evenly divided," Evans said Friday. Having a nominee pool that is at least a third African-American "compared to other judgeship [nominee pools in the past] is way up based on my recollection. It means we're making progress, but we've still got a ways to go."

Allen declined to comment on the list of nominees when reached by the *Daily Report* on Friday. The *Daily Report's* attempts to contact presidents of the Gate City Bar and the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys also were unsuccessful.

The Chattahoochee Circuit's second judicial vacancy was created by legislation approved last session by the Georgia General Assembly and requested by the Judicial Council of Georgia to address the circuit's

growing caseload. Oconee's opening also was created by legislation supported by the Judicial Council.

Notable among the Chattahoochee nominees is that several work in the Columbus district attorney's office, including the DA and six of her assistant prosecutors.

The Chattahoochee nominees are:

- Donna Hix, a solo practitioner who spe-



Randy Evans: Making progress on diversity in applications, "but we've still got a ways to go."

cializes in divorce and family law matters. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in 1993.

- Wesley Lambertus, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 2003.

- J. Ronald Mullins Jr., an insurance defense and government lawyer at Page, Scramton, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford. He

earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1976.

- Carter Page Schondelmayer, a solo practitioner who earlier worked as a labor and employment lawyer for Hatcher, Stubbs, Land, Hollis & Rothschild. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1998.

- Julia Slater, Chattahoochee Circuit district attorney. She earned her law degree from Washington & Lee University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.

- Alonza Whitaker, chief assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from Creighton University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.

- Mark Wortham, of counsel at Hall Booth Smith's Columbus office whose practice includes medical malpractice and appeals. Wortham graduated from law school at Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 1986.

- LaRae Dixon Moore, senior assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit who ran for Superior Court in 2012 but lost to incumbent Judge Arthur Smith III. She graduated from law school at Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1995.

- Sadhana Pandey Dailey, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.

- Jennifer Dunlap, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 2005.

- Rebecca Crowley, a lawyer practicing elder and fiduciary law. She earned her law degree from Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 1996. She also is married to state Sen. Josh McKoon's law partner in Columbus, Scott Crowley.

- Rachele Denise Hunter, a public defender in Columbus. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 2003.

- Ben Richardson, solicitor-general for Columbus and Muscogee County. He was named solicitor-general of the year for 2008 by the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia. He earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1992.

- Peter Hoffman, a bankruptcy lawyer in Columbus. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1987.

- Danielle Forte, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Emory University and was admitted to the bar in 1996.

- Steven Douglas Smith, Columbus Municipal Court Judge and chief magistrate for Muscogee County. He earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1978.

- Raymond Tillery Jr., a solo practitioner in Columbus specializing in family, military and veterans' affairs law. He is also an Army veteran who remains in the JAG Army Reserve. He earned his law degree from West Virginia University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.

- Maureen Gottfried, a Muscogee County State Court judge since 1996. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1986.

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Mr. Abt is a former attorney with Sutherland and Paul, Hastings. Co-counsel arrangements are available.

ABT LAW FIRM



- Cynthia Maisano, a solo practitioner in Columbus who ran for Municipal Court in 2012 but lost in a runoff with incumbent Judge Steven Smith. She also is a judge in the Recorder's Court of Columbus and Muscogee County. She earned her law degree from Howard University and was admitted to the bar in 1998.
- John Patrick Partin, a domestic and family law attorney with Hirsch & Partin who is also an Army veteran. He earned his law degree from the University of Virginia and was admitted to the bar in 1972.
- E. Wayne Jernigan Jr., assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from John Marshall and was admitted to the bar in 1996.
- Savannah Potter-Miller, a former administrative law judge and current solo practitioner. She earned her law degree from Rutgers University and was admitted to the bar in 1974.
- Don Riddick, a contract and negotiations executive with IBM. He earned his law degree from the University of Southern California and was admitted to the bar in 2011.

The *Daily Report* was not able to verify the race of all the nominees; however, the confirmed African-American nominees for the circuit are Whitaker, Moore, Dunlap, Hunter, Richardson, Forte, Tillery and Potter-Miller.

Of the eight Oconee Circuit nominees, the *Daily Report* was only able to confirm the race of five, all of whom are white.

The Oconee nominees are:

- Howard Kaufold Jr., a partner at Kaufold & Everett in Vidalia. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and

was admitted to the bar in 1978.

- Steven Harrison, a circuit public defender in Eastman. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1982.
- C. Michael Johnson, a solo general practitioner in Eastman and special assistant attorney general. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1986.
- Ramsey Way Jr., a general practice attorney at Way & Way in Hawkinsville. He graduated law school at Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1990.
- John Harrington, a trial lawyer at Smith & Harrington in Eastman who is also the attorney for Dodge County. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1984.
- Catherine Leek Williams, assistant federal defender of the Middle District of Georgia. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 2000.
- Gregory Oberly, a prosecutor in the Oconee Circuit district attorney's office. He earned his law degree from John Marshall and was admitted to the bar in 2004.
- Mark Straughan, a lawyer at Straughan & Straughan in McRae. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1982.

The JNC will accept application forms from the nominees through Oct. 24 and has scheduled interviews with candidates during the week of Nov. 4. The JNC will pare the candidates down to two shortlists of recommendations, and will provide those lists to the governor for his consideration in making the appointments. ☺



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DAILY REPORT

A SMART READ FOR SMART READERS



INPRACTICE
Randy Evans an Klevens caution t advice can lead t complaints. Story, page 5.

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Alan Cook

Newsreel

High court disbars Council member

• The Georgia Supreme Court has voted unanimously to disbar Atlanta City Council member H. Lamar Willis, saying he pocketed \$30,000 in settlement funds meant for a personal injury client. Even after being ordered by the trial court to distribute the funds, the high court said, Willis failed to do so, compounding the matter by failing to respond to the State Bar of Georgia's formal complaint.

The defendant in the personal injury case had to pay the plaintiff twice and seek reimbursement from Willis, who has not paid the funds back, the justices said.

Willis, who represents Atlanta City Council District 3-At Large, is running for reelection this year. A statement by him issued by his campaign blamed "tremendous personal challenges" two years ago for "a grievous professional error."

"I acknowledge it, apologize for it, and I accept the repercussions of it," Willis said. "The defendants have been repaid contrary to the language in the Court's opinion."

The high court order confirms decisions by a special master and the State Bar of Georgia's Review Panel against Willis.

The Review Panel "found not credible Willis's assertion that his depression left him unable to respond [to the bar complaint] because Willis points to his continued active involvement in community affairs during this same time period, which appears to have taken priority over his obligation to his client and duty to respond to disciplinary authorities," the high court wrote.

In 2009, Willis was fined \$25,000 by a Fulton County Superior Court judge for violating the Georgia Charitable Solicitations Act by failing to register his Lamar Willis Foundation as a nonprofit and for not maintaining its records. In 2011, Willis agreed with the Atlanta Ethics Office to pay \$3,500 to settle a complaint over his solicitation and acceptance of donations to the foundation.

—Greg Land

10 ROBERTS AT WORK
Chief justice's career as appellate lawyer has taken on mythic proportions.

Video spy exception doesn't exist, say justices

HOME SURVEILLANCE may be illegal, according to 6-1 ruling of the state high court

ALYSON M. PALMER | apalmer@alm.com

A DECISION issued Monday by the Georgia Supreme Court raises questions about the legality of home video surveillance.

The issue came up in a peculiar divorce case in which a woman recorded her spouse in their home. But Monday's 6-1 ruling, which said the video isn't admissible in the couple's case, could have implications beyond the facts before the court.

A Georgia statute generally makes it unlawful to conduct video surveillance of another in a private place, out of public view, without that person's consent. The cost of violating that statute is one to five years in jail—and evidence obtained through such illegal recording is usually not admissible in court.

An exception said it wasn't unlawful to videotape someone who was at the residence of the person doing

See *Spy*, page 4

10 COURT PASSES
Justices won't hear appeal of Ga. death row inmate doctors now say is mentally disabled.



ALISON CHURCH

Chief Justice Hugh Thompson said the exception was nullified by a later law.



JOHN DISNEY/DAILY REPORT

Justice Carol Hunstein dissented, siding with a wife who secretly recorded spouse.

LAWYER DISCIPLINE

The Supreme Court of Georgia on Monday issued discipline decisions regarding the following lawyers:

- Carol Chandler suspended for one year
- Ronald James Kurpiers II suspended for 91 days
- David Michael Shearer suspended 30 months
- Henry Lamar Willis disbarred
- Robert W. Cullen petition for voluntary discipline accepted

—See page 8 for the full decisions of the Supreme Court.

7B OPINIONS
Read summary opinions from court and Cook

Georgia pul defenders say lack of parity hinders justice

CONFERENCE SPEAKER calls state's indigent defense system a 'hodgepodge'

KATHERYN HAYES TUCKER | ktucker@alm.com

JUSTICE FOR ALL depends upon investing as much in defending suspects as in prosecuting crimes, public defenders told a group of attorneys, students and professors gathered at the University of Georgia School of Law Friday.

"Until we have equal resources—including pay parity with prosecutors—we cannot achieve justice in this state," said Claudia Saari, circuit public defender for the Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit. She spoke on a panel of circuit public defenders at "Honoring Gideon's Promise, Rallying Gideon's Army," a conference marking the 50th anniversary

See *Gideon*, page 3



HEIDI M. MURPHY

Claudia Saari told the group at UGA School of Law that justice demands equal resources for defendants.



FILE PHOTO

Judge David Darden says he wants to show his appreciation for the court.

Darden begins turn as Cobb chief judge

COURTROOM WORK IS HIS PREFERENCE, but administrative functions will 'keep the trains on time'

KATHERYN HAYES TUCKER
ktucker@alm.com

Toby Producers, who served four years as chief.

COBB COUNTY State Court Judge David Darden began a two-year term as chief judge this month, replacing Judge

"I missed one meeting," Darden joked when asked about how his colleagues came to elect him as chief. The tradition, replacing Judge

See *Darden*, page 2



7 05105 72609 0

Ga. public defenders say lack of parity hinders justice

Gideon, from page 1

sary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Gideon v. Wainwright*. The court unanimously held that the Sixth Amendment requires state governments to provide counsel to indigent defendants in criminal cases.

Unlike some others in Georgia, DeKalb County does have pay parity between prosecutors and public defenders, Saari said. Still, she noted the need for balance in other resources—investigators, labs and expert witnesses. But the speakers voiced skepticism about achieving parity in resources.

"Legislators know they are not going to be elected by advocating for the accused," said Leisa Johnson, circuit public defender in the Dougherty circuit.

The current debate in the state about how to use money seized in drug arrests needs to include public defenders, said Saari. She noted that forfeiture money is currently being used only by law enforcement and prosecutors. Governor Nathan Deal has appointed a task force to create guidelines for the use of forfeited funds.

"If there is a discussion about criminal justice in Georgia, there had better be a public defender at the table," Saari said, drawing applause from the packed auditorium.

Speakers at the conference were chosen to represent the state's geographic diversity, noted moderator Russell Gabriel, professor and director of the UGA Criminal Defense Clinic. They revealed widely vary-

ing resources devoted to indigent defense. Some counties, such as Fulton, DeKalb and Chatham, contribute the majority of the funds their local public defender operations use. Some counties contribute nothing, relying entirely on the Georgia Indigent Defense Council. Noting the 10th anniversary of the Georgia Indigent Defense Act, which created a statewide network of public defenders, some said the system has improved justice dramatically. "We are so much better off having the statewide system," Saari said.

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The lasting value of the appellate work, she said, is that it helps ensure fairness in future trials when judges and prosecutors know the appeal work will be done. Drawing applause, Johnson said, "I'm not looking for reversals. I just want to follow the law, so we try a case one time."

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ons. Court monitors in one county thought indigent defendants had no lawyer, until they realized the lawyer was sitting at a table behind them, sending them up alone to stand before the judge.

"This hodgepodge system we have in Georgia is not serving poor people," Hollie said, referring to how some counties spend more than others for indigent defense. She advised that anyone who wants to do something about it try monitoring local courts.

Sharon Hill, founding executive director of the Georgia Applesseed Center for Law & Justice, suggested that the conversation about indigent defense and legal aid needs to extend to a wider audience. "Maybe lawyers don't have all the answers," she said. "Maybe educators, businesspeople, accountants can work together to help create new legal clinics."

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lives of her family members. Instead, her mother suffered an emotional breakdown. Her brother and her cousins—every male member of her family—wound up in prison themselves.

"We cannot continue to let poor people be treated the way they are in this country," Askia said.

Stephen Bright, president and senior counsel of the Southern Center for Human Rights, highlighted the inherent challenge with appropriating government resources for indigent defense. Asked Bright, "How do you get the government—that's trying to convict people and imprison them and execute them—to hire more lawyers to defeat that?"

The Southern Center's lawsuits against counties have led to increases in the numbers of lawyers for indigent defendants, Bright said. Adding more lawyers is critical because "case load is everything," he said, emphasizing the importance of public defenders having enough time to give defendants effective representation.

As a former public defender in Washington, Bright—who also now teaches at UGA and Yale Law School—said he was horrified at what he saw when he came to Georgia nearly 35 years ago. In Washington, the accused met with their public defenders within hours of their arrests to prepare for bond hearings the next day. In Georgia, people were languishing in jail sometimes for months without bond. Or, they were "meeting and pleading," which he said he considers equivalent to not being represented at all.

Conditions have improved in Georgia, but not enough, said Bright. He added, "When the right to counsel is being violated, you've got to file lawsuits." ☛



Stephen Bright

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Darden Begins Turn as Cobb Chief Judge

Katheryn Hayes Tucker

Daily Report

2013-10-08 00:00:11.0

Cobb County State Court Judge David Darden began a two-year term as chief judge this month, replacing Judge Toby Prodgers, who served four years as chief.

"I missed one meeting," Darden joked when asked about how his colleagues came to elect him as chief. The tradition in Cobb has been for the most senior judge who hasn't served as chief before to take a turn.

The role adds some administrative responsibilities, public appearances and meetings with other county agencies, but it will not change his court calendar. "We're not going to make any sudden changes," Darden said. "When we change chief judges here in our court, it's pretty seamless. It's not a big transition."

During Prodgers' tenure, the court faced a crisis with budget cuts—just like other parts of county and state government during the hard economy.

"We got through it," Prodgers said.

Public and administrative duties do not constitute what Darden describes as his favorite part of the job. "The part I enjoy most about being a judge is being in the courtroom," Darden said. "I like handling cases." He recognizes the necessity of the administrative side of the job. "That's how you keep the trains on time."

Darden had a general civil practice for 18 years before he ran for an open seat on the court in 2002. He's been a member of the State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors since 1996. He served as president of the Cobb County Bar Association from 2000 to 2001. He's known in Marietta for creating the annual Sleighbells 5-K race that runs on the square each December. The event raises money for the Community Service Fund, which provides emergency financial support for children. He's been named "Boss of the Year" by the Cobb County Legal Secretaries Association and "Judge of the Year" by the Cobb Trial Lawyers Association. Darden is the immediate past president of the Georgia Council of State Court Judges.

He said the Cobb State Court bench is respected around the state, in part because of the work and reputation of other chief judges. Prior to Prodgers, now retired Judge Russell Carlisle served in the role. Judge Melodie Clayton preceded Carlisle.

"Taking my turn as chief judge," Darden said, "is a way to show that I appreciate how this court works."

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Georgia Public Defenders Say Lack of Parity Hinders Justice

Katheryn Hayes Tucker

Daily Report

2013-10-08 00:00:12.0

Justice for all depends upon investing as much in defending suspects as in prosecuting crimes, public defenders told a group of attorneys, students and professors gathered at the [University of Georgia School of Law](#) Friday.

"Until we have equal resources—including pay parity with prosecutors—we cannot achieve justice in this state," said Claudia Saari, circuit public defender for the Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit. She spoke on a panel of circuit public defenders at "Honoring Gideon's Promise, Rallying Gideon's Army," a conference marking the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Gideon v. Wainwright*. The court unanimously held that the Sixth Amendment requires state governments to provide counsel to indigent defendants in criminal cases.

Unlike some others in Georgia, DeKalb County does have pay parity between prosecutors and public defenders, Saari said. Still, she noted the need for balance in other resources—investigators, labs and expert witnesses. But the speakers voiced skepticism about achieving parity in resources.

"Legislators know they are not going to be elected by advocating for the accused," said Leisa Johnson, circuit public defender in the Dougherty circuit.

The current debate in the state about how to use money seized in drug arrests needs to include public defenders, said Saari. She noted that forfeiture money is currently being used only by law enforcement and prosecutors. Governor Nathan Deal has appointed a task force to create guidelines for the use of forfeited funds.

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Speakers at the conference were chosen to represent the state's geographic diversity, noted moderator Russell Gabriel, professor and director of the UGA Criminal Defense Clinic. They revealed widely varying resources devoted to indigent defense. Some counties, such as Fulton, DeKalb and Chatham, contribute the majority of the funds their local public defender operations use. Some counties contribute nothing, relying entirely on the Georgia Indigent Defense Council. Noting the 10th anniversary of the Georgia Indigent Defense Act, which created a statewide network of public defenders, some said the system has improved justice dramatically. "We are so much better off having the statewide system," Saari said.

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SCOTUSblog Supreme Court podcasts from UGA event go online

News *SCOTUSblog Supreme Court podcasts from UGA event go online* has been updated.

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Monday, October 7, 2013

Writer: Sarah Freeman, 706-201-5373, freemans@uga.edu

Contact: Kent Middleton, 706-542-5034, kmiddlet@uga.edu

SCOTUSblog Supreme Court podcasts from UGA event go online; C-SPAN to broadcast

Athens, Ga. – Podcasts of “SCOTUSblog: Supreme Court Coverage and Cases,” hosted Sept. 9 by the University of Georgia Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Peabody Awards and the UGA School of Law, are now available for viewing online.

The series of panels focusing on SCOTUSblog, the first blog to win a Peabody Award, include discussions of the Supreme Court’s upcoming term under Chief Justice John Roberts, the rise of a Peabody-winning digital medium and the role of digital media in Supreme Court coverage.

Broadcast of the day-long program by C-SPAN is anticipated sometime in October. The new Supreme Court term begins Oct. 7.

Podcasts of the panels can also be viewed at SCOTUSblog, <http://www.scotusblog.com/media>.

Panelists included Tom Goldstein, publisher of SCOTUSblog and veteran Supreme Court litigator; Amy Howe, attorney and SCOTUSblog editor; Pete Williams, NBC News Justice correspondent; Tony Mauro, Supreme Court correspondent for the National Law Journal; and Janet Murray, media professor at Georgia Tech and a member of the board of the Peabody Awards.

“The story of SCOTUSblog is a perfect illustration of why journalism matters more now than ever,” said Grady College Dean Charles Davis. “It is an inspirational example of an emerging media platform serving its readers with thoughtful, substantive content. It’s a triumph of the weighty over the spurious. Further, it is particularly significant that Grady, the School of Law and the Peabody’s joined forces on this event. I envision many such efforts as we move forward.”

During the discussions, Goldstein, SCOTUSblog publisher, said winning the Peabody Award helped the blog to acquire Senate press credentials, a necessary step in gaining press credentials to cover the court.

“The tipping point for us getting a Senate press credential was the Peabody,” Goldstein said of SCOTUSblog reporter Lyle Denniston receiving the pass. “In the wake of the Peabody... they took us more seriously, and they were willing to credential Lyle.”

The Supreme Court is still evaluating whether SCOTUSblog will receive a press credential.

“It was heartening to hear that SCOTUSblog’s receipt of a Peabody Award assisted in their credentialing with the U.S. Senate,” said Jeffrey Jones, director of the Peabody Awards.

“SCOTUSblog plays an important civic role for those interested in government, and we are glad that the award has drawn attention to their good work.”

The three panels are available at:

Panel 1: "SCOTUSblog: The Peabody Winner," moderated by Jeffrey Jones, director of the Peabody Awards

<http://podcasting.gcsu.edu/4DCGI/Podcasting/UGA/Episodes/4140/168627838.mov>

Panel 2: "Covering the Supreme Court in the Digital Age," moderated by professor Bill Lee of Grady College

<http://podcasting.gcsu.edu/4DCGI/Podcasting/UGA/Episodes/19605/126484.mov>

Panel 3: "Supreme Court Cases and Issues," moderated by Sonja West, associate professor of law at the UGA School of Law

<http://podcasting.gcsu.edu/4DCGI/Podcasting/UGA/Episodes/610/491996835.mov>

UGA Grady College

Established in 1915, the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication offers undergraduate majors in journalism, advertising, public relations, digital and broadcast journalism and mass media arts. The college offers two graduate degrees, and is home to the Knight Chair in Health and Medical Journalism and the Peabody Awards, internationally recognized as one of the most prestigious prizes for excellence in electronic media. For more information, see www.grady.uga.edu or follow @UGAGrady on Twitter.

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Roy Barnes speech highlights law/politics discussion at UGA Law

1:42 pm, October 9th, 2013

A former governor, a federal judge and a list of lawyer-legislators will gather at the University of Georgia School of Law for the Third Annual Georgia Association of Law and Politics Symposium.

"Lawyers, judges and politicians play a key role in shaping our state and nation," said W. Matthew Wilson, third-year law student and Georgia Association of Law and Politics president, in a news release from UGA. "It is important that we come together to learn from one another and to explore how we can collectively tackle some of the problems facing our society. We hope this annual conference will help accomplish that."

The event will be held Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall.

Seating is limited. Preregistration is required. Through three panel sessions, the conference will look at challenges faced by women in politics, Georgia's new juvenile justice code and the federal judicial nomination process. Former governor and 1972 Georgia Law alumnus Roy E. Barnes will deliver the noon keynote speech. The announcement said Barnes will address his experience both as a lawyer and a politician, how he believes society benefits from the overlap and the role he sees lawyers playing in the future. Other conference participants will include: former U.S. Rep. George W. "Buddy" Darden of McKenna Long & Aldridge, state Speaker Pro Tempore Jan Jones, U.S. District Court Judge Clay D. Land, Fulton County Superior Court Judge Todd Markle, state Rep. Alisha Thomas Morgan, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice Commissioner Avery D. Niles and state Sen. Horacena Tate.

The conference is free for UGA students, faculty and staff. There is a \$15 charge for all other participants attending the keynote lunch. State Bar of Georgia members may obtain 4.5 regular Continuing Legal Education credits for a fee of \$50. To register, or for more information, see www.law.uga.edu/galp.



Contributor: Kathryn Hayes Tucker in Law schools, Politics | [subscribe to rss](#) | [share](#)

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Class Notes: UNG hosts College Fair at Brenau Downtown Center

By Carly Sharec

csharec@gainesvilletimes.com

POSTED: October 9, 2013 12:56 a.m.



McClellan
View Larger

Thursday's fair runs 6-8 p.m. at the Brenau Downtown Center, 301 Main St. in Gainesville.

