Class Notes items listed were received between April 2, 2005, and November 1, 2005. Information received after November 1, 2005, will appear in the next issue of the Advocate.

1930s
Aaron Cohn (1938) of Columbus, GA, received the 2005 Bill Hartman Award.

1940s
Frank S. Cheatham Jr. (1948) of Savannah, GA, was honored by having the Judge Frank Cheatham Professionalism Award established by the Savannah Bar Association.

1950s
Ben L. Weinberg Jr. (1952) of Atlanta, GA, received the Tradition of Excellence Award from the General Practice and Trial Section of the State Bar of Georgia. Charles J. Driebe (1958) of Atlanta, GA, was appointed to the Standing Committee on Gavel Awards by the American Bar Association. Norman S. Fletcher (1958) of Rome, GA, was awarded the Georgia Excellence in Public Service Award by Gov. Sonny Perdue. He serves on the UGA Arch Foundation Board and now practices with the firm Brinson, Askew, Berry, Scigler, Richardson & Davis.

1960s

1970 – 1974
Wade C. Hoyt III (1971) of Rome, GA, was elected to the Heritage First Bank Board of Directors. G. Terry Jackson (1971) of Savannah, GA, was elected president of the Savannah Bar Association. William J. Stembler (1971) of St. Simons, GA, received the 2005 “Show E” Award in recognition of his achievements and accomplishments and outstanding dedication and commitment to the betterment of the motion picture industry.

1975 – 1979

1980 – 1984
the Children and Youth Coordinating Council by Gov. Sonny Perdue. **Gale G. Evans** (1982) of Mableton, GA, was named partner in the Atlanta office of the firm Seyfarth Shaw. **Laurie A. Fowler** (1983) of Athens, GA, received the 2005 Outstanding Service Award from the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia. **Wade W. Herring II** (1983) of Savannah, GA, was appointed to the Georgia State Bar Investigative Panel by the Supreme Court of Georgia. **Gail L. Parenti** (1983) of Miami, FL, was installed as president of the Florida Defense Lawyers Association for 2005. **Gregory A. Adams** (1984) of Stone Mountain, GA, was honored by staff members for his 10 years of service to the DeKalb County Juvenile Court by having his portrait hung in the DeKalb Juvenile Court building. **Dorinda G. Dallmeyer** (1984) of Danielsville, GA, was appointed by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Research Council to a national committee evaluating the impact of fisheries on coastal and ocean ecosystems. She also received special recognition from the Southern Environmental Law Center for her book *Elemental South: An Anthology of Southern Nature Writing* and won the SELC advocacy category for her essay “Waiting for a Train.” **Michael C. Daniel** (1984) of Athens, GA, established the firm Prior & Daniel. **S. Richard Gard Jr.** (1984) of Atlanta, GA, was named president and publishing executive of Dolan Media Company’s Missouri publishing operation, including *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*, the *St. Louis Daily Record* and the *Kansas City Daily Record*. **Cary Ichter** (1984) of Atlanta, GA, announced with his wife Kimberly the birth of Katherine Blaire on May 16, 2005. His recent professional accomplishments include listings in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005-*.

**Stephanie Brunner Tillman: Hometown girl**

Georgia Law alumna Stephanie Brunner Tillman (J.D.’95) balances her professional life and her personal one in a rather unique way – choosing to counteract the hectic variety her career brings on a daily basis with the stability of surroundings she has known her entire life.

Tillman, who has been named to *Georgia Trend’s* Top 40 Under 40, an annual list of the state’s best and brightest young professionals, works in the legal department of Flowers Foods. Headquartered in Tillman’s hometown of Thomasville, Ga., Flowers is a Fortune 500 company publicly-traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

She serves as a compliance officer for Flowers, working to ensure the company abides by all federal, state and local laws and regulations that govern the business. Additionally, she functions as associate general counsel for the company, providing advice and legal counsel to the management teams of the corporate headquarters and business units.

Tillman said the most important aspect of her job involves communication – by phone, e-mail and in person. “I am in constant communication everyday with our corporate staff and the management of our business units, helping to give advice to those individuals who run the company,” she said. “This function of my job has really helped me develop strong relationships within Flowers, and I am very proud of the comfort level and confidence others who work for the company have in coming to me with any legal problems they might have.”

However, this ever-present element remains the only constant in Tillman’s career. There is no such thing as a “typical day at the office” for her, a factor that is one of her favorite aspects of the job. “I see all different types of law – compliance, employment, general corporate and trademark,” she explained. “I get to be a part of virtually every legal aspect of the business, and I think that is the beauty of my position.”