"Community members are welcome as well," she added. "It's for anyone who is interested in learning more about going to college."

The programs are organized by the Georgia Education Articulation Committee. More information can be found at gaprobe.org.

Gainesville's McClellan wins Young Alumnus Award

Gainesville High graduate **Jessica Langston McClellan** has received the Young Alumnus Award for the University of Georgia's Blue Key Honor Society.

McClellan, the valedictorian of Gainesville's class of 1996, is a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Division. In August, she was also named in the "40 under 40" class of 2013 for UGA.

She will be recognized at the Blue Key Honor Society's awards banquet on Friday.

"We are proud of her, and proud of her work," said Gainesville school board member Sammy Smith at the Monday work session of the board.

More information can be found at alumni.uga.edu.

Carly Sharec covers education issues for The Times. Share your thoughts, news tips and questions with her:

csharec@gainesvilletimes.com

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@CarlySharec

High school students and community members interested in going to college are invited to attend Thursday's PROBE College Fair.

"(PROBE conducts) several fairs throughout the state of Georgia," said Molly Potts, associate director of undergraduate admissions with the University of North Georgia. "There's going to be about 65 different colleges and universities that will have representatives from all over."

The University of North Georgia is hosting the event locally.

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UGA

Conference to look at the overlap of law and politics in the state of Georgia

By UGA NEWS SERVICE published Wednesday, October 9, 2013

The University of Georgia School of Law will present the Third Annual Georgia Association of Law and Politics Symposium Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall. Seating is limited. Preregistration is required.

Through three panel sessions, this year's conference will focus on challenges faced by women in politics, Georgia's new juvenile justice code and the federal judicial nomination process.

Additionally, former governor and 1972 Georgia Law alumnus Roy E. Barnes will deliver the noon keynote address, where he will talk generally about his experience both as a lawyer and a politician, how he believes society benefits from the overlap and the role he sees lawyers playing on future issues facing Georgia.

"Lawyers, judges and politicians play a key role in shaping our state and nation," said W. Matthew Wilson, third-year law student and Georgia Association of Law and Politics president. "It is important that we come together to learn from one another and to explore how we can collectively tackle some of the problems facing our society. We hope this annual conference will help accomplish that."

Other conference participants will include: former U.S. Rep. George W. "Buddy" Darden, state Speaker Pro Tempore Jan Jones, U.S. District Court Judge Clay D. Land, Superior Court Judge Todd Markle, state Rep. Alisha Thomas Morgan, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice Commissioner Avery D. Niles and state Sen. Horacena Tate, among other practitioners and academics.

The conference is free for UGA students, faculty and staff. There is a \$15 charge for all other participants attending the keynote lunch. State Bar of Georgia members may obtain 4.5 regular Continuing Legal Education credits for a fee of \$50. To register,

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Bulletin Board: A Post From the Community

Richard G. Douglass of Highland Park Honored as One of the 40 Most Talented Young Attorneys in Illinois

Posted by NANCY DOVE, [Community Contributor](#)

3:59 PM CDT, October 9, 2013

Richard G. Douglass, 39, a partner at Novack and Macey LLP, has been selected as one of advertisement the 40 most talented young attorneys in Illinois. The “40 under Forty” honorees are selected each year by the Chicago Law Bulletin’s publishers and featured in a special supplement to the Chicago Law Bulletin newspaper and Chicago Lawyer magazine. PDF

Rich is a commercial litigation and trial attorney, representing a variety of clients in disputes in state and federal courts in Illinois and throughout the nation. Rich’s practice is devoted to commercial litigation, with a focus on energy and real estate disputes.

Rich’s nominators praised him as “firm but respectful” when disagreements arose, personally invested in representing his clients, and “adept” in developing creative legal arguments and innovative solutions. A client in the energy industry said Rich is “a rare practitioner” who provides “insightful counsel grounded in a thorough understanding of a complicated business.”

Rich is a member of the American Bar Association (ABA) Sections of Litigation and serves as co-chair of the Energy Litigation Committee’s membership subcommittee. He is also a member of the Energy Bar Association, the Chicago Bar Association committees on Energy, Telecommunications and Water and Commercial Litigation and is a member of the Advisory Board of The Institute for Energy Law. Rich also serves as a Brief Judge for the ABA Law Student National Appellate Advocacy Competition.

Rich graduated from the University of Pittsburgh, Magna cum Laude, in 1998. He earned his J.D. in 2002 from the University of Georgia School of Law where he served as articles editor of the University of Georgia Law Review and graduated with Magna cum Laude and Order of the Coif honors.

Rich joined Novack and Macey, a Chicago-based litigation boutique, in 2004 and was elevated to partner in 2012. He resides in Highland Park with his wife and daughter, and is a member of the Highland Park Historical Society.

Rich is one of the six Novack and Macey attorneys to have been chosen as “40 Under Forty” honorees: Steven J. Ciszewski of Northbrook (2012), Kristen Werries Collier of Chicago (2011), John F. Shonkwiler of Flossmoor (2009), Richard L. Miller II of Chicago (2008) and Monte Mann of Deerfield

(2005).

Rich can be reached at (312) 419-6900 or rdouglass@novackmacey.com.



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October 11, 2013

Ruth L. Lee, Georgia Council on Aging

Lee retired as director of Hospice of Tift Area in Tifton. She previously served as executive director of Hospice of Central Georgia in Macon and director of Oncology Services at Tift Regional Medical Center. Before retirement, Lee was a member of the Georgia Hospice Organization Board of Directors, serving as president and treasurer. She also served on the Georgia Department of Medical Assistance Hospice Advisory Committee and the Quad State Hospice Medicare Advisory Committee. Lee is a registered nurse, having earned her diploma in Nursing from Georgia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing and a bachelor's degree in Nursing from Albany State College. Ruth and her husband, Michael, have three children and five grandchildren. They reside in Tifton.

Brittany Pittman, Georgia Environmental Finance Authority

Pittman is the first elected female to serve as the sole commissioner in Murray County. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Georgia Northwestern Technical College, Healthcare Partnership, Boys and Girls Club and the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission. Pittman earned a bachelor's degree from Covenant College and a master's degree from Central Michigan University. She and her husband, Anthony, have four children. They reside in Chatsworth.

Judy T. Brownell, Board of Human Services

Brownell is employed by Center Point and is working on a statewide alcohol prevention project focused on underage drinking. She has worked in several capacities including 11 years with the Department of Family and Children Services in Child Protective Services and eight years with the Northeastern Judicial Circuit as Victim Services Director for the District Attorney's Office. She was instrumental in the development of a sexual abuse treatment program now known as the Children's Center for Hope and Healing. Brownell earned a bachelor's degree from Agnes Scott College. She and her husband, Bill, have three children and six grandchildren. They reside in Gainesville.

Jack F. Williams, Board of Human Services (reappointment)

Williams is a professor at Georgia State University College of Law/ Middle East Institute and the senior managing director for Mesirow Financial Consulting, LLC. He is a member of the American Institute of Archaeology, the Society for American Archaeology, the Native American Bar Association, the American Bankruptcy Institute and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Additionally, Williams is

resident scholar for the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma, a law degree from George Washington University School of Law and a Ph.D. from the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom. He and his wife, Pam, have four children. They reside in Atlanta.

Monica Walters, Board of Human Services (reappointment)

Walters is a retired educator and library media director from the Lamar County School System. She serves on the Lamar County Board of Elections and the Lamar County Board of Equalization. She is a past president of Barnesville-Lamar County Chamber of Commerce and Barnesville Women's League. She is a graduate of Leadership Lamar under the Fanning Institute. She was a grant writer and director of the Lamar County High afterschool program. Walters earned a bachelor's degree in Education from Georgia Southern University, a master's degree in Education from Columbus State University, a master's degree in School Library Media and a specialist degree in Educational Leadership from Georgia College and State University. She and her husband, John, have two children and five grandchildren. They reside in Barnesville.

Robertiena (Tiena) Fletcher, Board of Human Services (reappointment)

Fletcher is the director of Pharmacy at Houston Healthcare Complex in Warner Robins, where she has been employed for 37 years. She serves on the boards of the Community Foundation of Middle Georgia, Inc., the Fort Valley Chapter of the Links, Inc., and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Fletcher earned a bachelor's degree in Biology and Chemistry from Mercer University, a bachelor's degree in Pharmacy from Xavier University and dual master's degrees in Science Administration and Business Administration from Georgia College and State University. She and her husband, Donnie, have three children. They reside in Perry.

Robin Alverson, State Board of Examiners for Speech and Language Pathology and Audiology

Alverson is a clinical audiologist in practice with Otolaryngologist M. Edwin Davis, M.D. Alverson has also served as a medical consultant with the Social Security Disability adjudication services for the past 20 years. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia, a master's degree in Medical Science from Emory University and a doctorate of Audiology from A.T. Still University. She and her husband, Joey, have three children and two grandchildren. They reside in Fayetteville.

Lauren Wright, State Board of Examiners for Speech Language Pathology and Audiology (reappointment)

Wright serves as director of Organizational and Resource Development for the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia. Prior to joining the commission staff, Wright directed the Race to the Top projects in the Governor's Office of Student Achievement and served as the Education Policy Adviser to Gov. Sonny Perdue. She also worked previously in Perdue's communications office managing external affairs. Wright received dual bachelor's degrees in Journalism and Political Science from the University of Georgia and a master's degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Policy Analysis from Georgia State University. She currently resides in Marietta.

Dennis W. Ashley, Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission (reappointment)

Ashley is interim chair and professor in the Department of Surgery and the director of Trauma and Adult Critical Care at the Medical Center of Central Georgia and Mercer University School of Medicine. He is a member of the

American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the Southern Surgical Association, and the Society of University Surgeons. He currently chairs the Information Technology Committee of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma. Ashley earned a bachelor's degree from Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky., and a master's degree from the University of Kentucky. He completed a general surgery residency at the Medical Center of Central Georgia and Mercer University School of Medicine, followed by a Trauma Fellowship at Grady Hospital and Emory University School of Medicine, and a Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh. He has one child. They reside in Macon.

Joel O. Wooten, Georgia Ports Authority

Wooten is an attorney with the law firm of Butler, Wooten & Fryhofer, LLP. He served as chair of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents from 2004-2005, and was a board member from 1999-2006. He has been recognized as one of Georgia Trend's 100 Most Influential Georgians and repeatedly selected as a Georgia Super Lawyer. He received the State Bar of Georgia's Tradition of Excellence Award in 2000, and the UGA Law School's Distinguished Service Scroll in 2012. Wooten graduated from the University of Georgia in 1972 with a bachelor's in Business Administration and received a law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1975. He and his wife, Sybrina, have five children and two grandchildren. They reside in Columbus.

David W. Retterbush, Georgia Composite Medical Board (reappointment)

Retterbush is a board certified general surgeon practicing in Valdosta and is on the active medical staff of South Georgia Medical Center and Smith Northview Hospital. He has served as chief of staff and chairman of the Department of Surgery at South Georgia Medical Center. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and is a cancer liaison physician with the Commission on Cancer. Retterbush earned a master's degree from the Medical College of Georgia and completed a general surgery residency at the University of Louisville. He and his wife, Denise, have three children and two grandchildren. They reside in Valdosta.

Kelly H. Gay, Board of Driver Services (reappointment)

Gay is the chief executive officer and president of Omnilink. She is the past chairman, chief executive officer and president of KnowledgeStorm. Prior to joining KnowledgeStorm, she led IBM in the entertainment, publishing, printing, advertising, broadcast, cable and sports markets as vice president of IBM's North American Media and Entertainment Division. She serves on the boards of directors of Omnilink, Bank of Atlanta, 1105 Media, Ashworth College, OnBoard, and is a past chairman of the Technology Association of Georgia (TAG) and past president of OnBoard. She is a magna cum laude graduate of Newcomb College of Tulane University with a bachelor's degree in Economics. She and her husband, Alan, have two children. They reside in Atlanta.

Debbie Brillig, State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers (reappointment)

Brillig is the chief executive officer for the Auditory Verbal Center. She serves on the Hearing Screening Stakeholders Committee and is a member of the Georgia Pathway Coalition for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. She is an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Northlake-Tucker and past lieutenant governor of Division 14. She earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a minor in Economics from Berry College. She has two children. They reside in

Atlanta.

Allana L. Cummings, Board of Community Health

Cummings is chief information officer at Northeast Georgia Health System. She serves as chair of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Worldwide Board and as a member of the HIMSS Analytics Board and Most Wired Advisory Board. Cummings earned a bachelor's degree in Organization Leadership from Mercer University in Atlanta and an executive master's degree in Business Administration from the Ken Blanchard College of Business at Grand Canyon University. She is a certified professional in Healthcare Information and Management Systems, a certified healthcare chief information officer and has also earned a project management professional certification. She resides in Gainesville.

Nancy A. Addison, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Addison is vice president and chief financial officer for Health Service Centers, Inc. She is also a corporate adviser for Southern Woods Plantation and is a director for Majormatic, a South Africa-based company. Addison serves on the Board of Natural Resources, Safari Club International Foundation Advisory Board, and is chairman of the North Georgia Mountain Authority Board. She has three children and resides in Savannah.

James P. Martin, Georgia State Board of Accountancy

Martin retired as executive director of the Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants after 35 years of service. He serves on the board of Hart Partners and on the finance committee at the First United Methodist Church in Hartwell, where he also teaches Sunday school. Martin earned a bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Georgia and a law degree from the Woodrow Wilson College of Law. He and his wife, Carolyn, have four children and eight grandchildren. They reside in Lavonia.

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Media Contact: Molly Metz, 404.745.2435

Kilpatrick Townsend Welcomes Five New Associates to the Atlanta Office

ATLANTA (October 11) – **Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton** announced today the addition of five new associates to the firm's Atlanta office.

- **Amanda Brouillette** joins the firm's Patent Litigation Team. She earned her J.D. from Stanford Law School, where she served on the *Stanford Technology Law Review*. Ms. Brouillette earned her B.A. in English from the University of Georgia, *summa cum laude with highest honors*.
- **Carrie Cao** joins the firm's Trademark and Copyright Team in the Intellectual Property Department. She earned her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law, where she served as an Editorial Board Member of the *Georgia Law Review*. Ms. Cao earned her B.S. in Business Administration and Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- **Kelsey Donnalley** joins the firm's Mergers & Acquisitions and Securities Team in the Corporate, Finance and Real Estate Department. She earned her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law and her B.S. in Business Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- **Crystal Genteman** joins the firm's Trademark and Copyright Team in the Intellectual Property Department. She earned her J.D. from Georgia State University School of Law, and her A.B.J. in Advertising and A.B. in English from the University of Georgia, *magna cum laude*.
- **Daniel Johnson** joins the firm's Construction and Infrastructure Team in the Litigation Department. He earned his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he served on the Articles Review & Editorial Board of the *Virginia Environmental Law Journal*. Mr. Johnson earned his B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Virginia.

For more information about Kilpatrick Townsend, please visit: www.kilpatricktownsend.com.

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Art for All

Laura Raines | Special to the Daily Report

Daily Report

2013-10-11 00:00:10.0

Growing up in Milwaukee, Bennett Bryan saw plenty of graffiti and street art. As a teen he liked to paint murals with his friends, but he also was interested in politics and majored in political science. "By the time I went to law school, I knew my skills were more analytical than artistic," he said. "A lawyer was absolutely what I was meant to be. I leave the public art to the professionals now."

As a board member of Living Walls, though, Bryan uses his legal skills to support the art he loves. Founded in Atlanta about four years ago, Living Walls is a nonprofit organization that seeks to promote, educate and change perspectives about public space via street art.

How did you find out about this group?

Many of my clients are in the creative industries, and a friend told me about Living Walls. I went to the first conference four years ago and was sold from the perspective of a fan and a former practitioner. I thought it was a great idea and movement. Monica Campana helped found the project in 2010 by inviting street artists from around the world to paint murals here in Atlanta. I've been involved from mostly an administrative position.

What does that mean exactly?

I guess you could say I helped legalize the group. I helped write the articles of incorporation and get it through the process of becoming a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. There are contracts to draw up with building owners and artists, as well as gaining the approvals and permits from city governments and communities. The art may be cutting edge, but we strive to do a good job of playing by all the rules. There are a lot of hurdles to jump before an artist starts work.

What about this organization speaks to you?

I love its multiple missions. It started out as a way to bring art to the public. The artists generally paint in places of blight. It brings new attention to those areas of the city that are otherwise largely ignored. It gives people something to look at besides blank walls, but it also brings people and communities together to talk about the issues they face. Murals have increased property values and helped spur urban rehabilitation. They have also raised Atlanta's profile in the international art market. The group began with huge eyes and a big appetite, not knowing what whether they could attract international artists or get permission from owners, but we've seen the momentum grow quickly.

What form is that momentum taking?

Most of the actual murals are painted for an annual conference. This year's conference was in August, and it's jam-packed with events. If you drive around the city now, you can see 21 murals in various stages of completion. There will be movies, block parties, an historic tour of Edgewood Avenue, and a lecture series with ATL History Twins, Rebecca Burns, Assasta Richards, Marcos Feldman and Lisa Murch discussing the interaction of public art and the effect it has on the community. There also will be a gallery of work by this year's 20 artists and a performance by rapper, Killer Mike. On Sunday, there will be a bike tour of all the walls—there are about 100 around the city now. It's all free to the public. This conference is a great way to come together and talk about art, how we should use our public spaces, and to highlight problems facing our city. Art is a great conversation starter.

We're also seeing more public art organizations crop up around the country, so Atlanta is part of a larger movement. Groups are changing the walls and communities in Miami, Baltimore, Philadelphia and other cities. They're doing a lot to legitimize street art in the arts community and encourage people to take pride in their neighborhoods.

It sounds like it takes a lot of organization, hard work and funding.

It takes a village to create street art and run Living Walls. Many of our board and volunteers work 20 to 40 hours a week without compensation. Things get intense leading up to a conference, and it can seem like a second job. We're lucky to have very dedicated volunteers and very generous sponsors. All of the money that we raise goes into facilitating the art.

Is it true that you encouraged Alston & Bird to become a major donor last year when you were a member of the firm? Was that a hard sell?

Not at all. They are a good firm and very community-oriented. They care about what happens to Atlanta and were very receptive to Living Walls and its ideals.

Do you ever get directly involved in creating the murals?

All of the staff and board members help put up scaffolding. I run errands to Home Depot and Sam Flax to get supplies. I've been known to wield a roller, brush or spray paint can here and there when needed. It's always exciting. I still like to paint a little in my garage.

Has your work with Living Walls enhanced your legal career in any way?

My practice focuses on litigation, but I've been exposed to another side of law through my work with Living Walls. I've learned a lot about how to incorporate a nonprofit and how to draft contracts with a variety of entities. A lot of my clients are in the creative industries, so it helps that I'm learning more about those industries and how to facilitate the type of transactions they need. Most professions are about relationships, and I've certainly expanded my network, but that has nothing to do with how involved I am with this movement. I do it because it's something I love to do.

Do you get to see any of the murals on a regular basis?

I live in Reynoldstown. There's a 150-foot mural by INTI, an artist from Chili there and one by Jaz, the Argentine artist. There are also murals in the nearby East Atlanta and Old Fourth Ward, notably the French artist JR's murals to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's March on Washington. It's impossible for me to go a day and not see a mural.

How does that make you feel?

Fantastic. I like it even more if I'm driving by with someone in the car and can tell them about the art.

Street art can go into areas where art wouldn't otherwise be. It gives people a common bond and a lift.

COLUMNS



The University of Georgia

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October 14, 2013

SCHOOL OF LAW

Georgetown law, philosophy professor to give Sibley Lecture

By **Stephanie E. Ackerstein**
lawprstu@uga.edu

Robin L. West, the Frederick Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy at Georgetown University, will give the School of Law's 110th Sibley Lecture, "Toward a Jurisprudence of the Civil Rights Acts." Open free to the public, the lecture will be held Oct. 23 at 3:30 p.m. in the Hatton Lovejoy Courtroom of Hirsch Hall.

West, who specializes in constitutional law, contracts, interdisciplinary law, jurisprudence and philosophy, will discuss the meaning of the civil rights protected by the historic 1964 Civil Rights Act as well as the meaning of "civil rights" more generally, contrasting



Robin West

both with constitutional rights developed over the last half century.

West has served for more than 20 years as a law professor at Georgetown, where she is also the faculty director of the Georgetown Center for Law and Humanities. She teaches in the areas of torts and contracts and leads seminars on feminist legal theory, legal justice, jurisprudence, contemporary legal scholarship, law and humanities, and law and literature.

See **SIBLEY** on page 8



Digest

Conference to look at overlap of law, politics in state of Georgia

The School of Law will present the third annual Georgia Association of Law & Politics Symposium Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall. Seating is limited. Preregistration is required.

Through three panel sessions, this year's conference will focus on challenges faced by women in politics, Georgia's new juvenile justice code and the federal judicial nomination process.

In addition, former governor and 1972 Georgia Law alumnus Roy E. Barnes will deliver the noon keynote address.

The conference is free for UGA students, faculty and staff. There is a \$15 charge for all other participants attending the keynote lunch. State Bar of Georgia members may obtain 4½ regular continuing legal education credits for \$50. To register, or for more information, see www.law.uga.edu/galp.

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DOMA repeal offers new immigration options for same-sex couples

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Posted: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 5:14 pm

Daniel Funke @dpfunke | 0 comments

The United States Supreme Court ruled section three of the Defense of Marriage Act, which barred same-sex couples from federal immigration benefits, unconstitutional on June 26.

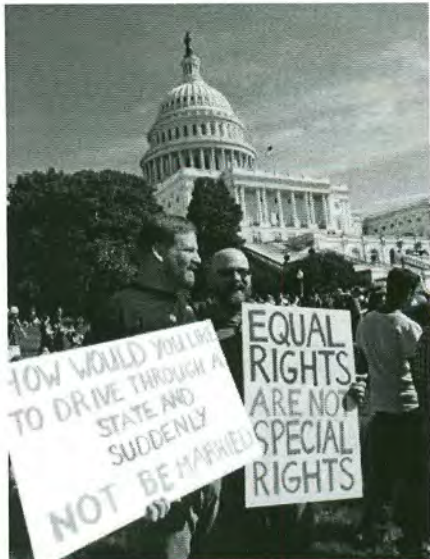
University of Georgia's OUTLaws, American Constitution Society, GLOBES and the LGBT Resource Center hosted a lecture Tuesday concerning the recent change in immigration law as a part of Ally Visibility Week. Speakers included Jason Cade, a professor of immigration law and Athens-based immigration attorney Alex Halow.

Cade and Halow said the Supreme Court's interpretation in U.S. v. Windsor brought about a series of legislation changes in which government agencies, including the Citizen and Immigration Services, Department of State and Board of Immigration Appeals, gave same-sex couples the same immigration benefits as heterosexual couples.