Tillman has worked with Flowers’ legal department since the summer before her third year of law school and was thrilled to return to her native Thomasville for career purposes. She said, “I love Thomasville and really wanted to go back home and be a part of the community I grew up in. My family, my friends and my heart are here, and it is wonderful to be able to come back home to work.”

Tillman sincerely enjoys her position working for a big company in a small-town environment as well as in a field that has allowed her to attain both the variety she thrives on and the comfort of a community she knows and loves.

- *Kristin Kissiah*
Chad S. Kelly: Finding the perfect fit

Before entering law school, Chad S. Kelly (J.D.’02) was—and still is—a Certified Public Accountant. Law was a second career for Kelly, who now manages the Time Warner internal audit function assigned to Turner Broadcasting System. The group undertakes audits, reviews and special projects at all of Turner’s divisions, including TNT, TBS, CNN, Turner Classic Movies, the Cartoon Network, Turner South and the Braves.

“I am in a really dynamic environment,” he said. “The media and entertainment industry—a primary driver of our pop culture—is a fascinating business, and I am able to see so many different aspects of this on a daily basis.”

Kelly earned both his undergraduate and master’s degrees in business, attending UGA and Georgia Southern University, respectively. Following the completion of his degrees in 1992, internationally-renowned accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers hired him as a staff accountant in its Savannah, Ga., office.

In 1995, Pricewaterhouse transferred Kelly to Kiev, Ukraine, where he served as a consultant to the Ukrainian government and aided in opening an eastern European branch of the firm that would offer merger and acquisition support, business advisory services and traditional audit services. He hired and trained native Ukrainians to staff the office, quickly honing his proficiency in Russian.

After returning to the United States, Kelly decided to pursue a dream held since childhood: obtaining a J.D. While attending law school, he also taught an introductory accounting class to students at UGA’s Terry College of Business.

After earning his law degree, Kelly associated with Powell, Goldstein, Frazer & Murphy in Atlanta, dealing with the financial issues of law such as organizing de novo financial institutions and assisting in corporate reorganizations.

However, no longer managing projects that allowed him to travel often or working with people in a teaching capacity, Kelly soon began to miss the cross-border transactional work and client intimacy his accounting career afforded him.

“I like teaching others and passing on what I have learned to see them develop as professionals,” he said. “I also enjoy being a change agent—doing something that changes the way a company does business—and my position in the legal field did not allow me to do that on a regular basis.”

Kelly landed his current position with Time Warner in 2004 and, despite returning to the financial field, said his law degree has been invaluable.

“I have had a pretty variegated career path, where my legal training has helped in the financial field and vice versa,” he explained. “My job involves legal aspects and accounting, a hybrid job that is the perfect fit for me.”

- Kristin Kissiah


1985 – 1989


1990 – 1994


1995 – 1999

Luis A. Aguilar: Committed to his community

As a partner with the Atlanta office of McKenna Long & Aldridge, Luis A. Aguilar (J.D.’79) is quite the globetrotter. Aguilar continuously travels throughout the world to practice law, as his work covers a wide variety of legal matters, including general corporate and business law, international transactions and securities law.

“Most of my work is with people who are trying to build businesses, helping them to reach their goals,” he said. “It is exciting to help companies that are growing or entering into new sectors, aiding them in raising the capital they need to enter new markets and acquire those additional resources, operations and assets they need to enhance their businesses.

“It gives me a great sense of accomplishment when I realize I played a part in business owners and organizations enjoying the fruits of their labor after years of hard work,” he said.

Originally from Cuba, Aguilar immigrated to the United States when he was seven. His enthusiasm for law developed as a high school student, when the Civil Rights Movement was at its peak. His high school had just become racially integrated, and he became interested in how the legal processes surrounding issues of race impacted communities like his own.

Over the years, Aguilar has been very active outside of his legal practice. Currently, he chairs the Latin American Association, an organization long recognized as the pre-eminent group concerned with Hispanic issues in Georgia, and sits on the board of CIFAL Atlanta, a public-private partnership between the United Nations and the city of Atlanta dedicated to training civil and political leaders in the areas of sustainable urbanization and human, social and economic development. He has also assisted groups such as the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), which employs legal tactics to promote the civil rights of Latinos.

Aguilar’s hard work with these organizations has not gone unrecognized. In 2005 alone, he was selected as the Member of the Year by the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, named the Latino Attorney of the Year by the Hispanic National Bar Association, included in the 2005-06 edition of The Best Lawyers in America and received MALDEF’s Excellence in Leadership Award.

Aguilar said his involvement in these organizations provides a platform for analyzing a variety of issues – in particular, the effects that have arisen in business and in our communities from the tremendous growth of the Hispanic community.

-Kristin Kissiah


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