"Under very recent current law and the way it's being interpreted, same-sex marriages are being recognized as valid for immigration purposes, whether the foreign national is in this country or out of the country," Cade said.

Halow outlined three basic legal options for homosexual couples in immigrating to the U.S., including adjustment of status, Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, and the fiancé(e) K-1 non-immigrant visa, each of which allows a US citizen to bring their spouse into the country with immigration benefits.

"It's an enormous benefit being able to attain legal status for someone and let them lawfully, permanently reside in the United States and potentially put them on a path to citizenship," Cade said.



DOMA

The United States Supreme Court ruled section three of the Defense of Marriage Act, which barred same-sex couples from federal immigration benefits, unconstitutional on June 26.

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Cade explained that the Obama administration's liberal interpretation of the U.S. v. Windsor decision marks a substantial shift in policy from the past.

"This interpretation of Windsor was not compelled. The immigration law in this country has a very long history of very overt discrimination against homosexuals. Until 1990, homosexuality was categorized as a health-based grounds of exclusion in the United States. So if you were known to be homosexual, even if you met all other



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criteria, you could not be admitted lawfully into the United States," Cade said.

Although same-sex couples now technically are able to obtain the same immigration benefits as heterosexual couples, Halow conceded problems with the implementation of new legislation.

"I'm a little concerned about a bureaucratic angle on this," he said. "Any couple that comes in has to prove the bonafide nature of their relationship. So there are certain sorts of conditional types of proof that those couples usually have to provide [to get benefits]. The question is: is it going to be more difficult for a same-sex couple to convince them that their relationship really is bonafide?"

Cade and Halow further explained that the significance of the U.S. v. Windsor decision lies in the fact that

government agencies now recognize same-sex marriages for the purpose of immigration benefits, and the potential for that policy to translate into further marriage rights for homosexuals in the future.

"There's currently no [Georgia] or federal law that protects you from discrimination in the workplace on the basis of your sexual orientation," Cade said.

In the future, the U.S. v. Windsor interpretation could lead to the potential repeal of section two of DOMA, which allows states to choose whether or not to recognize homosexual marriages.

More about *Doma*

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5:00 AM TUE OCTOBER 15, 2013

New Georgia NAACP Lays Out Goals

By [MICHELLE WIRTH](#) (@PEOPLE/MICHELLE-WIRTH)

The new president of the NAACP's Georgia chapter is laying out his goals for the organization.

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0:52

At 34, Francys Johnson is the youngest president in the organization's history. Johnson is a Statesboro civil rights attorney and pastor. He says some of the areas the Georgia NAACP will focus on include: economic stability, voting rights and a free and quality education for all of Georgia's children.

"These are the game changers for the 21st century. These are the areas that will finish the work the NAACP started over a century ago in terms of making sure the promises of America are realized for every single Georgian."



Enlarge image (<http://media2.publicbroadcasting.net/wabe/files/2013/10/DrfancysJohnson-600x400a.png>)

Credit University of North Georgia

Johnson also hopes to form more partnerships.

"The NAACP has no permanent friends and no permanent enemies, we have only have permanent issues, so in that regard I'm looking for partners in state government, republicans, democrats and independents, all who want to move Georgia forward."

Johnson replaces Edward DuBose who served as president for eight years.

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Oct 15, 2013, 6:15am EDT Updated: Oct 15, 2013, 9:41am EDT

New Georgia NAACP president outlines goals

Carla Caldwell, Morning Edition Editor

The new president of the Georgia [NAACP](#) says the group will focus on areas

that include: economic stability, voting rights and a free and quality education for all of Georgia's children.

Francys Johnson, who at age 34 is the youngest president in the organization's history, is a Statesboro civil rights attorney and pastor.

Johnson told WABE, "These are the game changers for the 21st century. These are the areas that will finish the work the NAACP started over a century ago in terms of making sure the promises of America are realized for every single Georgian."

Johnson replaces Edward DuBose who served as president of the organization for eight years.

Click [here](#) to read more from WABE and to access a link to hear an interview with Johnson.

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The Search is On at UGA for a new Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations

Tom Landrum, the current VP, is retiring after almost 40 years of service.

Posted by Rebecca McCarthy (Editor) , October 15, 2013 at 03:10 PM

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The search committee has 19 members.

By Kathy Pharr

University of Georgia President Jere W. Morehead has appointed a committee to coordinate a national search for the university's next vice president for development and alumni relations. The committee will recommend finalists to succeed Tom Landrum, who will be retiring at the end of the academic year on June 30 after nearly 40 years of service to the institution.

"This position will be vitally important as we continue planning and early fundraising efforts during the silent phase of our comprehensive campaign to advance the University of Georgia," Morehead said. "A successful campaign will be transformational

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alumni relations will play a key leadership role in the senior administration."

J. Griffin Doyle, vice president for government relations, will chair the 19-member committee composed of faculty, staff, student and alumni representatives.

Other search committee members are:

- Kathy Bangle, director of Veterinary External Affairs in the College of Veterinary Medicine;
- Elizabeth Beckett, associate director for the Office of Special Events;
- Josef Broder, associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences;
- Cindy Coyle, associate vice president for external affairs and executive director/chief financial officer of the UGA Foundation;
- Greg Daniels, senior executive director of leadership giving in the Division of Development and Alumni Relations;
- Mica David, vice president of the Student Alumni Council;
- Juliett Dinkins, editor of Columns;
- Marcus Jennings, chair of the Development and Alumni Relations Staff Representative Group, UGA Alumni Association;
- Steve Jones, U.S. District Court judge for the northern district of Georgia and UGA Foundation trustee;
- Tim Keadle, CPA with Porter Keadle Moore LLC and president of the UGA Alumni Association;
- Stefanie A. Lindquist, dean of the School of Public and International Affairs;
- Greg McGarity, UGA director of athletics;
- Thomas H. "Trey" Paris III, U.S. manager of state government relations for General Electric and chair of the UGA Foundation's development and public affairs committee;
- John P. Spalding, vice president of government affairs and chief privacy officer of Cox Communications Inc. and UGA Foundation chairman;
- Denise Spangler, Bebe Aderhold Professor of Early Childhood Education and head of the UGA department of mathematics and science education;
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The university will retain an executive search firm to assist with the process. Kathy Pharr, chief of staff to the president, will provide internal support for the committee. Applications are due to the committee by Jan. 31.

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10/15/13

UGA

Search committee formed for UGA vice president

UGA NEWS SERVICE – updated Tuesday, October 15, 2013 - 10:29pm

University of Georgia President Jere Morehead recently appointed a committee to coordinate a national search for the university's next vice president for development and alumni relations. The committee will recommend finalists to succeed Tom Landrum, who will be retiring at the end of the academic year on June 30 after nearly 40 years of service to the institution.

"This position will be vitally important as we continue planning and early fundraising efforts during the silent phase of our comprehensive campaign to advance the University of Georgia," Morehead said. "A successful campaign will be transformational for the institution, so the vice president for development and alumni relations will play a key leadership role in the senior administration."

J. Griffin Doyle, vice president for government relations, will chair the 19-member committee composed of faculty, staff, student and alumni representatives.

Other search committee members are:

- Kathy Bangle, director of Veterinary External Affairs in the College of Veterinary Medicine;
- Elizabeth Beckett, associate director for the Office of Special Events;
- Josef Broder, associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences;
- Cindy Coyle, associate vice president for external affairs and executive director/chief financial officer of the UGA Foundation;
- Greg Daniels, senior executive director of leadership giving in the Division of Development and Alumni Relations;
- Mica David, vice president of the Student Alumni Council;
- Juliett Dinkins, editor of Columns;
- Marcus Jennings, chair of the Development and Alumni Relations Staff Representative Group, UGA Alumni Association;
- Steve Jones, U.S. District Court judge for the northern district of Georgia

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and UGA Foundation trustee;

- Tim Keadle, CPA with Porter Keadle Moore LLC and president of the UGA Alumni Association;
- Stefanie A. Lindquist, dean of the School of Public and International Affairs;
- Greg McGarity, UGA director of athletics;
- Thomas H. "Trey" Paris III, U.S. manager of state government relations for General Electric and chair of the UGA Foundation's development and public affairs committee;
- John P. Spalding, vice president of government affairs and chief privacy officer of Cox Communications Inc. and UGA Foundation chairman;
- Denise Spangler, Bebe Aderhold Professor of Early Childhood Education and head of the UGA department of mathematics and science education;
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▶ ON THE MOVE

Legal Aid gets some big donations for its new headquarters**On the Move**, from page 1

Retired Sutherland partner Randolph Thrower and his family made another major contribution, \$100,000, last month.

That brings the total raised to about \$1.5 million, said **Philip Holladay**, a partner at King & Spalding who is co-chairing the campaign with **Mark Wasserman**, Sutherland's managing partner.

Their target is \$5.35 million to cover the \$3 million purchase price and renovation costs for the historic red-brick building, built in 1910 as an Elks Club lodge, which Atlanta Legal Aid purchased last spring. Two adjacent buildings on the one-acre parcel are structurally unsound and will be torn down to make room for a parking lot.

Atlanta Legal Aid bought the property after several years of searching because it has outgrown its building at 151 Spring St. N.W., its home for 34 years, which would have needed extensive renovation. It plans to move in at the end of 2014.

The new headquarters will double Atlanta Legal Aid's space, to 35,600 usable square feet, giving it room to expand programming, use more volunteers, add legal clinics and "know your rights" programs for the public. There is neither room nor on-site parking for these at the current location.

With these major law firm donations in hand, Holladay said, he and the other fundraisers are ready to start asking other firms for contributions.

King & Spalding typically does not con-

tribute as a firm to capital campaigns for nonprofits, Holladay said. "This is different. The role that Atlanta Legal Aid plays in metro Atlanta in providing legal services to the poor makes this a responsibility for all lawyers and firms," he said.

"We felt it was appropriate to vary from the norm, given the organization and the cause," Holladay said of the donation from King & Spalding's partnership.

King & Spalding has supported Legal Aid's purchase of a new headquarters from



The role that Atlanta Legal Aid plays in metro Atlanta in providing legal services to the poor makes this [contribution] a responsibility for all lawyers and firms.

—Philip Holladay

the beginning, he said, contributing an initial \$50,000 last year (which is part of the overall gift).

His partner, Josh Kamin, and other King & Spalding lawyers handled the legal work pro bono for the property's purchase, negotiating the contract and handling the closing. Kamin also is handling the sale of Legal Aid's building at 151 Spring St.

Holladay said he first learned what a difference legal aid lawyers can make in their clients' lives from working at a clinic at Vanderbilt University Law School in the early 1980s.

"The first client I got was a woman who'd been kicked off the [Social Security] ben-

efit rolls when the Reagan administration came in. She laid out her case and had all the documentation. It was open and shut. I told her we were going to win," he said.

Holladay said his client did not share his faith in the system.

He represented her at an administrative hearing—and lost. He appealed to an administrative agency—and lost. But on the final appeal to federal district court, they won. The client received \$30,000 in back benefits.

"To this day, she may be the single most grateful client I've ever had," Holladay said. "And that includes ones for whom I've gotten \$100 million verdicts vacated."

When he moved to Atlanta in 1985, Holladay took pro bono cases for Atlanta Legal Aid through its Saturday Lawyer program, and then his younger brother, Marc, went to work for the nonprofit's Cobb County office in the 1990s.

When the two got together for dinner, they'd compare notes on their cases.

"I'd hear his story about getting a restraining order for a woman living in fear of her former husband, ... scared what he'd do to her or their child, or about securing assistance benefits for a family that couldn't make ends meet otherwise," Holladay said.

"My clients appreciated when I got good results, but they understood the system, so the results were within the spectrum for them. My brother's clients had given up on the system, so when he got a good result, it changed their life," he said. "It restored their faith in the justice system and gave them some hope that society had not left them behind."

"So that is what made me decide to get more involved in Legal Aid," the King &

Spalding partner said.

George Abney has joined **Alston & Bird's** tax controversy group as a partner from **Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Auhtry**, where he'd practiced since 2006. Abney is a former federal prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida and for the Department of Justice's tax division in Washington.

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton has added five first-year associates to its Atlanta office. **Crystal Genteman** joins the trademark and copyright practice after clerking for Judge Timothy Batten Sr. of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. She received her law degree in 2011 from Georgia State University.

The other four are 2013 law school graduates. **Amanda Brouillette**, who joins the patent litigation team, received a J.D. from Stanford Law School. **Carrie Cao**, who joins the trademark and copyright team, earned a law degree from the University of Georgia. **Kelsey Donnalley**, also a UGA graduate, joins the mergers, acquisitions and securities team. **Daniel Johnson**, who received a law degree from the University of Virginia, joins the construction and infrastructure litigation team.

Kyla Lines has been promoted to partner at family law firm **Pachman Richardson**. Lines joined the firm in 2010 after nine years as the staff attorney for Judge Cynthia Wright in Fulton County Superior Court's family division. She handles divorce, child custody issues, collaborative divorce, prenuptial agreements and paternity and legitimation matters. ☐

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Posted: 5:18 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, 2013

Joseph E. Cheeley Jr., 84: Attorney helped craft the law

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By Michelle E. Shaw

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Joseph Cheeley Jr. was more than a defender of the law. He was also an architect of legal precedent.

One of his most spoken about achievements was his 1980 contribution to divorce law in Georgia, through what is known as the Stokes case. Cheeley successfully argued before the state Supreme Court that even though property was in the name of one spouse, it could be awarded to the other spouse, thus providing an equitable division of property.

"He was doing more than being a good lawyer, he was helping develop the law, and in a way that lawyers take for granted today," said Dawson Jackson, a senior Superior Court judge in Gwinnett County. "That is a major accomplishment, as I see the law."

Jackson said when he began his legal career in the district attorney's office, Cheeley was "one of the premier trial attorneys" he worked with.

"He was an excellent courtroom orator and was well-known for his fine closing arguments, in particular," he said.

And while Cheeley's contribution of the Stokes argument was a major accomplishment, his legacy lies elsewhere, said Marion Pope Jr., a former legislator and retired judge.

"I think it says something mighty powerful that three of his sons have taken up the law," Pope said. "I think it is really a tribute to their father. That's his greatest legacy."

Joseph Elbert Cheeley Jr. of Buford died Oct. 11 of complications from pneumonia. He was 84.

A memorial service is planned for 11 a.m. Saturday at Buford First United Methodist Church. A private family burial will be held at a later date. Flanigan Funeral Home, Buford, is in charge of arrangements.

Cheeley, who was born and reared in Buford, earned his law degree in 1950 from the University of Georgia School of Law. In 1952 the young attorney married the former Selma Medlock, who died in 2012. The couple had five children and spent more than 40 years together before they divorced in 1994.

Cheeley's legal career in Gwinnett County was interrupted by his service in the Air Force. He continued practicing law during the Korean War, however, as an assistant judge advocate.

Cheeley was more than a respected lawyer in Gwinnett County and Buford; he was also an esteemed judge. He was first appointed to the bench in 1958 at the former Gwinnett County City Court, now State Court. It was a part-time appointment and he continued to practice as an attorney at the same time, said his son Joseph E. Cheeley III, who is also an attorney. The elder Cheeley served as the part-time State Court judge until 1979. After he left the bench, he continued to practice law another 30 years, his son said.

"I don't know that he ever really retired," the younger Cheeley said, but the elder Cheeley did stop keeping regular office hours three or four years ago, said the son.

The same thing that made Cheeley a good lawyer made him an excellent judge, Pope said.

Namely, he loved people.

"You've got to love people, and you've got to have empathy," Pope said. "Sure you have to bring the law to bear, but at the same time you've got to have empathy. And he did."

In addition to his son and namesake, Cheeley is survived by sons Robert D. Cheeley, John P. Cheeley and James N. Cheeley; daughter, Susan M. Cheeley; sister, Dorothy Cheeley Willis; eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

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10/17/13

UGA

Russell Library to host program focused on anniversary of Roe v. Wade decision

By UGA NEWS SERVICE published Thursday, October 17, 2013

Forty years after the landmark Roe v. Wade decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, the ongoing debate surrounding it will be subject of a discussion hosted by the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies at the University of Georgia Oct. 30 from 6-8 p.m. in Room 285 of the Richard B. Russell Building Special Collections Libraries.

On Jan. 22, 1973 a 7-2 majority of the U.S. Supreme Court decided the case of Roe v. Wade, and struck down a Texas law criminalizing abortion. The majority opinion asserted that the Texas law violated a woman's right to privacy under the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution—and the claim sparked debates on religion and morality and divided the country into pro-life and pro-choice factions.

"In putting together our Now and Then: 1973 exhibit I came across a study published by the Pew Research Center reporting that only about 6 in 10 Americans know that the Roe v. Wade decision dealt with the issue of abortion," said Jan Levinson, an outreach archivist at the Russell Library. "That percentage gets even smaller for those under the age of 30; just 44 percent know what the case was about. It seemed like this was a topic that we needed to tackle here on campus."

In collaboration with two professors at the UGA School of Law, Randy Beck and Lori Ringhand, the Russell Library staff has created a program that will provide both short presentations on the topic at hand as well as time for attendees to talk through the issues. Trained moderators from the Russell Forum for Civic Life in Georgia, an outreach initiative dedicated to strengthening civic engagement and public discourse in Georgia, will be on hand to help facilitate these conversations alongside Beck and Ringhand.

"We'd like to have students, staff, faculty and community members at this event to create a rich discussion environment informed with a variety of perspectives," said Levinson.

This event is one in a series of three to be hosted by the Russell Library this October, all inspired by the ongoing exhibit "Now and Then: 1973," currently on display in the Russell Library Gallery.

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The series, titled "It Was a Big Year," asks attendees to consider how a few key events in a single year changed the culture and course of a nation for years to come, Levinson said.

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For more information on this or other events in the It Was a Big Year series, see <http://rbrl.blogspot.com/search/label/BigYear>, email russlib@uga.edu, or call 706-542-5788.

To learn more about the Russell Library, see <http://www.libs.uga.edu/russell>.

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Colleagues Remember Judge Charles Carnes

Judges credit longtime Fulton State chief for counsel as they learned the job

By [Greg Land](#) [Contact](#) [All Articles](#)
 Daily Report October 17, 2013

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Judge Charles Carnes ran "The Charlie Carnes Training School" for judges, said a former colleague. File photo

As she advanced through her own legal career, U.S. District Chief Judge Julie Carnes recalled that she would often hear praise for her father, Fulton County State Court Senior Judge Charles L. Carnes.

"At first I just thought people were saying nice things because of who he was," Julie Carnes said Wednesday, two days after her father died at the age of 86. "But I realized he had a real knack for bringing out the best in people. He ran a very collegial court, but a good court."

"It was his manner," she said. "He had a gift. He could be very firm and direct—he always was—but it was tempered with kindness and gentleness."

After Julie Carnes was appointed to the federal bench in 1992 by President George H.W. Bush, the father-and-daughter judges would often get together and talk shop, she said.

"We got very close after that," she recalled. "He was a very good example for me. When he had a trial, I'd go over to the house and he'd have all his files out. He appreciated the opportunity to prepare. He believed it was his job to be totally ready."



Judge Charles Carnes and well-wishers joined in a 1998 ceremony as his name was placed on the court. John Disney/Daily Report

Her father continued to try cases for several years after taking senior status in 1998, Carnes said, and he remained quick-witted even as health issues became a problem over the last year or so.

"One thing I admired about Dad is that he knew when to quit," she said. "He wanted to step down before somebody said he should."

Charles Carnes was the youngest of 13 children in a poor family from Eton, Ga. He joined the Navy at 16 and served in World War II and the Korean War. When he returned, he worked his way through

college and law school. He served as an assistant county attorney for Fulton County and held a seat on the Board of Education before his election to the Legislature.

In 1980, Carnes was elected to the State Court, where he was quickly made chief judge. He stayed put. Asked why, he said that being chief judge "is kind of like being the Speaker," in charge of the institution.

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Colleagues Remember Judge Charles Carnes

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Charles Carnes left behind his name, placed on the State Court building, and many lawyers and judges who remembered him well on Wednesday.

"There is no better trial judge in Georgia, and no wiser mentor to judges and lawyers than Charlie Carnes," said U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Frank Hull, who served in the State Court from 1984 to 1990. "He trained so many new judges like me, we began to call the Fulton County State Court, "The Charlie Carnes Training School for Judges," said Hull. "It's true; so many who served under him went on to judgeships. He always stressed the importance of judicial temperament, starting court on time."

"The best thing I ever did was, the first hour after I was sworn in, going down to the court and introducing myself to Chief Judge Charlie Carnes," said Hull. "From that moment he guided and helped me in every way he could, both professionally and personally."

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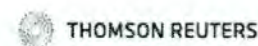
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Judge Tells Glock Inc., Again, To Give Info To Ex-Wife

R. Robin McDonald

Daily Report

2013-10-18 00:00:09.0

A federal magistrate judge in Atlanta has ordered attorneys for gun mogul Gaston Glock's North American operations in Smyrna to end months of delay and turn over reams of corporate financial records to the gun-maker's ex-wife.

But **U.S. Magistrate Judge Linda Walker** rejected Helga Glock's request to sanction Glock Inc., Glock Professional Inc. and Consultinvest (Georgia companies often referred to as the Glock Group) for their collective failure to comply with her June 3 order allowing Helga Glock's lawyers to delve into their corporate finances.

In a hearing on Thursday in Atlanta, Walker told the Glock Group's lawyers to begin complying with Helga Glock's subpoenas by Nov. 15.

Walker also overruled objections by the Glock Group attorneys—John Renzulli (who is also Consultinvest's CEO), Glock Inc.'s general counsel Carlos Guevara and local counsel Christopher Parker of Atlanta's Miller & Martin—that producing the requested financial documents was too burdensome, too intrusive or irrelevant to Helga Glock's Austrian litigation.

Parker told the court, "There is no conceivable basis for some of what they are asking for."

Walker disagreed. "I did not see anything Ms. Glock was not entitled to or that was overly burdensome to produce," she said. "Ms. Glock is entitled to those documents."

"What you deem to be irrelevant," the judge added, "doesn't mean they are irrelevant to Ms. Glock."

Glock Group lawyers signaled that they also want to shield the records from public scrutiny and bar their use in any litigation other than in pending matters about the Glocks' divorce. They have argued in court pleadings that they would not surrender any documents unless a broad confidentiality order was in place, including provisions that the documents produced must be filed under seal, with broad restrictions on who can review them. They want a specific ban on access by the media or public relations firms and a requirement that all documents be returned, rather than left in court files, once the litigation ends.

Gun company lawyers also claimed in court pleadings that the documents are business secrets and that their unauthorized disclosure would harm Glock's U.S. enterprises "from a commercial and competitive standpoint."

Walker said Thursday that she would sign a protective order once all sides had agreed on the terms. Helga Glock's lawyers said they did not oppose a directive that would bar the documents' disclosure to members of the media or any of the parties' public relations firms, "although they understand the media's interest in the matter."

Helga Glock's attorneys, Andrew Flake and Edward Marshall of Atlanta's Arnall Golden Gregory, received permission from Walker last June to issue sweeping subpoenas for financial information that could provide a virtual blueprint for the U.S.-based companies in Glock's privately held, international corporate empire. She had sought the financial data from her ex-husband's companies for use in litigation in Austria stemming from the couple's divorce.

A federal statute, 28 USC § 1782, gives U.S. courts wide latitude to allow parties in litigation abroad to obtain documents or other evidence from people or companies in the United States for use in a foreign court—as long as those from whom the information is sought are not parties to the foreign litigation and not subject to the foreign court's jurisdiction.

Through Glock corporate financial records, Helga Glock's lawyers hope to identify marital assets to insure their fair division and to determine the monthly level of financial support her ex-husband must pay. The financial information Helga Glock is seeking would also assist her in ascertaining her husband's worldwide income.

Helga Glock has accused her former husband of unfairly stripping her and the couple's children of managerial jobs in his companies and of hiding hundreds of millions of dollars in corporate and personal assets via a "byzantine structure" of international companies and trusts. Court papers filed by Helga Glock's attorneys say her ex-husband "has erected a complex and opaque structure of holding companies and trusts for Glock-affiliated entities around the world ... and has moved what Ms. Glock contends are marital assets" beyond the reach of the Austrian courts to avoid splitting them with his ex-wife.

Her attorneys list among Glock's assets "a series of world-wide patents" for his namesake pistol, for which he receives more than 46 million euros in annual license fees, "several 100 million euro[s]" from capital gains and at least 172 million euros and a number of properties held in two trusts under his control. Those papers also describe the interlocking corporate structure of parent company Glock GmbH in Austria and a slew of international business affiliates, shell and holding companies, subsidiaries and trusts. They are part of "a highly complex tangle of paper ownership and relations ... that collectively permit Glock Sr. to manipulate various inter-company transactions and to obscure ownership and accountability," Helga Glock's lawyers said.

The Austrian courts have found Gaston Glock at fault for the failure of the couple's marriage, according to Helga Glock's court papers. Glock, 83, filed to divorce his now 77-year-old wife in 2011 in order to marry his lover, a woman 50 years his junior who was his former nurse, according to Helga Glock's affidavit.

The case is In re Application of: H.M.G., No. 1:13-cv-2598 (N.D. Ga.).



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Theresa Schiefer and Sherwin Figueroa, holding puppies at the Cobb animal shelter, say a crackdown on pet abuse also helps humans.
 John Disney/Daily Report

Criminal defense attorneys might want to brush up on the law as it applies to animals because the Cobb County District Attorney's office is forming a unit to focus on felony crimes against pets.

Assistant District Attorneys Sherwin **Figueroa** and Theresa Schiefer say the effort to crack down on animal abuse can benefit humans too.

In an interview, the pair said animal abuse often happens in connection with domestic violence and crimes against children and the elderly. Animal cruelty also is a common first symptom of violence in people whose criminal behavior escalates.

"While we're looking to protect these animals, we're also looking to educate people on that link," said Schiefer.

They already have four cases. Three are connected to other cases involving child abuse and domestic violence, and one case is against a man they say intentionally threw a Yorkshire terrier off a motel balcony.

The Yorkie was rescued and survived. The crime was caught on security videotape. They're charging the defendant with aggravated animal cruelty. If he's convicted, he could face up to five years in prison and a \$15,000 fine.

Figueroa and Schiefer said they've already heard rumblings from defense attorneys who complain that they are unfamiliar with the law in this area. One experienced opposing counsel confessed to having never handled a case involving a crime against an animal and asked what to do.

Here's a hint: don't look for all the information in Title 16, the section of Georgia law that covers most crimes. Although § 16-12-4 covers cruelty to animals, Title 4—aimed at protecting people from dangerous dogs—also includes provisions dealing with cruelty to and abandonment of animals.

Figueroa and Schiefer said the laws applying to animal abuse and assault track the laws against assaulting people: the more serious cases are made against those who show malice and who maim, torture or break bones.

One of their goals is to end the practice of charging a fine and returning a pet to an owner who's abused it. Instead, they are working with judges, private shelters and nonprofit organizations to seek treatment and find new homes for abused pets. Under the law, these are called "forfeiture and disposal actions," they said. Despite the bleak sounding name, they can lead to happy endings for the animals in new homes, the prosecutors said.

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Officiating In Court And On Field

By Michael Tierney | Special to the Daily Report [All Articles](#)

Daily Report October 18, 2013

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Judge "Tripp" Self is used to making tough calls in both his jobs. Self began officiating at football and baseball games to help pay for his college tuition. These days he limits himself to college football.
John Disney/Daily Report

At his day job, **Tilman "Tripp" Self III** decrees while wearing a black robe and maintains order with the pounding of a gavel. At his side gig, Self decrees while wearing a black-and-white striped shirt and maintains order with the toot of a whistle.

Self, a Superior Court judge in Macon, handles cases that range from minor property disputes to murder. Away from the bench, he officiates college football games, having devoted off-hours during most of his adult life to judging pass interference on several levels of competition and age groups as well as balls and strikes in baseball and fouls in basketball.

He began—metaphorically—juggling those three balls soon after returning from military duty overseas in 1991 and continued through law school at the

University of Georgia, using earnings to help pay his tuition.

With baseball, Self went out on top, stationed behind the plate of the Junior World Series (ages 13-14) championship 10 years ago on national television. He now has limited his sports load to football, now working in the Southern Conference, a nine-team collection that includes Georgia Southern.

Since winning election as judge, Self has yet to miss an officiating assignment, although there have been instances with something that he is all too familiar—close calls.

One trial ended with a verdict at 1:15 a.m. on a Saturday, allowing him only an hour of sleep to make an 8 a.m. scrimmage in South Carolina.

Another commitment was jeopardized by a trial that was about to spill over into the weekend. The jury reached a verdict in time for him to make the kickoff, but Self missed the pre-game film session and the crew's dinner that builds the camaraderie he cherishes.

How did you get started with officiating?

I worshipped at the altar of baseball when I was little. I played baseball and football in high school. When I was in college on an ROTC scholarship, I didn't play because, frankly, I wasn't sure I was good enough. When I got back from Korea, I just really missed baseball. I wanted to figure some way to hang around the game. But I didn't have the time to coach.

It started with football. These two retired sergeants major took me under their wing and talked me into doing flag football intramural leagues at Fort Stewart.

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In the spring of '95, I went to a camp run by Major League Baseball in Atlanta. I was pulled aside by guys who said, "Why don't you go to [umpires] school? We think you may have something." I told them, "I'm in law school now. I think I'm going to do well."

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Newsmakers

Posted: October 19, 2013 - 9:27pm | **Updated:** October 20, 2013 - 12:25am

LEE WILKES

New job title: Realtor

Company: Lanier Realty

Duties: Wilkes will assist buyers and sellers with real estate transactions.

Related work experience: Wilkes brings 14 years' experience as a state certified real estate appraiser. He is a licensed Realtor in Georgia and holds a Short Sales & Foreclosure-(SFR) Certification and REALTOR designation.

Education: Wilkes is a graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis with a BA in international relations.

TRAVIS F. WIGGINS

New job title: Partner

Company: Gastroenterology Consultants of Savannah, PC

Duties: Wiggins will be caring for digestive disorders of the esophagus, stomach, colon, liver, pancreas and gallbladder. He sees patients in Savannah, Effingham County Hospital in Springfield, both campuses of St. Joseph's/Candler hospitals and Memorial Health University Medical Center.

Related work experience: Wiggins joined the practice in 2011 after completing his fellowship at Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans.

Education: Wiggins earned his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina where he also completed his internship and residency. He received a B.S. in biology at the Citadel.

ANSLEY S. THARPE

New job title: Partner

Company: Gastroenterology Consultants of Savannah, PC

Duties: Tharpe will be caring for digestive disorders of the esophagus, stomach, colon, liver, pancreas and gallbladder. Tharpe sees patients at the Savannah office, both campuses of St. Joseph's/Candler hospitals and Memorial Health University Medical Center.

Related work experience: Tharpe joined the practice in 2011 after completing her fellowship at the University Of Florida College Of Medicine in Jacksonville.

Education: Tharpe earned her medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia. She completed both internship and residency at Vanderbilt University School Of Medicine in Nashville.

BRIANNA RICHARDSON

New job title: Customer Service Rep. II

Company: Chatham County District Attorney's Office

Duties: Richardson will be managing calls, customer service and satisfaction at the state court reception desk

Related work experience: Richardson has held customer service related positions.

Education: Richardson is pursuing her criminal justice degree.

SHUNDA GIVENS



New job title: Admin I

Company: Chatham County District Attorney's Office

Duties: Givens will help process Judge Sapp's State Court case load.

Related work experience: Givens has held several paralegal positions

Education: Givens earned an associate's degree in paralegal studies from Tidewater Technical College

ZACHARY S. HOWARD

New job title: Associate in the litigation department

Company: Oliver Maner, LLP

Duties: Howard's primary areas of practice are in the defense of civil rights claims and county and municipal liability.

Related work experience: Patrol officer and police officer senior with the Gwinnett County Police Department.

Education: Howard has a bachelor of science in management and a minor in law, science and technology from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He received his juris doctor from the University of Georgia School of Law.

JUSTIN T. JONES

New job title: Associate in the litigation department

Company: Oliver Maner, LLP

Duties: Jones concentrates on medical malpractice defense, plaintiff's personal injury and wrongful death.

Related work experience: Jones served as a law clerk for the Honorable Sheryl B. Jolly and the Honorable Daniel J. Craig and as an Assistant District Attorney for the Augusta Judicial Circuit.

Education: Jones earned his bachelor in business administration degree and his law degree at the University of Georgia.

JEFF ASHMEN

New job title: Military outreach coordinator

Company: Savannah Technical College

Duties: Ashmen will coordinate initiatives enabling current and former military personnel, as well as their family members, to enroll in the college and graduate.

Related work experience: Ashmen has more than three decades of experience in key military positions, culminating as the 3rd Infantry Division Command Sergeant Major at Ft. Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

Education: Ashmen holds a bachelor of science degree in business management from Park College in Parkville, Mo. His Army training includes the Sergeants Major Academy and Battle Staff Course.

GARDENER BYRNE

New job title: Director of farm and gardens

Company: Bethesda Academy

Duties: Byrne will oversee Bethesda Academy's five-acre organic farm and the student-run farm stand.

Related work experience: Byrne owned and operated Gardener Byrne Landscape Design in Savannah for 12 years. His experience includes experience in wildlife gardening and wildlife habitat landscape design in Europe.

Education: Byrne earned a B.S. in Horticulture from An Grianan in Louth County, Ireland.

MARK GERBINO

New job title: Chief of police

Company: Savannah Technical College

Duties: Gerbino will direct planning, development, scheduling and implementation of the STC police department. He will also coordinate operational plans and developments with local and other law enforcement agencies.

Related work experience: Gerbino has nearly four decades of experience as a law enforcement professional, including more than 33 years as a law enforcement manager. He is a Georgia POST certified police officer and a Georgia certified police chief. Prior to this position Gerbino was chief of Police for the Americus Police Department.

Education: Gerbino has an associate degree in criminal justice from Monroe Community College, a criminal justice from Keuka College and has completed graduate work in law enforcement leadership, the University of Southern California.

JOHN L. VAUGHT

New job title: Managing partner

Company: Vaught Law Firm, P.C.

Duties: Vaught specializes in personal injury and general civil litigation.

Related work experience: Vaught brings sixteen years of experience in representing individuals and local businesses. He has been recognized by SuperLawyers and The National Trial Lawyers as one of the best litigators in Georgia.

Education: Vaught holds a B.S. from Vanderbilt University and his juris doctorate from Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law.

DREW JOHNSON

New job title: Real estate license

Company: Lanier Realty

Duties: Johnson manages the company’s home renovations operations and homeowner’s association clients.

Related work experience: Johnson joined Lanier Realty after completing an internship.

Education: Johnson is a graduate of Wheaton College with a BA in political science.

MONICA PEOPLES

New job title: Scheduling coordinator

Company: THA Group’s Independent Life at Home

Duties: Peoples will coordinate schedules for all Independent Life at Home caregivers and field staff and maintain client records in compliance with state and company rules and regulations.

Related work experience: Peoples served as the lead staffing coordinator for Coastal Home Care Inc. in Savannah.

Education: Peoples is a graduate of the University of Phoenix.

JILL STAHL

New job title: Senior vice president of clinical services

Company: THA Group

Duties: Stahl will provide senior strategic leadership and overall direction and coordination for the company’s certified home health and hospice service lines.

Related work experience: Stahl served in the Atlanta area as area vice president, director of operations and home health clinical case manager for Amedisys Home Health; branch administrator for Georgia Baptist Home Health; director of clinical services for interim health care; and clinical RN case manager for Metro Home Health.

Education: Stahl is a graduate of the Medical Center of Central Georgia School of Nursing.

Lake White, director of training for Starfish Aquatics Institute, received the 2013 Best Speaker Award for the World Waterpark Association’s 33rd Annual Symposium and Trade Show this month. His presentation was titled, “Learn to Look: New Tools for Better Lifeguards.”



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MACON TELEGRAPH: FACES AND PLACES

Oct 21 2013 03:05:55

By Angela Woolen The Macon Telegraph

Oct. 21--3 Macon lawyers top 40 under 40 list

Three Macon lawyers were included in the Fulton County Daily Report's On the Rise list of 40 lawyers in Georgia under 40.

The annual list compiled by the Georgia legal and business news publication includes DeShala Dixon, 36, a Macon Judicial Circuit prosecutor; Grant Greenwood, 36, a partner at Macon's James Bates Brannan Groover law firm and **Jeffery O. Monroe**, 39, a partner at Jones Cork & Miller law firm in Macon.

Dixon, a New York native, is a graduate of the law school at Boston College and worked as a prosecutor in the Cordele and Houston judicial circuits before joining the Macon circuit office in 2013. She specializes in prosecuting sex crimes and other violent offenses.

Greenwood is a graduate of Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law, and his practice focuses on commercial litigation, and law related to construction employment, insurance, contracts and probate matters.

Monroe, a graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law, works mainly in the areas of education law, insurance and self-insurer defense and probate cases.

Barge Waggoner Sumner and Cannon Inc. opens new Macon office

Barge Waggoner Sumner and Cannon Inc. has opened an office in Macon with project engineer Stan Price as office manager. The newly-established location at 1000 Terminal Drive will be a production project office with design capabilities. Price has been involved with numerous aviation projects throughout Georgia.

Price, project engineer and engineer-of-record for the Middle Georgia Regional Airport, has 22 years of experience with project coordination and design in airport, water, wastewater, environmental and stormwater projects. He holds a bachelor of science in civil engineering from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Durrett joins Macon law firm

The health care practice of James Bates Brannan Groover LLP in Macon announced Dana Durrett has joined the firm as of counsel. Durrett's law practice focuses on regulatory compliance, litigation and transactional matters in the health care arena. He has extensive expertise representing physician practices, hospitals, long-term care facilities and multiple other health care providers.

CEO of the Medical Center honored by diversity council

Ninfa Saunders, president and CEO of Central Georgia Health System and The Medical Center of Central Georgia, was honored by the Georgia Diversity Council as one of the state's most powerful and influential women. Saunders, along with former state Sen. Steen Miles, was a keynote speaker at the event. The council seeks not only to uphold and promote the principles of diversity and leadership but also to recognize those individuals who personify those principles.

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Vol. 41, No. 14

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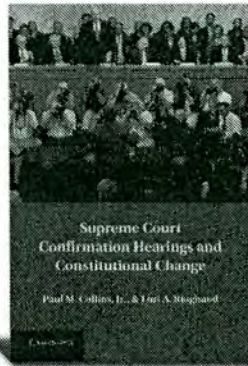
October 21, 2013

WEEKLY READER

Book focuses on high court confirmations

Before Supreme Court nominees are allowed take their place on the high court, they must face a moment of democratic reckoning by appearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Despite the potential this holds for public input into the direction of legal change, the hearings routinely are derided as nothing but empty rituals and political grandstanding.

In *Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings and Constitutional Change*, authors Paul M. Collins Jr., University of North Texas,



Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings and Constitutional Change

By Paul M. Collins Jr., Lori A. Ringhand
Cambridge University Press
Hardback: \$99

and Lori A. Ringhand, the J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law in UGA's School of Law, present a contrarian view that uses both empirical data and stories culled from more than 70 years of transcripts to demonstrate that the hearings are a democratic forum for the discussion and ratification of constitutional change. As such, they are one of the ways in which "We the People" take ownership of the

Constitution by examining the core constitutional values of those permitted to interpret it on our behalf.



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Keeping Us Safe Vies With Privacy Rights

Meredith Hobbs

Daily Report

2013-10-21 00:00:08.0

Questions about the balance between personal privacy and national security were the focus of another panel last week, sponsored by the Federalist Society.

A former National Security Agency general counsel, Stewart Baker, debated local civil liberties lawyer **Gerald Weber Jr.** over the appropriate balance between Americans' right to privacy and the NSA's collection of their electronic communications data in its efforts to spot foreign nationals who threaten the U.S.

Baker was the NSA's general counsel from 1992 to 1994 and then the Department of Homeland Security's first assistant secretary for policy in 2005. A partner at Steptoe & Johnson in Washington, his practice includes telecom, Internet, cybersecurity and privacy law.

Georgia Supreme Court Justice David Nahmias moderated the Tuesday lunch attended by about 75 Federalist Society members and guests at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton. "I do not want to frame this as a liberal versus conservative issue," said Nahmias, a former U.S. attorney. He pointed out that a strong strain of conservative thought supports privacy rights against government intrusion.

The news leaked by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden that the agency is collecting and storing Americans' phone call and email metadata has sparked controversy because its purview is spying on foreign nationals. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) of 1978 restricts the NSA from collecting electronic data from U.S. persons or in U.S. territory.

But NSA documents made public by Snowden indicate that the spy agency is picking up American communications and storing them while trawling for foreign threats with its data-collection nets.

Weber cited the most recent Snowden revelation, published Oct. 14 in the *Washington Post*, that the NSA has been collecting more than 500,000 email address books per day from Google, Yahoo and other email providers. The collections take place from Internet switches overseas, but they have swept up the information of Americans along with that of foreign nationals.

When trawling for tuna, the nets catch some dolphins as well. In the same way, Baker argued, the benefit of catching terrorists outweighs the fact that some Americans' electronic communications will get caught in the NSA's net.

"There is nothing more powerful than knowing the connections between people when hunting terrorists. And inevitably some of the address-book information gathered abroad is going to be Americans'," Baker said.

Weber's view was that the NSA should use dolphin-safe nets. "I am concerned about instances of overreach," he said.

He mentioned several Americans he has represented whom the FBI investigated as threats to national security: a college professor who invited a Cuban professor to speak on a panel, a woman who wanted to perform in a circus in Iraq, and nine vegans who protested outside an Atlanta HoneyBaked Ham store.

"There is a lot of worry about the scope of the program," Baker acknowledged.

When searching Americans' phone-call metadata, the NSA can also search "two or three hops," or phone numbers, away from the initial phone number, Baker said, citing a statement from the NSA's deputy director, Chris Inglis, at a July 17 House Judiciary Committee hearing.

Each hop spreads the data-collection net exponentially. If a target phone number is connected to 100 others, then two hops produce 10,000 numbers and three hops produce one million.

"It is a very large collection, but it's a very limited number of searches and people doing the searches," Baker said.

He cited Inglis' statement at the House Judiciary hearing that NSA agents ran searches on 300 phone numbers last year from the database and ultimately passed along 500 numbers derived from the queries to the FBI for further investigation.

In Baker's view, the restrictions imposed by FISA and the oversight of the FISA court judges, who must approve government requests to look at Americans' communications, are sufficient protections of their privacy.

Weber questioned the reliability of the FISA court's oversight and pointed out that 40 percent of the people working for the NSA are private contractors, like Snowden. "How are they trained and monitored?" he asked.

He suggested putting "broad, obvious" surveillance programs before the public for approval. "I think we can safely assume that terrorists know their email address books are something the U.S. government would be interested in," Weber said.

"I don't think we can do this by asking the American people what they think," Baker replied.

Weber said he has far fewer reservations about private companies collecting electronic information on Americans because their objective is transparent. "They want to know your interests to target ads to you."

The government can use the data it's storing on Americans for other motives than hunting terrorists, Weber said, such as targeting political opponents.

"But the government is trying to keep us alive. We'll feel stupid if we don't use the information that we have to find terrorists," Baker said.

"Once you've shared your data, it's out of your control. Right now this makes us queasy," he said. "Will we still feel queasy in 20 years?"



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HIV Law Will Draw Constitutional Appeal

Katheryn Hayes Tucker

Daily Report

2013-10-21 00:00:10.0

A woman sentenced to 10 years for failing to disclose her HIV status to her former husband plans a constitutional challenge to the Georgia law under which she was convicted.

Heather Nicole Nix was convicted Oct. 12 in Hall County Superior Court of "reckless conduct by an HIV infected person," a felony, following a four-day trial. Her ex-husband – who does not have HIV – testified against her. Senior Judge John Girardeau sentenced her immediately, over the objections of her lawyer, Senior Assistant Public Defender Travis Williams of the Northeastern Judicial Circuit Public Defender Office. The judge gave her the maximum sentence of 10 years, with two years to serve in prison and eight on probation.

Williams said he plans to appeal the conviction. On the day the trial began, Oct. 9, he filed a demurrer to quash the indictment, asserting that it "denies the defendant equal protection under the law as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution." The judge denied the motion to quash after a brief hearing, Williams said. He plans to appeal that decision as well. "The statute purports to punish individuals solely because of their HIV status and community standing," the motion states. "Under this code section, HIV, a recognized disability, is criminalized." A constitutional challenge would skip the Georgia Court of Appeals and go directly to the Georgia Supreme Court, he said. Part of the equal protection challenge is that the law treats people with HIV differently than people with other sexually transmitted diseases. Another point is that the law is unconstitutionally vague.

The jury reached its verdict about 6 p.m. on a Saturday following about three hours of deliberation, the lawyers said.

"The criminalization of HIV is deplorable and unacceptable," said Williams. "We're prosecuting people who should be treated with respect and dignity."

Despite advances in the treatment and prevention of AIDS even in those who are HIV-positive, the disease still has a "ridiculous stigma attached," Williams said. In voir dire, he said, 63 percent of potential jurors answered yes when asked if they believed they had a right to know if a co-worker had HIV. When asked why, one said they worked in close quarters and someone might sneeze.

The prosecutor who tried the case, Hall County Senior Assistant District Attorney Juliet Aldridge, said the case "wasn't based on stigmatizing HIV." Instead, she said, "It was a violation of Georgia law to not notify a sexual partner of the risk that they were taking."

The case, Aldridge said, "was about the law, not about either attorney." She also said her office is "confident in the constitutionality of the statute."

The statute used in this case is 16-5-60 of the Georgia Code: "Reckless conduct causing harm to or endangering the bodily safety of another; conduct by HIV infected persons; assault by HIV infected persons." The law, passed in 1988, says the information must be shared "prior to" a sexual act. The maximum penalty is 10 years.

In the Nix trial, her ex-husband, Kevin Franklin, testified that he learned of her HIV status in 2009 when she was hospitalized for an unrelated medical condition. He divorced her later in 2009. They had been married for two years but together for eight. She disputed his claim and said she had told him. Williams said she testified that she told him before they had sex.

"She's had HIV since 1998, and it never turned into AIDS," Williams said. "There's only one way you can do that." To keep healthy, she took 32 pills a day for a time, later cutting down to 16, he said.

Williams tried to discredit the ex-husband's testimony, questioning how he could have not seen her taking those medications. He said he did not. Williams said he asked the ex-husband on cross-examination whether he planned to disclose to his next sexual partner that he was exposed to HIV through Nix. "He said he wouldn't," Travis said, noting that Franklin never contracted HIV in the years he was with Nix. Williams also called witnesses who were friends with the husband and said they knew and thought he knew that she had HIV.

Stephen Bright, president and senior counsel of the Southern Center for Human Rights, said it's difficult to understand what harm was done, since the ex-husband does not have HIV. "It's very troubling that the prosecution executed it's discretion to pursue this and even more troubling that she got prison time," Bright said.

Williams is now concerned about how his client can stay healthy in jail. He plans to ask that she be kept in the local jail rather than being sent to prison while her appeal is pending.

It was an emotional trial for Nix and her family, and also for her lawyer. "The trial started on the seventh-year anniversary of the day my sister died of AIDS," Williams said. He shared that with the jury.

Williams is one of the public defenders featured in the 2013 HBO film "Gideon's Army."



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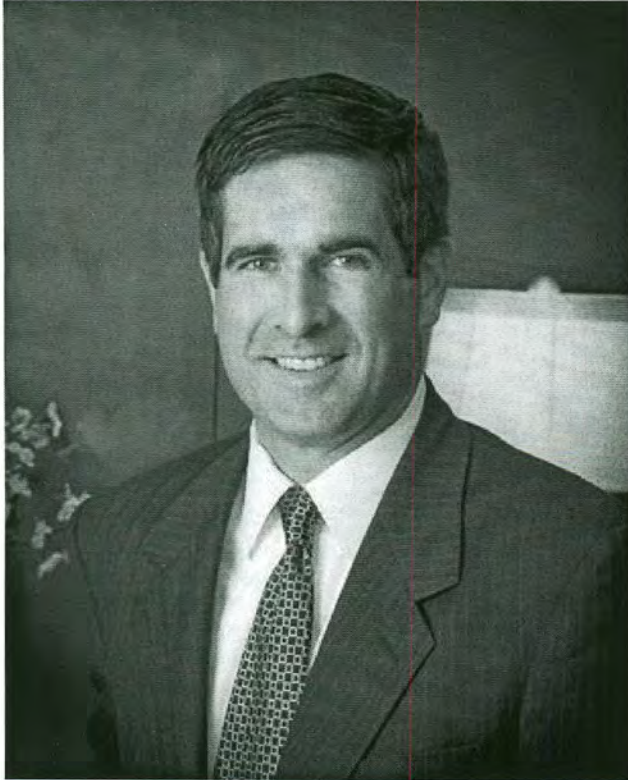
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Faces and places

Published: October 21, 2013

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Grant Greenwood





By ANGELA WOOLEN — awoolen@macon.com

3 Macon lawyers top 40 under 40 list

Three Macon lawyers were included in the Fulton County Daily Report's On the Rise list of 40 lawyers in Georgia under 40.

The annual list compiled by the Georgia legal and business news publication includes DeShala Dixon, 36, a Macon Judicial Circuit prosecutor; Grant Greenwood, 36, a partner at Macon's James Bates Brannan Groover law firm and Jeffery O. Monroe, 39, a partner at Jones Cork & Miller law firm in Macon.

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The health care practice of James Bates Brannan Groover LLP in Macon announced Dana Durrett has joined the firm as of counsel. Durrett's law practice focuses on regulatory compliance, litigation and transactional matters in the health care arena. He has extensive expertise representing physician practices, hospitals, long-term care facilities and multiple other health care providers.

CEO of the Medical Center honored by diversity council

Ninfa Saunders, president and CEO of Central Georgia Health System and The Medical Center of Central

Georgia, was honored by the Georgia Diversity Council as one of the state's most powerful and influential women. Saunders, along with former state Sen. Steen Miles, was a keynote speaker at the event. The council seeks not only to uphold and promote the principles of diversity and leadership but also to recognize those individuals who personify those principles.

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HARTFORD COURANT: MOHEGAN SUN CEO, IN HIS JOB FOR A YEAR, REFLECTS ON HOW CASINO HAS FARED IN TOUGH ECONOMIC CLIMATE

Oct 21 2013 22:21:29

By Matthew Sturdevant The Hartford Courant

Oct. 22--UNCASVILLE -- Mohegan Sun faces increasing competition from new gambling venues popping up in neighboring states, but, after a year on the job, the CEO can take some comfort in the casino's financial performance stabilizing and, in some aspects, even improving.

Mohegan Sun Connecticut CEO and President **Robert J. "Bobby" Soper** started his job in September 2012, the same month the casino reduced operating costs and expenses in part by laying off workers.

The millions of dollars in cost cutting -- expenses were down \$10.8 million during the second quarter -- made the casino more profitable. Mohegan Sun Connecticut reported earnings of \$74.8 million for the three-month period ending June 30, up 20 percent from \$62.5 million during the same period last year.

Mohegan Sun improved its profitability even as it had lower revenue from gambling. Cost cutting helped profits, but so did the increased revenue for non-gambling activities such as musical acts and hotel stays. The non-gambling activities are also key to Mohegan Sun's strategy for the future as it embarks on a major retail expansion next year to broaden its attractiveness in the face of increasing competition from new and expanded gambling venues elsewhere.

Soper sat down for an interview with The Courant to talk about how things are going at Mohegan Sun, how the casino plans to distinguish itself from other gambling venues in the Northeast, and how his tribe is expanding its business outside of the state.

"We view ourselves as an entertainment destination ... and it's really a myriad of amenities that goes well beyond gaming," he said.

Mohegan Sun boosted revenues by 7 percent in retail and entertainment to \$29.6 million, and 1.6 percent in hotel stays to \$10.3 million, during the three-month period ending June compared with the same period a year earlier, according to filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Gaming is our bread and butter, but we have an incredible entertainment venue," Soper said.

Therein lies the problem -- even with more money coming in from entertainment and hotel stays, Mohegan Sun Connecticut is a casino that relies mostly on revenue from gambling.

Slot revenue has been on a long-term slide for both Connecticut casinos, Mohegan Sun and neighboring Foxwoods. Net revenue from slots during the most recently reported quarter was down 4.2 percent to \$152.1 million, though table games have been a relative bright spot recently, up 10.2 percent to \$76.2 million.

Returning Son

Soper just finished his first full year at Mohegan Sun Connecticut, the tribe's flagship property.

He is 41, the son of a Mohegan tribal member. He grew up in Uncasville and moved to Atlanta for his career as a teacher and, later, a principal. The younger Soper grew up in Atlanta, graduated with an economics degree from the University of Georgia and then earned a law degree from University of Georgia Law.

Soper and his wife, Jackie, have two children: Gabriella, 13, and Dalton, 9.

In 2001, Soper began his career with the Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority as chief legal officer and senior vice president of administration. In 2005, he took the position of CEO and president of Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

He became CEO and president of Mohegan Sun Connecticut in September 2012. The flagship location will embark on a major expansion in the hopes of retaining customers, and attracting more, while competition springs up in other states.

Not all bets are on Connecticut, though. The Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority is looking to get a share of new gambling opportunities in other states, including Washington and Massachusetts.

"We've had success with Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs in Pennsylvania and obviously we're looking at other opportunities and hopefully we'll be able to diversify our portfolio even further," Soper said. "That is certainly one of the largest strategic initiatives, is growing our business geographically."

In addition to the Pocono Downs location, Mohegan also manages Resorts Casino Atlantic City. In the future, Mohegan will be developing and managing a casino in Washington state for the Cowlitz Tribe.

The key for Mohegan Sun Connecticut, as casinos spring up elsewhere in the Northeast, is to remain the "beast of the East," a phrase he said was coined in an Atlantic City publication years ago in reference to the Mohegans' venue.

He wants Mohegan Sun to be seen as the premiere gambling destination, and that is mostly likely to happen by offering customers a wide range of activities and

He also credits other top level executives.

"They were able to navigate the challenging waters of refinancing [debt] last year in a very successful way to put us on good footing," Soper said. The tribe has had solid growth during the last three quarters in EBIDA," he said. EBIDA means earnings before interest, depreciation and amortization, which is the deduction of capital expenses over time.

The cash bonanza from gambling has been revealed in the quarter-century since Congress passed the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988, allowing federally recognized tribes to operate casino gambling on tribal lands provided they negotiate a compact with their state.

The Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut established the Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority in July 1995. In October 1996, the tribe opened its 185-acre resort casino on its 544-acre reservation next to Uncasville.

In recent years, cash-strapped states have looked to gambling as a source of revenue to fill tax coffers. Massachusetts, for example, will issue three licenses to operate resort casinos in different regions of the state. Mohegan is competing with MGM Resorts International to operate a casino in western Massachusetts. The Mohegan Tribal Gaming Council is proposing a \$1 billion casino, water park and retail venue in Palmer, Mass.

"Certainly there's going to be more competition on the horizon," Soper said. "Massachusetts is a great example, but I don't think any of those properties will come close to matching Mohegan Sun except, perhaps, our property in Palmer [Mass]."

If the Massachusetts Gaming Commission chooses MGM's plan for a casino in Springfield next spring instead of Mohegan's plans for Palmer, many of the customers in Greater Hartford would have the option of a shorter drive to get to an entertainment gambling venue. And all three casinos in Massachusetts threaten to erode Mohegan Sun's customer base.

"I feel confident in saying our future does not hinge on obtaining the Massachusetts license," he said.

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Monday, October 21, 10:31 AM EDT

By Nicholas Morcom, Associate at Smith Hulsey & Busey

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The 33rd annual Florida/Georgia moot court competition will be Friday, Nov. 1, at the Bryan Simpson U.S. Courthouse in Jacksonville.



Gambrell

Regarded as a tradition in the Jacksonville legal community, this competition between the University of Florida and University of Georgia Colleges of Law is held annually on the Friday before the Florida-Georgia football game.

The competition replicates an argument before the U.S. Supreme Court concerning a current, but unresolved issue of federal constitutional law.

The competition began 33 years ago when Mark Hulsey, a partner with Smith Hulsey & Busey and a University of Florida graduate, was asked by the university's College of Law dean to sponsor a competition between the moot court teams of the University of Florida and the University of Georgia.

Hulsey reached out to Charlie Kimbrell, a lawyer practicing in Miami and a University of Georgia graduate. The two men, both combat veterans of the World War II, agreed to co-sponsor the competition.

The event was held from 1970-2010 and was called the Florida/Georgia-Hulsey/Kimbrell.

In 2006, Charlie Kimbrell passed away; Hulsey passed away in 2011. That year, the competition did not occur due to lack of funds.

In 2012, Atlanta-based law firm Smith Gambrell & Russell LLP agreed to co-sponsor the event with Smith Hulsey & Busey.

The event is now called

the "Florida/Georgia-Hulsey/Gambrell" moot court competition named after Hulsey and E. Smythe Gambrell, a founding partner of Smith Gambrell & Russell.

Gambrell was the president of the American Bar Association and American Bar Foundation from 1955-56 and founded the Legal Aid Society in Atlanta, where he practiced law from 1922 until his death in 1986.

Hulsey was president of The Florida Bar from 1969-70 and The Jacksonville Bar Association in 1962. He also served as chairman of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission.

The panel of participating judges in this year's competition are: The Honorable William Terrell Hodges, Senior District Judge, Middle District of Florida; The Honorable B. Avant Edenfield, District Judge, South District of Georgia; The Honorable Gerald B. Tjoflat, Circuit Judge, 11th Circuit Court of Appeal; The Honorable Lisa Godbey Wood, Chief Judge, Southern District of Georgia; and The Honorable Marcia Morales Howard, District Judge, Middle District of Florida.

Senior District Judge John H. Moore, who passed away on July 18, served on the judicial panel many times and will be remembered at this year's event.

The record on appeal for this year's competition concerns an online blogger held in contempt for refusing to reveal the identity of his sources for a series of online stories about the mob.

The issues to be decided by the court include whether the First Amendment prohibits the blogger from being held in contempt and whether the Freedom of Information Act permits the release of a booking photograph.

All members of the public are welcome to attend the competition, which will occur in the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals Courtroom on the 13th floor of the Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse.

The competition begins at 9:30 a.m. and should end by noon.

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Ga. Trial Flashes Back To 1887 Mass Slaying of 9

By Russ Bynum All Articles

The Associated Press October 21, 2013

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BRUNSWICK, Ga. (AP) — Neighbors awoke to find an entire Georgia family slaughtered overnight at home in bed. A relative who came crying for help at daybreak was soon charged with murder and would face the death penalty.

Despite some eerie similarities, the defendant in this case wasn't Guy Heinze Jr., who is on trial in Brunswick for the slayings of his father and seven extended family members clubbed to death in their mobile home on Aug. 29, 2009. This particular crime took place more than a century ago, in August 1887. And prosecutors trying Heinze for murder made sure last week the jury got a brief lesson about this dark page in Georgia history.

Why flash back during a trial to a 126-year-old murder case? A key question facing jurors is whether Heinze, the lone suspect, could reasonably have beaten eight people to death by himself. He sounded distraught as he sobbed to a 911 operator: "My whole family is dead."

During his opening statement to jurors Tuesday, Heinze's lead defense attorney, Newell Hamilton Jr., questioned whether 180-pound Heinze was physically capable of inflicting such carnage. He also said an expert will testify that history casts a huge shadow of doubt. "It's never been done before," Hamilton said. "There's no record of a crime like this being committed."

Prosecutors managed to slip in a rebuttal Wednesday during the testimony of Georgia Bureau of Investigation medical examiner Edmund Donoghue, who performed autopsies on the mobile home victims. Prosecutor John B. Johnson asked him: "Are you aware personally of a situation where a person killed eight or nine people?"

The medical examiner said he knew of two crimes. One was the infamous case of Richard Speck, who stabbed and strangled eight student nurses after holding them captive for hours at a Chicago townhouse in July 1966. The second was a lesser-known case from middle Georgia: the 19th century ax murders attributed to Thomas G. Woolfolk (pronounced WUHL-fork).

Woolfolk was the 27-year-old son of a businessman and landowner. He lived with his father, stepmother and several half-siblings in Bibb County at a rural farmhouse outside Macon. On the morning of Aug. 6, 1887, Woolfolk came running to neighbors for help. He said an attacker had broken into the house in the middle of the night and killed the rest of his family. Woolfolk said he escaped by jumping from a window.

Nine people in all were found dead, each of them killed with an ax. The victims were Woolfolk's father and stepmother, Richard and Mattie Woolfolk, as well as their six children, ages 20, 17, 10, 7, 5 and 18 months. Also killed was the 84-year-old aunt of Woolfolk's stepmother.

Investigators discovered specks of blood on Woolfolk's ears and a bloody handprint on his leg. His blood-stained clothes were found at the bottom of a well. It didn't help that he wasn't well liked. Georgia Bird, an ex-wife who left Woolfolk after just three weeks of marriage, told reporters covering the killings: "He is the meanest man I ever saw, and there is nothing too mean for him to do."

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And there was an obvious motive for Woolfolk to want his entire family killed.

"Tom Woolfolk would have inherited his father's estate and property, so he stood to gain financially," said Donald E. Wilkes Jr., a law professor emeritus at the University of Georgia who has researched and written about the case. "I personally don't have any doubt that he was guilty."

One macabre detail, Wilkes said, was investigators' conclusion that Woolfolk bludgeoned his victims with the blunt end of the ax head instead of chopping them with the blade.

Woolfolk ended up standing trial twice. The Georgia Supreme Court threw out his first conviction, noting that the trial judge had allowed spectators during attorneys' closing arguments to shout, "Hang him! Hang him!" A second trial also ended in a conviction, and thousands watched as Woolfolk was hanged Oct. 29, 1890, not far from the courthouse in Perry. He went to the gallows insisting he was innocent.

The 1887 slayings may prove to be a mere footnote in the trial of 26-year-old Heinze, which enters its second week Monday. The medical examiner made just a brief mention of the Woolfolk case after testifying for several hours.

And while the cases have several parallels, there are also distinct differences. Woolfolk stood to inherit his father's wealth. Heinze, his father and the other seven victims lived in poverty, sharing a cramped single-wide mobile home that was strewn with trash and had no air conditioning.

The bloody, short-handled ax used to kill Woolfolk's family was found by investigators, and witnesses said they had seen Woolfolk with it the day before the slayings. No murder weapon was recovered in Heinze's case. Prosecutors said they suspect the mobile home victims were beaten with a shotgun barrel.

And while the jury weighing Heinze's case will have to decide if he killed eight people, Woolfolk only stood trial for killing his father. It was part of a legal strategy that wouldn't be allowed today, Wilkes said.

"There were nine murders, but Woolfolk was only tried for one," Wilkes said. "In those days it would have been permissible if he had somehow been acquitted to try him nine times until you got a conviction."

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Tinker, of famous free speech case, to speak at UGA

2:12 pm, October 22nd, 2013

Constitutional law buffs have a chance to meet a figure from their law school textbooks in the flesh.

Mary Beth Tinker, whose challenge to her suspension for wearing a black armband to school led to the U.S. Supreme Court's famous declaration that students have rights, will appear next month at the University of Georgia. The event is part of a nationwide tour, dubbed the "Tinker Tour," sponsored by the Student Press Law Center and aimed at raising awareness of the importance of young people's constitutional rights.

Tinker was a 13-year-old junior high school student when she was suspended for her statement against the Vietnam War in December 1965. Along with her older brother, John, and another Des Moines, Iowa, student, Christopher Eckhardt, Tinker sued school officials. Represented by lawyers with the American Civil Liberties Union, the group won a 7-2 victory at the U.S. Supreme Court in 1969. In his famous opinion in Tinker v. Des Moines, Justice Abe Fortas wrote, "It can hardly be argued that either students or teachers shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate."

Tinker will appear with student speech attorney Mike Hiestand. The event at UGA, set for Nov. 4 at 12:30 p.m. in Room A (120) of Hirsch Hall, is free and open to the public. The Tinker Tour stopped in Atlanta earlier this month.



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Tinker, of famous free speech case, to speak at UGA

2:12 pm, October 22nd, 2013

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LOCAL NEWS

What's going on today?

published Tuesday, October 22, 2013

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The following events are happening on October 23, 2013:

EVENTS

Wednesdays Walkers: 9-10 a.m., Rocksprings Park, 291 Henderson Extension; for ages 50 and older; program assembles at Rocksprings Park and departs to explore walking at various Leisure Services Department parks; low impact; led by staff, but walkers are free to walk at their own pace; \$1 per day; registration required by calling (706) 613-3602.

Cancer Prevention Cooking Class: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Athens-Clarke County Health Department, 345 N. Harris St.; learn to prepare delicious meals and snacks to lower your risk for cancer and other diseases; during the lessons, participants will learn what foods may lower cancer risks, how to fix food with less fat and sodium and more fiber and how to choose healthy foods from the grocery store; pre-registration required; (706) 583-2756.

Downtown Athens Blue Sky Concert Series: Noon to 1 p.m., College Avenue; local musicians will perform on the square; free.

UGA School of Law Sibley Lecture to address civil rights: 3:30 p.m., Hirsch Hall, Hatton Lovejoy Courtroom, UGA School of Law, north campus, University of Georgia; Robin L. West, Frederick Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy at Georgetown University, will present "Toward a Jurisprudence of the Civil Rights Acts"; during her talk, West will discuss the meaning of the civil rights protected by the historic 1964 Civil Rights Act, as well as the meaning of "civil rights" more generally, contrasting both with constitutional rights developed over the last half century; www.law.uga.edu/news/19218.

Zumbathon fundraiser for In Their Shoes Walk: 5:30-6:30 p.m., The Omni Club Westside, 2361 W. Broad St.; featuring Zumba instructors Tania, LaToya, Nicole and Suzie; open to the public; \$10; www.intheirshoesathens.org.

Emotional abuse support group: 6:30-8 p.m., call for location; held

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SHOWS

Adam Klein and the Wild Fires with guest MrJordanMrTonks: 8 p.m., The Melting Point, 295 E. Dougherty St.; \$5; www.meltingpointathens.com.

Concert: Ran Dank and Soyeon Kate Lee: 8-10 p.m., Ramsey Concert Hall, UGA Performing Arts Center, 230 River Road; husband and wife team and two of classical music's young pianists, Ron Dank and Soyeon Kate Lee, join together for a program that features piano versions of Stravinsky's landmark ballets, "The Firebird," "Petrushka" and "The Rite of Spring"; \$28; (706) 542-4400.

Dictatotoctober: 8 p.m., Hendershot's Coffee Bar, 237 Prince Ave.; www.hendershotscoffee.com.



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Livingstone named chief nursing officer at EHS

Staff report

news@effinghamherald.net

October 24, 2013

Marie Livingstone has been named chief nursing officer at Effingham Health System.

"The health care industry as a whole is undergoing rapid reform, and we must do all we can to keep abreast of the regulatory climate that necessarily accompanies the delivery of care." said Norma Jean Morgan, CEO at Effingham Health System. "Mimi Livingstone has a unique combination of skills earned through her experience as a nurse and as a practicing attorney. Her expertise will be most valuable as we navigate the waters of the national health care reform effort."

Livingstone received her original nursing degree from Mobile General Hospital School of Nursing in Mobile, Ala., and a bachelor of science in nursing from the University of South Alabama. She received her law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1996.

Livingstone brings more than 17 years of clinical experience, in a variety of leadership positions, as well as legal expertise to the organization. She is licensed as a registered nurse in Georgia and Alabama. She is a member of the Georgia Hospital Association, the State Bar of Georgia, and the American Health Lawyers Association

<http://beta.effinghamherald.net/section/22/article/23114/>

10/24/13

LOCAL NEWS

What's going on today?

published Thursday, October 24, 2013

Here's what's going on around Athens today, October 25:

EVENTS

UGA School of Law 3rd annual Georgia Association of Law and Politics Symposium: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Larry Walker Room, Dean Rusk Hall, north campus, University of Georgia; three panel sessions will focus on challenges faced by women in politics, Georgia's new juvenile justice code and the federal judicial nomination process; former governor and 1972 Georgia Law alumnus, Roy E. Barnes, also will deliver the noon keynote address; CLE credits are available; preregistration is required at www.law.uga.edu/galp.

Jaemor Farms Cornfield Maze: 3-10 tonight and from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Jaemor Farms, 5340 Cornelia Hwy., Alto; open through Nov. 3; ages 13 and older \$10 and children ages 3-12 years old \$9; ages 3 and younger enter free; \$12 all-access pass includes Maze, Hayride, and any three attractions for ages 3 and older; (770) 869-3999 or www.jaemorfarms.com.

"Wizard of Oz" Haunted House: 6-9 p.m., Oconee County Library: 1080 Experiment Station Road, Watkinsville; for all ages; free and open to the public; (706) 769-3950.

Author visit: Larry B. Dendy: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Avid Bookshop, 493 Prince Ave.; author Larry B. Dendy will discuss his new book, "Through the Arch: Writing an Illustrated Guide to the University of Georgia Campus"; free; www.avidbookshop.com.

Friday Night Paddle: 7-9 p.m., Sandy Creek Park, 400 Bob Holman Road; \$8 for Athens-Clarke County residents, \$12 for non-county residents; registration and payment required in advance by calling (706) 613-3631.

Ghost Walk/Haunted History walking tour: 8 tonight in Madison and 8 p.m. Saturday in Watkinsville; pre-register; for prices and more information, visit www.northgeorgiatours.net or (706) 340-4357.

PROGRAMS AND CLASSES

Athens-Clarke County Library, 2025 Baxter St., (706) 613-3650 or www.athenslibrary.org:

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• **Night Owl Prowl:** 6 p.m. to midnight, Heritage Room; research family history after hours in the library's Heritage Room; not for beginners; snacks and a security guard to walk people to their car; payment and registration due by Oct. 23; \$15.

SHOWS

Ansonborough Alive Friday Music Series with Adam Klein: 6-8 p.m., Ansonborough: 1040 Gaines School Road; free; (706) 296-9977.

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“For Ashley: The Misfits, The Broken, The Beautiful” presented by Dance Upon

Injustice: 7:30 tonight and Saturday, Morton Theatre, 195 W. Washington St.; strong subject matter and may not be suitable for small children; a faith-based production focused on bringing awareness to the domestic sex trafficking of women (ages 18 and older) in Atlanta and the North Metropolitan area; based on research and the true story of a local woman named Ashley; “For Ashley” presents research and story through dance and multimedia; www.mortontheatre.com.

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Wheels: 8 p.m., Georgia Theatre, 215 N. Lumpkin St.; \$10; www.georgiatheatre.com.

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The Swingin’ Medallions: 8 p.m., The Melting Point, 295 E. Dougherty St.; \$25; www.meltingpointathens.com.

EG Kight, Blue Alley and Michael Guthrie: 8 p.m., Hendershot’s Coffee Bar, 237 Prince Ave.; \$10; www.hendershotscoffee.com.

Athens Intensified Night 1 with DJ Andy Rourke (of The Smiths), Programs, Tonda, Monsoon, Murk Daddy Flex: Caledonia Lounge, 256 W. Clayton St.; \$12; \$14 for ages 18-20; www.caledonialounge.com.

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NEXT

What's going on this weekend?

10/23/13

Nelson Mullins®**Marisa Pins Joins Nelson Mullins in Atlanta**

ATLANTA -- Marisa Pins has joined the Atlanta office of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP as an associate, where she will focus her practice in the area of healthcare law. She has counseled clients in the areas of federal and state fraud and abuse laws, including state and federal anti-kickback statutes and Stark Law, and advised clients on state regulatory issues including professional licensing, allied health professional scope of practice, certificate of need, and change of ownership requirements. Ms. Pins has also conducted health regulatory due diligence for transactions in the healthcare industry and assisted clients with planning and structuring healthcare transactions and business

arrangements.

She has previous professional experience as an associate for a healthcare and life sciences division of an Atlanta law firm. She also served as a risk management analyst for a 230-bed hospital where she collected and analyzed data related to patient safety and hospital risk, prepared reports for hospital administration highlighting risk improvement areas, and educated staff regarding the hospital's risk management policies and procedures. Ms. Pins earned her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Georgia School of Law, and also earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Risk Management and Insurance, magna cum laude, from the University of Georgia.

To view Ms. Pins' bio, [click here](#).

To download a high-resolution photo of Ms. Pins, [click here](#).

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10/24/13

Chattanooga

Jeff Woodard Named Chief Legal Officer At Erlanger

chattanooga.com/2013/10/24/262002/Jeff-Woodard-Named-Chief-Legal-Officer.aspx

Jeff Woodard

Erlanger Health System President and CEO Kevin M. Spiegel, FACHE, has announced the appointment of Jeffrey N. Woodard Esq. as Erlanger's new chief legal officer. Mr. Woodard has served as director of Risk Management and staff attorney at Erlanger for the past three years.

"Jeff is well respected within our organization, as well as in the legal community, and I have been impressed with his work and his vision to grow and improve our in house legal department," Mr. Spiegel said.

Prior to coming to Erlanger, Mr. Woodard served as general counsel and director of Risk Management at Hutcheson Medical Center in Fort Oglethorpe. Before that, he was in private practice with two Georgia law firms, Minor, Bell and Neal in Dalton, and Womack, Gottlieb and Rodham in LaFayette.

Mr. Woodard graduated with honors from Berry College and the University of Georgia School of Law. While in law school, he served as Articles Editor for the *Journal of Intellectual Property Law*. He is admitted to practice in both Tennessee and Georgia.

Mr. Woodard is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, the Georgia Academy of Healthcare Attorneys, the Georgia Hospital Association for In-House Counsel, the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management and the Georgia Public Health Association.

He also serves as a director on the Floyd County Board of Health, having previously served as chairman and vice-chairman from 2010-13.

Mr. Woodard and his wife, Venoka, have two children, Ethan, nine, and Sophie, five.

"Having grown up in northwest Georgia, I have witnessed firsthand what a tremendous asset Erlanger has been and continues to be to this region and the community it serves," Woodard said. "To have the opportunity to support Erlanger and all that it represents in this community, is an incredible honor and privilege for me."



Corporations flock to U.S. patent court

Patent, from page 9
back 152 years. Abraham Lincoln named the first three judges.)

Two fronts

The board doesn't automatically agree to hear every case filed. Rather, the petitioner in the initial filing has to show that it's "more likely than not" to prevail. So far, that hurdle hasn't proven too daunting. In the first year, the board turned down just 25 out of 486 challenges.

What's key for petitioners is whether district court judges will agree to stay pending parallel litigation while the board reviews the patent's validity. In Liberty's case, U.S. District Judge Benita Pearson in Youngstown, Ohio, agreed to do so, writing that it would be "wasteful to now engage in litigation over patent claims that are likely to be altered or invalidated."

Winning a district court stay is "a huge money saver" for a client who has been sued for patent infringement, said Blair Jacobs, an IP partner at McDermott Will & Emery who is representing several such clients before the board. "Most clients are not going to want to pay bills to fight on both fronts," he said.

Smith also recognized that stays are vital to petitioners, and said that's one reason why adhering to the one-year deadline is so critical. If the cases take longer, district court judges have indicated "that they will become increasingly reluctant to stay parallel proceedings in favor of ours," he said. "We

want the parties and the district courts to be so confident not only in the quality of our decisions but in the pace at which they are delivered that they say, 'We're just going to wait on [the board].'"

It's an arrangement, however, that may disadvantage the patent owner, said Peter Toren, a partner at Weisbrod Matteis & Copley who represents inventors.

Small companies and nonpracticing entities—commonly known as patent trolls—often don't have the money to pay a lawyer to sue a company for patent infringement and instead may retain counsel on a contingent-fee basis.

Plaintiffs lawyers point out that there's no money if you win at the patent board. You simply get confirmation that your patent is valid, and the money-making district court case is delayed a year. If you lose at the patent board, it's likely to hurt or destroy any parallel infringement case.

"There are a lot of crappy patents being litigated. If this reduces the number of bad patents being litigated, that's a good thing," Toren said. "But as a plaintiffs lawyer, I'm concerned it may be misused by large companies to increase pressure on small entities."

Still, Herbert Wamsley, executive director of the Intellectual Property Owners Association, said inventors can benefit from board proceedings, too. "In the majority of [district court] cases, the defendant sued raises the invalidity defense," he said. If the board upholds the patent, then the inventor is in a much stronger position to win money in district court. ☺

Jenna Greene writes for The National Law Journal, a Daily Report affiliate.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCT. 30

Estate Planning Forum with Natalie Choate. Co-sponsored by Atlanta Bar Association Estate Planning & Probate and Tax Law Sections and Diversified Trust. 3.5 CLE hours. 1-5 p.m. at Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center. Register at www.atlantabar.org or call 404-521-0781.

OCT. 30

Beer and CLE: "The Life of a Trial—Skillful Witness Examinations: Direct and Cross." Co-sponsored by Atlanta Bar Association Atlanta Council of Younger Lawyers Section and Atlanta Bar CLE. 1.5 CLE hours. 6-7:30 p.m. at Manuel's Tavern. Register at www.atlantabar.org or call 404-521-0781.

OCT. 31

Seminar: Solo and Small Firm Fall Seminar. Co-sponsored by Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and Law Practice Management Program, State Bar. Six CLE hours, including 1 ethics hour. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. Also via video conference at State Bar's Coastal Georgia office, 18 E. Bay St., Savannah, and South Georgia office, 244 E. Second St., Tifton. Space limited at both locations to 30 attendees each. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

NOV. 2

14th Annual Hall of Fame Gala: Gate City Bar Association. Speaker: Massachusetts Gov. Deval L. Patrick. The 2013 honorees are Michael E. Hancock, Timothy Jefferson and W. Ray Persons. Grand Hyatt Atlanta in Buckhead.

NOV. 4

Lecture: Free speech advocate Mary Beth Tinker and student speech attorney Mike Hiestand. Tinker was a lead plaintiff in landmark 1969 U.S. Supreme Court case *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, in which the court upheld students' First Amendment right to express themselves in a nondisruptive way within public schools. Sponsored by the University of Georgia School of Law. 12:30 p.m. in Room A, Hirsch Hall, Athens. For more info: www.law.uga.edu/news/19391.

NOV. 6

Seminar: Commercial Real Estate. Co-sponsored by Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and Real Property Law Section of the State Bar. Six CLE hours, including 1 ethics, 1 trial practice. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. Also via video conference at State Bar's Coastal Georgia office, 18 E. Bay St., Savannah, and South Georgia office, 244 E. Second St., Tifton. Space limited at both locations to 30 attendees each. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

NOV. 7

Seminar: RICO. Sponsored by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia, with 6.5 CLE hours, including 1 professionalism and 3 trial practice. 7:45 a.m.-4 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, Atlanta. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

NOV. 7-9

The Bard Show: "A Courthouse Line X: Back in the Black." All-lawyer musical comedy parody fundraiser for Atlanta Bar Foundation's charitable community efforts. 8 p.m. Nov. 7 and Nov. 8, 2 and 8 p.m. Nov. 9 at the 14th Street Playhouse. Purchase tickets at www.14thstplayhouse.org.

NOV. 8

Statewide satellite program: Trial advocacy. Co-sponsored by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and the state bar's General Practice & Trial Law Section. Six CLE hours, including 1 ethics, 1 professionalism and 3 trial practice. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Georgia Public Broadcasting Studio, 260 14th St., N.W., Atlanta, and by satellite at sites throughout the state (see registration form for locations). To be rebroadcast on Nov. 14. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

NOV. 8

Seminar: Advanced Adoption Law and Practice in Georgia. Co-sponsored by Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and Georgia Council of Adoption

Lawyers. Six CLE hours, including 1 professionalism, 4 trial practice. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

NOV. 8

Seminar: Selected Topics in Adult Guardianship. Co-sponsored by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and the Elder Law section of the state bar. Six 6.5 CLE hours, including 3 trial practice. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, Atlanta. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

NOV. 14

Auburn University networking event with speakers Charles L. Ruffin, State Bar of Georgia president, and Pat Dye Jr. Sponsored by Warner, Bates, McGough, McGinnis & Portnoy for Atlanta area Auburn lawyers and friends. 5-7 p.m. at the firm's offices, 3350 Riverwood Parkway, Riverwood 100 Building, Suite 2300. RSVP at 770-951-2700.

NOV. 14

Seminar: Litigation Under 42 USC §1983. Co-sponsored by Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia and National Lawyers Guild, Atlanta Chapter. Six CLE hours, including 4 trial practice. 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at State Bar of Georgia headquarters, 104 Marietta St. N.W., Atlanta. Register at www.iclega.org or call 770-466-0886.

COLUMNS

The University of Georgia

Vol. 41, No. 15

columns.uga.edu

October 28, 2013

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

VP for development and alumni relations search underway

By Kathy Pharr
pharr@uga.edu

UGA President Jere W. Morehead has appointed a committee to coordinate a national search for the university's next vice president for development and alumni relations. The committee will recommend finalists to succeed Tom Landrum, who will be retiring at the end of the academic year on June 30 after nearly 40 years of service to the institution.

"This position will be vitally important as we continue planning and early fundraising efforts during the silent phase of our comprehensive campaign to advance the University of Georgia," Morehead said. "A successful campaign will be transformational for the institution, so the vice president for development and alumni relations will play a key leadership role in the senior administration."

J. Griffin Doyle, vice president for government relations, will chair the 19-member committee composed of faculty, staff, student and alumni representatives.

Other search committee

members are:

- Kathy Bangle, director of Veterinary External Affairs in the College of Veterinary Medicine;
- Elizabeth Beckett, associate director for the Office of Special Events;
- Josef Broder, associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences;
- Cindy Coyle, associate vice president for external affairs and executive director/chief financial officer of the UGA Foundation;
- Greg Daniels, senior executive director of leadership giving in the Division of Development and Alumni Relations;
- Mica David, vice president of the Student Alumni Council;
- Juliett Dinkins, editor of *Columns*;
- Marcus Jennings, chair of the Development and Alumni Relations Staff Representative Group, UGA Alumni Association;
- Steve Jones, U.S. District Court judge for the northern district of Georgia and UGA Foundation trustee;
- Tim Keadle, CPA with Porter Keadle Moore LLC and president of the UGA Alumni Association;
- Stefanie A. Lindquist, dean of the

School of Public and International Affairs;

- Greg McGarity, UGA director of athletics;
 - Thomas H. "Trey" Paris III, U.S. manager of state government relations for General Electric and chair of the UGA Foundation's development and public affairs committee;
 - John P. Spalding, vice president of government affairs and chief privacy officer of Cox Communications Inc. and UGA Foundation chairman;
 - Denise Spangler, the Bebe Aderhold Professor of Early Childhood Education and head of the UGA mathematics and science education department;
 - Rebecca H. White, dean of the School of Law and the J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law;
 - David S. Williams, associate provost and director of the Honors Program; and
 - William D. Young Jr., president of General Wholesale Co. and immediate past chair of the UGA Foundation.
- The university will retain an executive search firm to assist with the process. Applications are due to the committee by Jan. 31.

Digest

Columns
10/28/13
(Vol. 41, No. 15)

Russell Library program to examine Roe v. Wade decision on anniversary

Forty years after the landmark Roe v. Wade decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, the ongoing debate surrounding it will be the subject of a discussion hosted by the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies Oct. 30 from 6-8 p.m. in Room 285 of the Richard B. Russell Building Special Collections Libraries.

On Jan. 22, 1973, a 7-2 majority of the U.S. Supreme Court decided the case of Roe v. Wade, and struck down a Texas law criminalizing abortion. The majority opinion asserted that the Texas law violated a woman's right to privacy under the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and the claim sparked debates on religion and morality and divided the country into pro-life and pro-choice factions.

In collaboration with two professors at the UGA School of Law, Randy Beck and Lori A. Ringhand, the Russell Library staff has created a program that will provide both short presentations on the topic at hand as well as time for attendees to talk through the issues. Trained moderators from the Russell Forum for Civic Life in Georgia, an outreach initiative dedicated to strengthening civic engagement and public discourse in Georgia, will be on hand to help facilitate these conversations alongside Beck and Ringhand.

The program is one in a series of three to be hosted by the Russell Library in October in conjunction with exhibition *Now and Then: 1973*, on display until Dec. 15 in the Russell Library Gallery. The series, titled "It Was a Big Year," asks attendees to consider how a few key events in a single year changed the culture and course of a nation for years to come.

Free speech experts come to Athens

The School of Law will host free speech expert Mary Beth Tinker and student speech attorney Mike Hiestand as part of a nationwide tour Nov. 4 at 12:30 p.m. in Room A (120) of Hirsch Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Tinker was a lead plaintiff in the landmark 1969 U.S. Supreme Court case *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, where the court upheld students' First Amendment right to express themselves in a nondisruptive way within their public schools.

During her talk, Tinker will discuss the case and the current state of free speech and civics awareness among America's young people. The goal of the "Tinker Tour" is to bring real-life civics lessons to schools and communities through Tinker's story.

Also speaking at the event is Hiestand, who has written and lectured extensively on legal issues affecting the student media and has worked for more than 20 years as an attorney for the Student Press Law Center.

The presenting sponsor of the tour is the Student Press Law Center, a nonprofit organization that supports youth voices. More information about the "Tinker Tour" is available at www.tinkertourusa.org.

Red & Black

Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice to speak at UGA School of Law conference

Staff Reports | Posted: Monday, October 28, 2013 2:57 pm

A retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice will speak in the Chapel as part of a day-long conference sponsored by the University of Georgia School of Law on Nov. 6.

Former Justice John Paul Stevens will serve as the keynote speaker for "The Press and the Constitution 50 Years after New York Times v. Sullivan," according to a UGA Today press release.

Stevens sat on the bench of the Supreme Court from 1975 until 2010. He will deliver the keynote address entitled "Originalism and History" at 1:30 p.m. in the UGA Chapel, according to the release

The remainder of the conference will feature three panels discussing different perspectives on the 1946 Supreme Court decision. Registered participants can opt only to attend Stevens' speech or to attend the panels beginning at 8 a.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall, as well.



10/28/13



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Retired Justice John Paul Stevens to headline UGA conference

11:28 am, October 28th, 2013

Retired U.S. Supreme court Justice John Paul Stevens will keynote a law review symposium at the University of Georgia next week.

The Nov. 6 conference will examine the freedom of the press nearly 50 years after the Supreme Court's decision in *New York Times v. Sullivan*, which made it more difficult for public officials to win libel actions against the media. Stevens, who retired from the court in 2010, is expected to speak on "Originalism and History" at 1:30 p.m. in the UGA Chapel.

The event is free and open to the public, but UGA requests preregistration by Nov. 4. Information about the day-long symposium, including how to register, can be found [here](#). Continuing legal education credits are available for a fee.

Query whether the day's discussions will drift towards transparency at the Supreme Court, the topic of discussion at an [event](#) moderated on Friday by the *National Law Journal's* Tony Mauro.



Contributor: [Alyson M. Palmer](#) in [U.S. Supreme Court](#) | [subscribe to rss](#) | [share](#)

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Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens Speaking at Nov. 6 Law Conference

Justice Stevens retired from the bench in 2010.

Posted by Rebecca McCarthy (Editor) , October 28, 2013 at 11:00 AM

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Justice John-Paul Stevens.

By Cindy Rice

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1

The University of Georgia School of Law will welcome retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens on Nov. 6 as the keynote speaker for a daylong conference entitled "The Press and the Constitution 50 Years after New York Times v. Sullivan." The event is free and open to the public; however, preregistration by Nov. 4 is requested.

Sponsored by the student-edited law journal the Georgia Law Review, the main portion of the conference will begin at 8 a.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall.

Through three panel sessions, a group of scholars will explore

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decision, the complicated relationship between the court and the First Amendment's freedom of the press clause and the future of the press clause in light of changes in media and technology. Additionally, a luncheon presentation will be given by David G. Savage, U.S. Supreme Court correspondent for the Los Angeles Times.

Stevens, who sat on the bench of the nation's highest court from 1975 to 2010, will deliver the keynote address for the conference at 1:30 p.m. in the UGA Chapel, where he will discuss "Originalism and History." Participants who register for the conference may select to only attend the keynote discussion, if desired. Backpacks will not be allowed into the Chapel during the address.

"We are delighted and honored that Justice Stevens will take the time to join us as we explore the implications of the Supreme Court's Sullivan decision 50 years after this landmark ruling," said Lindsay S. Jones, a third-year law student and conference co-organizer. "Sullivan is famous for dramatically altering the law of defamation. However, its importance does not stop there."

She added that the court's decision sparked widespread debate about constitutional protections for individuals and the press in a variety of situations.

"Crucial to these inquiries was the question of the meaning of the First Amendment's press clause in relation to its free speech clause, which is still debated widely today by scholars, journalists, practitioners and the justices themselves," Jones said. "We are excited to continue the debate during what I am confident will be an informative conference for all who attend."

To register for the conference, or for more information, please click here. Continuing legal education credits are available for attorneys.

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Monday, October 28, 2013

Advocate for student expression rights to give 8th State of First Amendment Address at UK

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One of the nation's most-respected advocates for student expression rights will deliver the eighth annual State of the First Amendment Address at 6 p.m. Tuesday. Frank LoMonte, executive director of the Student Press Law Center, Arlington, Va., will speak in the auditorium of the William T. Young Library, on the state of First Amendment rights for high school and college students. The event is open to the public.

"It's a great privilege to be able to bring Frank LoMonte to our campus," said Beth Barnes, director of the School of Journalism and Telecommunications. "Studies have found that students don't understand their First Amendment rights and one of the reasons is that high schools don't always want them to exercise them."



Frank LoMonte, Student Press Law Center

"Frank LoMonte isn't just doing a job," said Mike Farrell, director of the Scripps Howard First Amendment Center, which sponsors the annual First Amendment Celebration at the University of Kentucky.

"You likely won't meet anyone more passionate about the First Amendment or articulate in arguing for student expression rights than Frank," Farrell said.

LoMonte attended the University of Florida and served in several positions on The Independent Florida Alligator, including editor-in-chief. He graduated from Georgia State University in 1994, and then he worked for 12 years for daily newspapers in Florida and Georgia before enrolling in law school. He earned his law degree at the University of Georgia Law School, clerked for several federal judges before practicing law in Atlanta. He became executive director of the Student Press Law Center in 2008.

The annual First Amendment Celebration will also feature the presentation of the James Madison Award for service to the First Amendment by a Kentuckian. Judy Clabes, publisher of KyForward and one of the founders of the center, will present the award.

The Student Press Law Center has been providing legal assistance and education to high school and college journalists since 1974. It is the nation's only legal assistance agency devoted exclusively to educating high school and college journalists about the rights and responsibilities embodied in the First Amendment and supporting the student news media in their struggle to cover important issues free from censorship.

The mission of the Scripps Howard First Amendment Center, housed in the university's School of Journalism and Telecommunications, is to promote understanding of the First Amendment among citizens of Kentucky, to advocate for First Amendment rights in the Commonwealth and nationally, and to produce internationally recognized scholarship concerning the First Amendment and its



related freedoms.

From Scripps Howard First Amendment Center

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10/28/13

UGA

Retired U.S. Supreme Court justice to speak at UGA

By UGA NEWS SERVICE updated Monday, October 28, 2013 - 10:46pm

Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens will be on the University of Georgia campus on Nov. 6 as keynote speaker for a day-long conference titled "The Press and the Constitution 50 Years after New York Times v. Sullivan." The event is free and open to the public, but preregistration is requested by Nov. 4.

Stevens, who sat on the bench of the nation's highest court from 1975 to 2010, will deliver his address at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 6 in the UGA Chapel, where he will discuss "Originalism and History." Participants who register for the conference may select to only attend the keynote discussion. Backpacks will not be allowed into the Chapel during the address.

Sponsored by the student-edited Georgia Law Review, the main portion of the conference will begin at 8 a.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall. Through three panel sessions, a group of scholars will explore different perspectives on the U.S. Supreme court's 1964 Sullivan decision, the complicated relationship between the court and the First Amendment's freedom of the press clause and the future of the press clause in light of changes in media and technology. Additionally, a luncheon presentation will be given by David G. Savage, U.S. Supreme Court correspondent for the Los Angeles Times.

"We are delighted and honored that Justice Stevens will take the time to join us as we explore the implications of the Supreme Court's Sullivan decision 50 years after this landmark ruling," said Lindsay S. Jones, a third-year law student and conference co-organizer. "Sullivan is famous for dramatically altering the law of defamation. However, its importance does not stop there."

She added that the court's decision sparked widespread debate about constitutional protections for individuals and the press in a variety of situations. "Crucial to these inquiries was the question of the meaning of the First Amendment's press clause in relation to its free speech clause,



Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens talks about his views and career during a forum at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, Monday, May 20, 2013. (AP Photo/Michael Dwyer)

Spotted@: The Weekend Around Athens: Ashley & Jon - Wedding - Blane Marable Photography



which is still debated widely today by scholars, journalists, practitioners and the justices themselves,” Jones said.

To register for the conference, or for more information, please see www.law.uga.edu/georgia-law-review-symposia. Continuing legal education credits are available for attorneys.

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Vetting of Federal Judge Candidates is Under Way

R. Robin McDonald

Daily Report

2013-10-29 00:00:10.0

The American Bar Association and the FBI have finished vetting two of four candidates on a list of prospective nominees for the U.S. District Court in Atlanta, a former U.S. congressman told Georgia law students Friday.

Former U.S. Rep. Buddy Darden—who chaired Georgia Democrats' judicial selection committee in 2009—said during a panel discussion Friday at the University of Georgia's School of Law that a "logjam" that has stalled the appointment of federal judicial nominees in Georgia "has been broken."

Darden told students and faculty attending the law school's annual Georgia Symposium on Law & Politics that it was his "understanding" that federal authorities and the ABA have completed their vetting of Leigh Martin May, a partner at Butler Wooten & Fryhofer, and Troutman Sanders partner Mark Cohen for empty seats in the Northern District of Georgia. The vetting of two more candidates for the Northern District bench, whom he did not name, is still to be completed, he said.

Darden said people associated with the law school as well as other friends of his "have been called by the FBI and the ABA and tell me that the process is in place." He also said he anticipates the White House will announce nominations for the state's open federal judicial posts before the end of this year.

Darden was joined on the panel by Heath Garrett, U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson's former chief of staff and a partner at Garrett McNatt Hennessey & Carpenter 360; U.S. District Judge Clay Land of the Middle District of Georgia in Columbus; and Professor Richard Vining, an associate professor of political science at UGA.

Darden later told the Daily Report that he has been told the ABA also has begun inquiries about Georgia Court of Appeals Judge Michael Boggs, who was appointed to the state appellate bench last year by Gov. Nathan Deal, for a third open seat on the Northern District. He added that he understood vetting of U.S. District Chief Judge Julie Carnes for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit is under way.

Darden said he had no independent information about the prospective fourth candidate for the Northern District bench, who presumably would fill Carnes' slot should she be confirmed as a circuit court judge.

Georgia lawyers familiar with the nomination process who spoke anonymously because of the sensitivity of the negotiations have told the Daily Report that the fourth candidate is DeKalb State Court Judge Eleanor Ross, a Deal appointee who is the only African-American prospective nominee on the list of proposed Northern District nominees.

Carnes, if nominated for the Eleventh Circuit, would be considered along with Jill Pryor, a partner at Atlanta's Bondurant, Mixson & Elmore who twice has been nominated to the Eleventh Circuit by President Barack Obama. To date, Georgia's two U.S. senators, both Republicans, have blocked Pryor's nomination. Georgia lawyers familiar with the process have told the Daily Report that Isakson and Sen. Saxby Chambliss have agreed to withdraw their objections to Pryor and to May, whom they initially rejected as a district court candidate in 2009, as part of a package deal that would include the nominations of Carnes to the federal appellate court, and Boggs, Cohen and Ross to the district court.

Darden said Friday that the logjam that kept the vacancies from being filled—including two seats that were empty for most of the president's first term—was broken after the White House designated Atlanta attorney and Obama fundraiser Ken Canfield, a partner at Shields, Doffermyre, Shields, Canfield & Knowles in Atlanta, to represent it in negotiations with Georgia's senators and with a six-man committee of lawyers who have been advising them.

Darden said that when he chaired the committee and recommended judicial candidates to the Obama administration, it "was not allowed to interact with the senators," he said. "If I could have gone to the senators or their representatives, we could have filled the vacancies quite a bit earlier."

He said the process was also hampered by a succession of three White House counsels since 2009 and by the president's former chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel, who Darden said "didn't want to spend the President's capital on judicial nominations" during his firm term when he was trying to pass the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the 2009 economic stimulus package.

"We are moving toward a resolution of our situation in Georgia," he said. "I think the senators have exercised their prerogative to stall the nominations, perhaps because they were not consulted by the administration, perhaps because the administration was unrealistic in its nominations and expecting that they wouldn't be questioned."

Darden, whose 13-member committee operated in secrecy at what he said was the direction of the White House before it disbanded in 2011, suggested that the nominating process "has not been as open as it could be." In 2009, Darden's committee submitted to the White House a confidential list of a nearly a dozen recommendations that was subsequently made public by the Daily Report for what were then four open seats on the Northern District bench.

Two of those slots were filled in 2011 by current U.S. District Court Judges Steve Jones and Amy Totenberg. A third slot became vacant this year when U.S. District Judge Charles Pannell took senior status.

Vining suggested that the process has also been delayed by a policy that U.S. Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., has enforced that no judicial nominee will receive a confirmation hearing unless both his or her home state senators have given their approval. Vining called Leahy's rigid enforcement of what he said is a senatorial courtesy "unusual" and suggested that previous committee chairmen, among them U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, occasionally held confirmation hearings even when a home state senator did not return what is known as a "blue slip" signaling their willingness to allow confirmation hearings to go forward.

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"I won't say gridlock is good," Garrett continued. But, he continued, Democrats and Republicans "have a legitimate ideological and philosophical debate about the role of the judiciary and federal law enforcement in the federal system." Georgia's two senators, he said, "take very seriously their constitutional responsibility for advice and consent."

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He also agreed with Darden that if the White House had allowed Darden or members of his committee to meet with the senators' six-man committee, "we could have moved the process along" far faster.

But he insisted that the process historical "has produced qualified nominees" in Georgia. "The process is working," he said. "It may not be working well, but it's not designed to move efficiently. ... The White House always has the opportunity to, and should always seek, the advice and consent of the U.S. Senators."

Land, who was nominated to the federal bench by George W. Bush in September 2001 and confirmed just two months later, suggested that judicial nominations have a history of controversy as old as the republic, and, "We need to maintain some perspective historically." As an example, Land singled out the "Midnight Judges Act" of 1801 in which President John Adams—just before the inauguration of Thomas Jefferson—attempted to stuff a string of judgeships newly created by Congress with Federalist judges more sympathetic to Adams' political philosophy of a strong central government.

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ATLAW

The Daily Report's blog
about Georgia's legal community



Nominating commission set to interview 22 for Chattahoochee bench seats

3:46 pm, October 29th, 2013

Gov. Nathan Deal's Judicial Nominating Commission is set to interview 22 nominees for two superior court vacancies in the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit next week.

They are:

- Donna Hix, a solo practitioner who specializes in divorce and family law matters. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in 1993.
- Wesley Lambertus, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 2003.
- J. Ronald Mullins Jr., an insurance defense and government lawyer at Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford. He earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1976.
- Carter Page Schondelmayer, a solo practitioner who earlier worked as a labor and employment lawyer for Hatcher, Stubbs, Land, Hollis & Rothschild. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1998.
- Julia Slater, Chattahoochee Circuit district attorney. She earned her law degree from Washington & Lee University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.
- Alonza Whitaker, chief assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from Creighton University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.
- Mark Wortham, of counsel at Hall Booth Smith's Columbus office whose practice includes medical malpractice and appeals. Wortham graduated from law school at Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 1986.
- LaRae Dixon Moore, senior assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit who ran for Superior Court in 2012 but lost to incumbent Judge Arthur Smith III. She graduated from law school at Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1995.
- Sadhana Pandey Dailey, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.
- Jennifer Dunlap, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 2005.
- Rebecca Crowley, a lawyer practicing elder and fiduciary law. She earned her law degree from Georgia State University and was admitted to the bar in 1996. She also is married to state Sen. Josh McKoon's law partner in Columbus, Scott Crowley.
- Rachelle Denise Hunter, a public defender in Columbus. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 2003.
- Ben Richardson, solicitor-general for Columbus and Muscogee County. He was named solicitor-general of the year for 2008 by the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia. He earned his law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1992.
- Peter Hoffman, a bankruptcy lawyer in Columbus. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1987.
- Danielle Forte, assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. She earned her law degree from Emory University and was admitted to the bar in 1996.
- Steven Douglas Smith, Columbus Municipal Court Judge and chief magistrate for Muscogee County. He earned his law degree from the University of

Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1978.

- Raymond Tillery Jr., a solo practitioner in Columbus specializing in family, military and veterans' affairs law. He is also an Army veteran who remains in the JAG Army Reserve. He earned his law degree from West Virginia University and was admitted to the bar in 1993.
- Maureen Gottfried, a Muscogee County State Court judge since 1996. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the bar in 1986.
- Cynthia Maisano, a solo practitioner in Columbus who ran for Municipal Court in 2012 but lost in a runoff with incumbent Judge Steven Smith. She also is a judge in the Recorder's Court of Columbus and Muscogee County. She earned her law degree from Howard University and was admitted to the bar in 1998.
- E. Wayne Jernigan Jr., assistant district attorney for the Chattahoochee Circuit. He earned his law degree from John Marshall and was admitted to the bar in 1996.
- Savannah Potter-Miller, a former administrative law judge and current solo practitioner. She earned her law degree from Rutgers University and was admitted to the bar in 1974.
- Don Riddick, a contract and negotiations executive with IBM. He earned his law degree from the University of Southern California and was admitted to the bar in 2011.


There were 23 nominations made to the JNC for the posts, but one nominee, John Patrick Partin, an attorney with Hirsch & Partin, did not submit an application. Partin said earlier this month that he had not been aware anyone had nominated him.

One of the vacancies in the Chattahoochee Circuit arose when Superior Court Chief Judge John Allen announced he would retire at the end of this month. The other vacancy, as well as the one in the Oconee Circuit, arose from legislation approved last session by the Georgia General Assembly to create new judgeships to address the circuits' growing caseloads.

The JNC also will interview all eight nominees for the judicial vacancy in the Oconee County Circuit. All nominees submitted applications. They are:

- Howard Kaufold Jr., a partner at Kaufold & Everett in Vidalia. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1978.
- Steven Harrison, a circuit public defender in Eastman. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1982.
- C. Michael Johnson, a solo general practitioner in Eastman and special assistant attorney general. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1986.
- Ramsey Way Jr., a general practice attorney at Way & Way in Hawkinsville. He graduated law school at Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1990.
- John Harrington, a trial lawyer at Smith & Harrington in Eastman who is also the attorney for Dodge County. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1984.
- Catherine Leek Williams, assistant federal defender of the Middle District of Georgia. She earned her law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 2000.
- Gregory Oberry, a prosecutor in the Oconee Circuit district attorney's office. He earned his law degree from John Marshall and was admitted to the bar in 2004.
- Mark Straughan, a lawyer at Straughan & Straughan in McRae. He earned his law degree from Mercer University and was admitted to the bar in 1982.



Contributor: Kathleen Baydala Joyner in [Judges, Judicial Nominating Commission](#) | [subscribe to rss](#) |  share

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Website

Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice to visit UGA

Staff Reports
news@onlineathens.com

Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens will speak next week at the University of Georgia.

The UGA School of Law will play host to Stevens on Nov. 6.

Stevens will be the keynote speaker for a daylong conference titled "The Press and the Constitution: 50 Years after *New York Times v. Sullivan*."

Sponsored by the student-edited law journal the *Georgia Law Review*, the main portion of the conference will begin at 8 a.m. in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall.

Through three panel sessions, a group of scholars will explore different perspectives on the U.S. Supreme court's 1964 Sullivan decision, the complicated relationship between the court and the First Amendment's freedom of the press clause, and the future of the press clause in light of changes in media and technology. Additionally, a luncheon presentation will be given by David G. Savage, U.S. Supreme Court correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times*.

Stevens, who sat on the bench of the Supreme Court from 1975 to 2010, will deliver the keynote address for the conference at 1:30 p.m. in the UGA Chapel, where he

See **RETIRED** on A2



Photos by Richard Hamm/Staff

Main: Ebony Harvey (right) helps Neka Watkins strategize during a chess match at Little Italy in downtown Athens.

Bottom left and right: A group gathers at Little Italy. The event is organized every third Friday of the month by Lemuel LaRoche, an area social worker.

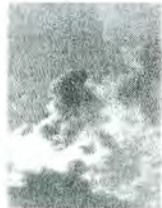


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FORECAST



74° 52°

FULL DETAILS, PAGE 2

BH75



Winterville sub

By Lee Shearer
lee.shearer@onlineathens.com

WINTERVILLE — The new owner of a huge failed subdivision in Winterville wants to reverse the subdivision process, combining 120 half-acre building lots into seven much larger lots.

Each lot would be placed into 10-year programs that allow for lower property taxes as long as owners don't develop the property during that time.

Neighbors said they favor the plan during a public hearing Monday at Winterville City Hall.

But both the Athens doctor who owns the land, Michael Shuler, and the Winterville Planning and Zoning Commission

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on Nov. 13, planning and zoning commission Chairman George Chandler told a crowd of about 30 people

• Follow education reporter Lee Shearer at www.facebook.com/LeeShearerABH or <https://twitter.com/LeeShearer>.

RETIRED from A1

will discuss "Originalism and History." Participants who register for the conference may select to only attend the keynote discussion, if desired.

"We are delighted and honored that Justice Stevens will take the time to join us as we explore the implications of the Supreme Court's Sullivan decision 50 years after this landmark ruling," said Lindsay S. Jones, a third-year law student and conference co-organizer. "Sullivan is famous for dramatically altering the law of defamation. However, its importance does not stop there."

She added that the court's decision sparked widespread debate about constitutional protections for

individuals and the press in a variety of situations.

"Crucial to these inquiries was the question of the meaning of the First Amendment's press clause in relation to its free speech clause, which is still debated widely today by scholars, journalists, practitioners and the justices themselves," Jones said. "We are excited to continue the debate during what I am confident will be an informative conference for all who attend."

To register for the conference, or for more information, please see www.law.uga.edu/georgia-law-review-symposia.

The event is free and open to the public, but pre-registration by Monday is requested. Backpacks will not be allowed into the Chapel during the address.

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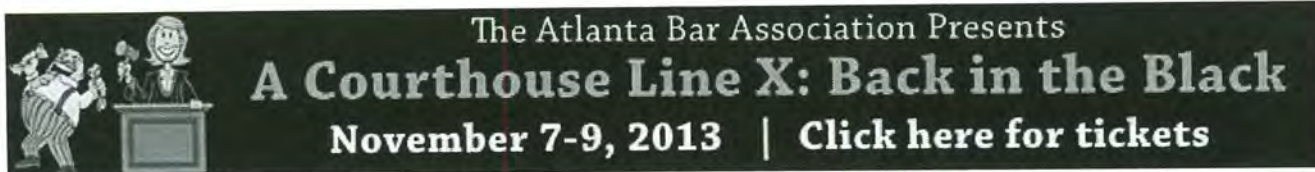
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Bargain Matinees Daily Before 6 PM
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Roy Barnes: Independent Panels Should Draw Voting Districts

Kathleen Baydala Joyner

Daily Report

2013-10-29 00:00:09.0

A former warrior in Georgia's gerrymandering battles told a law school audience that Congress should require independent commissions to redraw legislative and congressional district lines rather than allow state lawmakers to continue the practice.

Former Gov. Roy Barnes had not focused on redistricting in his half-hour speech Friday at the Georgia Association of Law and Politics Symposium hosted in Athens by UGA's law school. Rather, his proposal was prompted by a question from Georgia Court of Appeals Judge Billy Ray II, a former Republican state senator who referred to a recent news report on the rise of majority party districts and their contribution to government gridlock.

"I will tell you, we've got to do something because we're the laughingstock" of the world, Barnes said, noting the recent federal government shutdown. "Something has to be done to equalize these districts or there won't be change in Congress. There are just a very few seats in play."

Barnes recalled how he and Democratic leaders in the Legislature took heat following their 2001 redistricting plan that was found to have marginalized black voters in violation of the Voting Rights Act while trying to strengthen Democratic strongholds in the state General Assembly. The redistricting led to a U.S. Supreme Court battle in *Georgia v. Ashcroft*, in which the high court ruled 5-4 in 2003 that the lower court should take another look at the maps. A federal panel eventually struck down the House and Senate maps in 2004, deeming them "baldly unconstitutional" because they violated the one person, one vote standard established in the 1964 U.S. Supreme Court case *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533.

"It was not my finest hour," Barnes acknowledged, "the gerrymandering that went on after the 2000 census. And neither has it been the finest hour of those who came after me."

But Barnes noted that the man who unseated him in 2002, Republican Gov. Sonny Perdue, also advocated for independent commissions.

Perdue, in an article published in February 2007 by [AccessNorthGa.com](#), said a seven-member appointed council should recommend new district lines to the Legislature. According to Perdue's plan, which was suggested to him by an 11-member task force he created in 2006, Republican and Democratic leaders in the state House and Senate would appoint four of the council's members. The governor would appoint two—only one of whom could be a member of the

governor's political party—and the seventh would be chosen at large by the council.

Perdue's former gubernatorial spokesman, Bert Brantley, said via Twitter on Friday that Perdue still supports the idea of an independent commission to reduce partisanship in the redistricting process and often talks about "the dangers of extreme districts."

The crux of Barnes' speech at the symposium was the need for better leadership in politics and law. He pointed to Atlanta's rise as the seat of the South, contrasting it with Birmingham, Ala., which was poised to be a bigger, more important city because of its roots in the steel industry. However, Birmingham's struggle with integration kept it from reaching its potential in the 1960s, Barnes said.

Barnes also lamented the low numbers of lawyers in the Georgia General Assembly, particularly in the judiciary committees.

"I think there ought to be two or three non-lawyers on there. They give a good perspective," Barnes said. "But I look at some of the things that have been drafted now—and I know I have a critical eye—and they are just horrible."

Lawyers are critical in the bill-drafting stage especially because of their knowledge of the law, its history and its technicalities.

"One of the things that always happened when we'd get a new legislator [was] they'd come up with a wonderful idea and draft legislation, and they'd ask me about it. I'd say, 'Yeah. We tried that about 25 years ago. Let me tell you what's wrong with it,'" Barnes recalled.

Barnes, who became the state Senate's youngest member when he was elected in 1974 at age 26, served as the chamber's Judiciary Committee chairman and was floor leader under Gov. Joe Harris. Barnes attempted to run for governor in 1990 but was defeated by then-Lt. Gov. Zell Miller. He then secured a seat in the state House and was elected to the Governor's Office in 1998.

Barnes joked that he's never shied away from unpopular ideas, especially now that he is retired from politics and working in private practice.

During his one term as governor, Barnes pushed for the Legislature to remove the Confederate symbol from the state flag, which proved to be a controversial and contentious move. He recalled prevailing upon opposing lawmakers to vote for the change.

"What are you going to tell your grandchild?" he recalled asking them. "Folks back home said they'll burn your barn down? Is that the reason you got elected [to do what's popular], or is the reason to make tough decisions even though it will end your political career?"



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Attorney Fatally Wounded In Bicycle Accident Near Monroe



GDO Report



MONROE - A Macon attorney died Sunday evening after he fatally wounded by a car while riding his bicycle in Monroe.

Walter Leggett died a little after 8 p.m. at Central Georgia Medical Center in Macon. Mr. Leggett, 61, lived in Macon and began riding his bike about 4 p.m. that afternoon. Four hours later - he attempted to turn left onto Heritage Drive

from U.S. 41 and was struck by a Lincoln Town Car being driven by a 78-year-old Ahmad Rasheed of Macon.

Leggett, 61, had practiced law for more than 30 years and specialized in estate planning, probate and elder law.

He graduated from the University of Georgia School of Law after graduating 'Suma Cum Laude' at UGA with a Bachelor of Arts in political science, according to his website.

He had been an ordained deacon at Mabel White Memorial Baptist Church and served in the Army National Guard for eight years before his honorable discharge as captain.

In recent years, Mr. Leggett opened his own office on Vineville Avenue in Monroe.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane, and his three children, one of whom is a Monroe County deputy.

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Emory Law Grads Post Highest Bar Pass Rate

Meredith Hobbs

Daily Report

2013-10-30 00:00:06.0

Emory University led the pack in the percent of law school graduates passing the State Bar of Georgia's July exam, just barely nudging out the [University of Georgia](#).

At Emory, 96.5 percent of first-time bar exam-takers passed the July exam, closely followed by UGA, with a pass rate of 96.3 percent for first-time exam-takers, according to results just released by the Georgia Office of Bar Admissions.

Georgia State University was third at 94.7 percent. Mercer was fourth at 87 percent, trailed by John Marshall Law School with 67.1 percent.

There were 765 first-time exam-takers from Georgia's five ABA-accredited law schools. Their overall pass rate was 88.8 percent.

The pass rate for licensed lawyers from out of state was 88.5 percent. That compared to a pass rate of only 80.9 percent for the 457 first-time exam-takers who are graduates of ABA-accredited law schools in other states.

Of repeaters, only 44.8 percent passed.

The 88.8 percent July pass rate is slightly lower than that of a year ago, when 89.8 percent of first-timers from accredited Georgia law schools passed the state bar exam.

Last year, Emory was again first, with a 98.4 percent pass rate for first-time exam-takers, and GSU (95 percent) was second. Mercer (93.1 percent) and UGA (93.2 percent) tied for third, followed by John Marshall (64.3 percent).

For a complete list of all those who passed the July bar exam, consult our Daily Report Oct 30th issue or [click here to view online](#).

10/30/13

LOCAL NEWS

'Garden of Good & Evil' murder resonates in Athens three decades later

By JOE JOHNSON updated Wednesday, October 30, 2013 - 11:25pm

After three decades, the ghost of Danny Hansford still haunts the Mercer House in Savannah.

Two juries concluded that he was murdered by antiques dealer and preservationist Jim Williams in what some called a lover's quarrel. A third trial ended with a hung jury and a fourth acquitted Williams, who claimed that in 1981 he shot and killed Hansford in self-defense.

Though long removed in time, the sensational murder case that spawned the best-selling book "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" and a hit movie by the same name has ties to Athens.

Frank W. "Sonny" Seiler, breeder of the long line of Uga mascot bulldogs for the University of Georgia's football team, represented Williams in three of the trials.

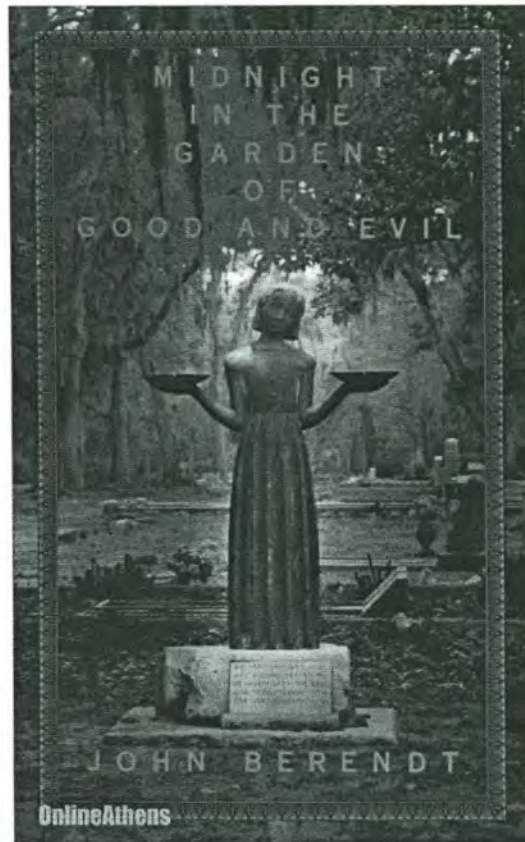
Then-chief assistant district attorney for Chatham County, David Lock helped to prosecute Williams, and he is now an assistant district attorney in the Western Judicial Circuit, which includes Clarke and Oconee counties.

Though both attorneys graduated from UGA's School of Law and were involved in the "Good and Evil" murder case, they don't know each other socially.

"Like other lawyers, I saw David Lock all the time, and if we spoke on the street I guarantee it would be about the Bulldogs and not Jim Williams or the book," Seiler said.

Lock, who began prosecuting in the Athens area after losing an election to become Chatham County's district attorney, was reluctant to discuss his role in the trial.

"In regard to the Williams case, I handled most of the appellate matters through the four trials," Lock said in an email. "I assisted (District



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Attorney Spencer) Lawton in the third and fourth trials of the case.

"I cannot be of assistance in answering your questions in regard to the book and the movie, which were released several years after the trials," Lock said. "As reports concerning the book belied its status as nonfiction, I never read the book, nor viewed the movie."

The book that was authored by John Berendt set a record for remaining on *The New York Times* best-seller list for 216 weeks after its 1994 debut. It portrayed Savannah in Southern Gothic tones with a range of eccentric personalities serving as backdrop to the highly publicized murder case.

Unlike Lock, Seiler was more than happy to recollect the case that put his hometown on the map as a tourist destination.

The killing took place in Williams' home, the Mercer House. The mansion was one of the more than 50 homes he restored in Savannah's historic district and the lowcountry of Georgia and South Carolina. The house is named after General Hugh Mercer, its original owner and grandfather of composer Johnny Mercer. Many of the movie's scenes were shot there.

Williams, a semi-closeted homosexual, each year threw extravagant Christmas parties at the Mercer House, an event that many in Savannah's high society hoped to be invited to.

"You had a prominent businessman who was responsible for renovating many of Savannah's historic houses, and to have a shooting like that take place in the mansion that was owned by Johnny Mercer's grandparents, all the elements to sensationalize it were there," Seiler said. "The news media really built it up."

After Williams was convicted in the first trial in 1982, the Georgia Supreme Court overturned the verdict on appeal and a new trial was ordered.

Seiler, a skilled civil litigator, said he became Williams' new defense attorney by default.

The lead defense attorney at the time was Bobby Lee Cook — thought to be the inspiration for Matlock, the television lawyer who never lost a case. Seiler was familiar with many facts of the case because he already was representing Williams in a lawsuit filed by Hansford's mother that sought millions of dollars.

"Jim had used a local lawyer to assist Bobby Lee Cook in the initial trial, and I don't know why, but Jim didn't think he did a good job," Seiler said. "So Jim asked Bobby, 'How about Sonny, because he knows this case?'"

After Seiler joined the defense team, and soon before the second trial was to begin, Cook had a conflict from which he could not excuse himself. A federal judge in Florida would not grant him leave from a major drug case



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so that he could represent Williams in the second trial.

"That left me in the No. 1 chair, and with the beginning of the trial just a month away I had a hell of a time getting the judge to give me extra time to prepare," Seiler said.

Seiler never doubted Williams' innocence and said that his client was convicted by a local jury that was drawn from a community that didn't like gays.

"They were trying him for being homosexual, and the local press did a terrible hatchet job, characterizing Hansford's killing as a lover's quarrel between a smart, affluent guy taking advantage of a nobody," the attorney said.

At 21, Hansford was less than half the age of 50-year-old Williams.

"Jim and Danny did have a relationship, and it came out in trial evidence that he hired Hansford off (the) street and was teaching him a trade where he did restoration of antiques," Seiler said. "Hansford was learning an honorable craft and he was proving to be a very diligent worker, but he just wouldn't leave the drugs and liquor alone."

Prosecutors argued that after Williams shot and killed Hansford, he staged the crime scene to make it appear he returned fire in self-defense, placing a gun he had fired under Hansford's hand as he lay dead on the floor.

Seiler maintained that Hansford was a heavy-drinking hot-head who stormed into Williams' study in a rage and shot at him, missing three times, and that Williams pulled a gun from his desk draw and returned fire, killing Hansford.

Like Cook before him, Seiler lost the second trial, but successfully appealed to the state Supreme Court. The conviction was overturned on grounds a detective should not have been allowed to testify as an expert witness that the crime scene had been staged, and the prosecutor waited until his closing argument to introduce evidence.

Prior to the third trial, Seiler subpoenaed records from the hospital where Hansford was taken to from the crime scene. The hospital disclosed an admitting record that suggested that Hansford's hands were not bagged when he was brought to the hospital.

Taping paper bags over the hands of shooting victims is standard procedure for preserving possible gunshot residue, or evidence that they fired a weapon.

Seiler located the nurse who had signed the document and she said that while the body was still at the hospital, she received a telephone call from the medical examiner instructing her to bag Hansford's hands. At the third trial, the nurse testified that she had put plastic garbage can liners around Hansford's hands before the body was removed for the autopsy. An expert testified for the defense that plastic bags create moisture, which could have washed away any residue.

That trial ended in a mistrial, with a lone hold-out juror adamantly

insisting she saw reasonable doubt that Williams had murdered Hansford and would not be dissuaded.

Seiler was then able to convince the judge that a change of venue was needed, and the fourth trial was held in Augusta in 1989.

"When picking the jury, we'd strike people who were prejudiced against gays and we got a the jury seated in one day with people who said they didn't know a damn thing about Jim Williams or anything else," Seiler said.

Seiler presented another hospital employee who corroborated the nurse's testimony that Hansford's hands were not bagged until after he arrived at the hospital.

"If they could prove that Hansford never fired a weapon, we couldn't prove it was self-defense," the attorney said. "Our evidence that showed that his hands were not properly bagged sealed the deal for an acquittal."

Williams didn't get to enjoy his freedom for very long. In January 1990, six months after the trial, he died from pneumonia and heart failure at home, in the foyer outside of the office where Danny Hansford was shot.

As the infamous case and Williams' life came to an end, so did a chapter of the Georgia port city's history.

"Jim Williams had a lifestyle people didn't cotton to in those days, but the social attitude of Savannah certainly has changed since we first tried the case," Seiler said. "It would be fair to say that Savannah has a class of people who cling to historical places and issues and protect it jealously, and I'm glad they do. Unlike other sleepy Southern cities that grew up fast, we've grown slowly since 1733."

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Bar to Name Federal Prosecutor to JQC

R. Robin McDonald

Daily Report

2013-10-31 00:00:08.0

The State Bar of Georgia on Saturday will name an assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted two South Georgia judges on public corruption charges as its newest appointee to the state Judicial Qualifications Commission.

State Bar President Charles "Buck" Ruffin said he will seek unanimous consent from the bar's board of governors for the appointment of Graham Thorpe, an assistant U.S. attorney in the Middle District of Georgia in Macon, to a four-year term on the state judicial disciplinary agency.

Thorpe will replace Brunswick attorney and former bar president James Durham, whose term expires Thursday, as one of the bar's three JQC appointees. Its other two appointees are JQC chairman Robert Ingram and vice chairman S. Lester Tate, both former bar presidents.

Ruffin said he has known Thorpe for 20 years. "There is no one more thoughtful and level-headed," he said, predicting Thorpe will be "a calming influence and a deliberative influence on the JQC."

Thorpe earned his law degree at the University of Georgia and worked as a prosecutor for the Bibb County district attorney for 27 years, rising to become the office's chief assistant DA, Ruffin said. After retiring as an assistant DA, Graham was named an assistant U.S. attorney by F. Maxwell Wood, then the U.S. Attorney of the Middle District of Georgia. Thorpe's name has twice been on a list of potential nominees for Macon Circuit Superior Court.

As an assistant U.S. attorney, Thorpe was a member of a team of attorneys who prosecuted Brooks Blitch III, the former chief superior court judge of the Alapaha Judicial Circuit. He also prosecuted Judge Berrien Sutton, a former Alapaha state and juvenile court judge, and other court personnel as part of a wide-ranging public corruption investigation. Ruffin said Thorpe joined the case after Blitch and Sutton were indicted.

Blitch and Sutton, both of whom resigned their judgeships in 2007 while under investigation by the JQC, pleaded guilty to honest services fraud in 2009. Their pleas and convictions were set aside in 2011 after the U.S. Supreme Court restricted honest services fraud to cases where defendants had participated in a bribery or kickback scheme.

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International Human Rights Expert to Speak on Muslim Fundamentalism

Her scholarship examines international law, international human rights, terrorism, counterterrorism, religious extremism and women's rights.

Posted by Rebecca McCarthy (Editor), October 31, 2013 at 04:11 PM

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Karima Bennoune

By Stephanie E. Ackerstein

Karima Bennoune, international human rights expert and University of California, Davis, School of Law professor, will discuss Muslim fundamentalism at the University of Georgia Chapel on Nov. 14 at 4 p.m. The event is part of UGA's Spotlight on the Arts Festival and is free and open to the public.

Bennoune's talk will be based on her recently published book "Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here: Untold Stories From the Fight Against Muslim Fundamentalism." The book addresses resistance to fundamentalism through accounts of interviews of more than 280

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resistance through various forms of artistic expression. Bennoune conducted the interviews in Algeria, where she was born, and many other countries throughout the world.

Her scholarship, which examines international law, international human rights, terrorism, counterterrorism, religious extremism and women's rights, has appeared in journals such as the American Journal of International Law, the Berkeley Journal of International Law, the Columbia Journal of Transnational Law, the European Journal of International Law and the Michigan Journal of International Law. In 2008, Oxford University Press named Bennoune's piece "Terror/Torture" one of the year's top 10 global security law review articles.

Bennoune has served as a member of the executive council of the American Society of International Law and on the board of directors of Amnesty International USA. She is currently on the board of the Women Living Under Muslim Laws network.

Before coming to UC Davis, Bennoune was a law professor and a Dickson Scholar at the Rutgers School of Law-Newark, where she taught international law and human rights for 10 years. She also served as a legal adviser at Amnesty International in London and as a Center for Women's Global Leadership delegate to the Nongovernmental Organization Forum at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, where she provided legal advice to the Tribunal for Global Accountability for Violations of Women's Human Rights.

Bennoune earned her law degree and master's degree, as well as a graduate certificate in women's studies, from the University of Michigan.

This event is presented as part of the Jane and Harry Willson Center for Humanities and Arts' Global Georgia Initiative. It is co-sponsored by the UGA School of Law's Dean Rusk Center, the Institute for African Studies and the law school's Georgia Society for International and Comparative Law.

The goal of the Global Georgia Initiative is to present global problems in local context by addressing pressing contemporary questions—including the economy, society and the environment—with a focus on how the arts and humanities can intervene. For more information on the Global Georgia Initiative, click here.

The Spotlight on the Arts festival is presented by the UGA Arts Council, of which the Willson Center is a participating unit. More than 60 events are scheduled during the nine-day festival in November. More details can be found by clicking here. at .

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Bar to Name Federal Prosecutor to JQC

By R. Robin McDonald **Contact** **All Articles**

Daily Report October 31, 2013

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10/31/13

UGA

Roe v. Wade still controversial 40 years later

By LEE SHEARER updated Thursday, October 31, 2013 - 10:14pm

The year 1973 was big in U.S. history.

Vietnam War veterans were coming home, the federal Endangered Species Act was a new step in environmental protection, and Congress held the Watergate hearings that resulted in the resignation of President Richard Nixon and the indictments of some 40 government officials.

It was also the year the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark abortion case.

The high court decided a woman's decision on whether to have an abortion was a private decision, protected by the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of liberty, UGA law professor Randy Beck told about 50 people gathered in the University of Georgia's Richard B. Russell Building to talk about *Roe v. Wade* this week. But the justices ruled 7-2 that the right to privacy from the government had to be balanced against legitimate government interests in protecting the health of the mother and prenatal life, Beck said.

The court also defined the time limit on abortion as "viability," the time when a fetus can survive outside the womb. That was about 28 weeks in 1973, but thanks to factors such as advances in medical technology, it's down to 24 weeks now, he said.

But the court left many questions unanswered, partly by choosing the elusive idea of "viability" as the time limit, he said.

The viability line justices drew remains controversial, but it's nothing unusual for the court to draw lines. It's part of their job, said another UGA law professor, Lori Ringhand.

"Courts draw a line. Sometimes that means drawing a line just because you need a line," she said.

Some argue that the words "privacy" and "abortion" do not appear in the Constitution, or that courts should leave moral decisions to elected lawmakers. But many of those arguments just don't hold up, Ringhand



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said.

“We protect all kinds of rights, many of which are not remotely controversial, even though the words are not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution,” Ringhand said.

The issue of gender equity didn’t come up during hearings on Roe v. Wade, a case challenging a Texas law that made abortion a crime, except to protect the life of the pregnant woman. But it might today, Ringhand said.

The discussion was part of the Russell Library for Political Research and Studies’ series of events focused on the events of 1973. The library has also mounted an exhibit in its Hull Street galleries noting the year’s big changes.

After Beck and Ringhand briefed participants on the decision and some of its aftermath, audience members talked among themselves, trying to answer a set of questions posed by Russell Library archivist Jan Levinson.

Participants thought about how would they have ruled, what factors they would take into consideration, and how would they justify their decisions.

“The should have defined viability a little more clearly,” said one.

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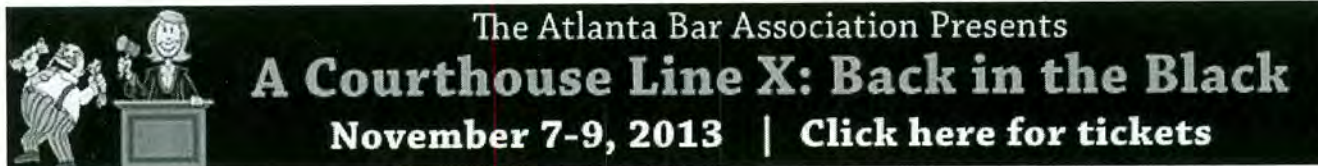
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Former White House staffer Lawton Jordan III to Join Ga. Ethics Commission

Christina A. Cassidy

The Associated Press

2013-10-25 00:00:00.0

ATLANTA (AP) — Gov. Nathan Deal has appointed attorney and former White House staffer **Lawton Jordan III** to the state ethics commission, filling the lone Democratic seat on a board confronting lawsuits and claims of misconduct.

Jordan, in an interview with The Associated Press, said he accepted the appointment Thursday. He said he's aware of concerns surrounding the commission and is approaching the position with an open mind. The governor's office confirmed the appointment, which was expected to be made public Friday.

"I have to be objective and fair and not bring any preconceived notions to this and that is what I'm going to do," Jordan said.

The state ethics commission has been dealing with the fallout of two lawsuits by former employees alleging retaliation for their handling of ethics complaints involving the governor. The board has requested the state auditor handle an outside investigation of the agency, including any allegations of mismanagement or misconduct by state employees.

The FBI has also been speaking with at least one current commission employee, although it's unknown if there is any active investigation. The FBI has declined comment.

Jordan declined to address concerns raised this week by fellow Democrats who feel the state auditor is not suited to handle the outside investigation.

"Since I haven't joined the commission yet and I really haven't studied those issues, I don't think it would be appropriate to comment on that," Jordan said.

A corporate attorney, Jordan served as associate director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs during the Clinton administration and later as Southern political director for former Vice President Al Gore's presidential campaign. He worked as chief legal counsel to the Democratic caucus in the Georgia Senate and also spent a few years in the government affairs practice of McKenna, Long & Aldridge before joining the firm of Davis, Matthews & Quigley, P.C.

His uncle was Hamilton Jordan, who ran Jimmy Carter's presidential bid and who later served as Carter's chief of staff. Hamilton Jordan died in 2008.

After graduating from Wake Forest University, Lawton Jordan went to Washington. At the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, he started as an intern and worked his way up to associate director working in the West Wing. After graduating law school at the University of Georgia, Jordan joined Gore's presidential campaign and ended up in Florida counting ballots during the 2000 recount.

Jordan said his experiences make him well suited to serve on the ethics commission.

"When I was at McKenna, I was a registered lobbyist so I understand to a large extent what the ethics commission does and what it is supposed to do," Jordan said. "I also worked in the legislature, for the Senate Minority Caucus so I understand what the pressures are on political figures. I think I will bring a perspective that is useful."

Joining the commission, Jordan will immediately confront a host of issues. In the lawsuits pending against the commission by two former employees, allegations have been made against the commission's current executive secretary, Holly LaBerge.

Among those called to provide depositions in the civil cases was Elisabeth Murray-Oberlein, staff attorney for the ethics commission who was hired by LaBerge. In recent weeks, Murray-Oberlein has aired concerns about her boss, saying LaBerge had on more than one occasion said the governor "owes her" for taking care of ethics complaints that involved his campaign finance reports and personal financial disclosures.

The claims, first reported by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, brought a scathing response from Deal who said he doesn't know LaBerge and doesn't owe her anything. LaBerge's attorney, Mike Brown, has said his client treated the Deal complaints in a "fair and impartial way, as she would have treated complaints involving anyone else."

In her deposition, LaBerge — a former lobbyist for the Georgia Public Defender's Standards Council — said she was initially contacted by the governor's office to see if she was interested in the executive secretary position. Deal has said it's common for his office to recommend potential candidates for state positions, even though the agency is independent of the executive branch.

Murray-Oberlein has said she initially recommended up to \$70,000 in fines against Deal and thought a few of the cases needed further investigation. Eventually, Deal agreed to pay \$3,350 in administrative fees to settle the complaints.

Jordan, 42, replaces Kent Alexander, a former federal prosecutor who stepped down last month.

"Mr. Jordan is an excellent selection, and I appreciate his answering the call to serve," said ethics commission Chairman Kevin Abernethy. "He will be an excellent commissioner, and I welcome him aboard."

Jordan said he feels confident he will remain objective.

"You can look at my record, and I'm obviously a Democrat," Jordan said. "Neither my political leanings nor the fact that the governor has appointed me is going to affect my objectivity on the commission."



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10/31/13

The American Law Institute Elects Trevor Potter Among Its New Members

October 31, 2013

Please visit The American Law Institute's [website](#) for the complete press release.**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****CONTACT:**Shannon P. Duffy
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PHILADELPHIA—The American Law Institute (ALI) today announced the election of 69 new members. This group includes highly accomplished individuals in many areas of the law, recognized both nationally and internationally. We welcome to membership 15 jurists, 29 practicing lawyers, and 25 scholars from 24 states and the District of Columbia, and one new international member from Austria.

Short biographical sketches of each of the new members are on the [Newly Elected Members](#) page on ALI's website.

Election of these members raises ALI's total number of elected members to 2,760.*

The new members are:

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Ronald J. Krotoszynski, Jr., Tuscaloosa – Professor, University of Alabama School of Law

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William C. Canby, Jr., Phoenix – Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
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Joseph A. Kanefield, Phoenix – Partner, Ballard Spahr
Barak Orbach, Tucson – Professor, University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law

California

Nathaniel Persily, Palo Alto – Professor, Stanford Law School
Conrad L. Rushing, San Jose – Presiding Justice, California Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District
Kathleen Smalley, Los Angeles – Partner, Boies, Schiller & Flexner

Connecticut

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Patricia A. McCoy, Farmington – Director, Insurance Law Center, University of Connecticut School of Law
Paul A. Slager, Stamford – Partner, Silver Golub & Teitell

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E. Mark Braden – Partner, Baker & Hostetler
Julie S. Brill – Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission
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Walter Dellinger III – Partner, O'Melveny & Myers
Meg Kinnear – Secretary-General, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
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Stephen G. Morrison, Columbia – Partner, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough**

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Joseph B. Bluemel, Kemmerer – Partner, Bluemel Law Office

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* The Institute's elected membership of lawyers, judges, and law professors is limited to 3,000. The total membership of more than 4,300 includes ex officio members, honorary members, and life members (those elected members who have attained more than 25 years).

** Stephen Morrison was elected to the American Law Institute on October 18, 2013, but sadly died on October 27 while traveling on business. We send our condolences to his wife, Dr. Gail Morrison and his son, Gregory, and to his colleagues at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough.