

## Development Report

**G**eorgia Law's Office of Development is delighted to share the news that more than \$14 million has been raised toward the school's overall goal of \$17 million in the Archway to Excellence Capital Campaign.

The law school's extended family continues to demonstrate its support of the school's academic mission, and this generosity will enable our school to achieve its future goals.

Since this past summer, we have been fortunate to welcome many new and returning donors as well as many committed volunteers.

Ethel T. and Verner F. Chaffin (LL.B.'42) made a significant gift that will be added to the Verner F. Chaffin Distinguished Professorship in Fiduciary Law. With this additional gift, the professorship will be renamed the Verner F. Chaffin Chair of Fiduciary Law. This will bring the number of endowed chairs at the law school to 12.

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan became the first law firm to participate in the school's Georgia Law Firm Initiative. The combined gifts from Sutherland's partners and associates, as well as a generous gift from the law firm, will be recognized by having the courtyard here at the law school named for the firm. The Sutherland Courtyard represents the investment of many who strongly believe in Georgia Law.

Another combined gift recently made will establish the Alexander W. Smith Professorship and will honor Alex Smith (LL.B.'49) for his longtime service to the law school and the legal profession. This endowed professorship will be supported by the John and Mary Franklin Foundation and Smith, Gambrell & Russell.

Kenneth Klein (J.D.'76) made a pledge to support the study of international law and international law programs. A former student of Kirbo Chair in International Law Gabriel M. Wilner and participant in the Brussels Seminar on the Law and Institutions of the European Union study abroad program, Ken has dedicated his gift to help ensure future students will have a rich array of international offerings.

On the scholarship front, Twinker and

Keith W. Mason (J.D.'85) have made a pledge to establish a scholarship that will support a law student who has graduated from the university's Terry College of Business and/or the School of Public and International Affairs.

On a recent trip to Sea Island, Dean Rebecca H. White and I met with Sue B. and Kenneth M. Henson (J.D.'47), who decided to make a generous contribution to the law school to establish an endowed fund. We thank Ken for recognizing his and his family's long history with the law school by making this wonderful gift.

Gifts, large and small, have an impact at Georgia Law. Each year, the law school seeks to grow gifts to its Law School Fund, which supports virtually every aspect of the law school, including scholarships to attract accomplished and highly motivated students; student activities such as graduation events and moot court and mock trial programs; legal career services; and faculty initiatives.

This year, we have set ambitious goals to raise \$525,000 to support these endeavors and to achieve an alumni participation rate of 27 percent.

We ask each and every law school graduate to consider making a gift, no matter the size, to support the Law School Fund.

More than 45 volunteers have agreed to assist us in reaching this goal. As class and reunion agents, they will help us to connect with alumni across the state and the country.

The benefits our faculty and students enjoy as a result of these contributions help to further our mission of creating one of our nation's best law schools.

Please join me in thanking the many donors and volunteers who have made Georgia Law a priority.

I invite you to make Georgia Law one of your philanthropic priorities and to witness the positive impact your giving can have on your legal alma mater.

- Director of Development Anne S. Moser

*Class Notes items listed were received between April 2, 2006, and November 1, 2006. Information received after November 1 will appear in the next issue of the Advocate.*

### 1950s

**William M. Fleming Jr.** (1950) of Augusta, GA, assumed senior judge status on Dec. 31, 2006, after serving 38 years on the bench. **B. Avant Edenfield** (1958) of Savannah, GA, assumed senior judge status on the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Georgia.

### 1960s

**Gates T. Richards** (1964) of Cincinnati, OH, received the John P. Kily Award from the Cincinnati Bar Association in recognition of his outstanding trial skills, professionalism, civility and ethical standards. **Edward T.M. Garland** (1965) of Atlanta, GA, received the Atlanta Bar Association's Leadership Award. **William N. Searcy** (1967) of Savannah, GA, was named to the UGA Foundation Board of Trustees. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a major general after 37 years of service including serving as commander of the Georgia Air National Guard and as assistant adjutant general air for Georgia for four years. **Robert P. Mallis** (1968) of Gainesville, GA, was honored in October with the hanging of his portrait in the senior judges' courtroom in the DeKalb Judicial Tower. **J. Michael Dover** (1969) of Valdosta, GA, was elected to the board of directors for the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra.

### 1970 - 1974

**Robert Benham** (1970) of Cartersville, GA, received the Alumni Merit Award from UGA in spring 2006. **Thomas R. Taggart** (1972) of Savannah, GA, received the Armstrong Atlantic State University Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2006. **William P. Payne** (1973) of Atlanta, GA, was named chairman of the Augusta National Golf Club. **Michael J. Bowers** (1974) of Commerce, GA, received the Atlanta Bar Association's Leadership Award.

### 1975 - 1979

**Walter H. Bush Jr.** (1975) of Atlanta, GA, was featured in the "After Hours" section of the *Fulton County Daily Report* using a flight simulator at the airport. **John "Jack" W. Carter** (1975) of Las Vegas, NV, celebrated with his wife Elizabeth the birth of their first grandchild Henry Lewis on Sept. 2, 2006. **John W. Robinson IV** (1975) of Tampa, FL, was elected to the executive committee of the American Inns of Court Foundation and serves as the 11th Circuit trustee. He was listed again in *Best Lawyers in America* in Labor and

Employment Law and serves as president-elect of the Academy of Florida Management Attorneys. **Carol V. Clark** (1976) of Atlanta, GA, established her own law firm. **Robert S. Glenn Jr.** (1976) of Savannah, GA, was named a fellow in the American College of Civil Trial Mediators. **Kenneth Klein** (1976) of McLean, VA, was named firm practice leader for the worldwide tax transactions and planning department of Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw. **Mark E. Grantham** (1977) of Atlanta, GA, joined DLA Piper US as managing partner of the firm's new Atlanta office. **Stanley S. Jones Jr.** (1977) of Atlanta, GA, was listed in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business 2006 Client Guide* as a leader in health care and government relations for the state of Georgia. **Peter J. Shedd** (1977) of Athens, GA, was named the director of the full-time Master of Business Administration program at UGA's Terry College of Business. **Cynthia D. Wright** (1977) of Atlanta, GA, was selected for inclusion in the Lawdragon 500 Leading Judges in



America List. **John E. Thompson** (1978) of Atlanta, GA, was named to the 2007 edition of *Best Lawyers in America* in labor & employment law. **Joel A. Cherry** (1979) of Nashville, TN, joined the Tractor Supply

Company as vice-president, general counsel and corporate secretary. **H. Gibbs Flanders Jr.** (1979) of Dublin, GA, was reappointed to the Georgia Commission on Family Violence. **Edward B. Krugman** (1979) of Atlanta, GA, was elected to the board of governors of the State Bar of Georgia. **Jo Lanier Meeks** (1979) of Atlanta, GA, had her garden featured on the Atlanta Hydrangea Society tour. **David R. Sweat** (1979) and **Kay A. Giese** (1979) of Athens, GA, were featured in the "After Hours" section of the *Fulton County Daily Report* for their participation in the Nashville Country Music Marathon and 1/2 Marathon.

### 1980 - 1984



**Richard B. Herzog Jr.** (1980) of Decatur, GA, was elected as the 99th president of the Atlanta Bar Association. **Raymond J. Kearns** (1980) of Atlanta, GA, was featured in a *Fulton County Daily Report*

magazine insert about golf course communities. **Vicky O. Kimbrell** (1980) of Lilburn, GA,

received the Dan Bradley Award from the State Bar of Georgia for outstanding work provid-



ing legal services to the poor. **Fredric D. Bright** (1981) of Gordon, GA, was elected president of the District Attorneys' Association of Georgia and has been re-elected Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit district attor-

ney four times. **Jennifer Wheatley Fletcher** (1981) of Atlanta, GA, joined Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan as a partner in the construction practice group. **D. Albert Brannen Jr.** (1982) of Atlanta, GA, was elected treasurer of the Labor and Employment Section of the State Bar of Georgia. **Stephen M. Schaezel** (1982) of Atlanta, GA, joined King & Spalding as a partner in the intellectual property and biotechnology practice group. **John L. Watkins** (1982) of Chamblee, GA, was featured in an article about alternative dispute resolution in *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel*. **Brian D. Bodker** (1983), **Timothy J. Ramsey** (1983), **Stephen C. Andrews** (1983) and **Robert D. Wildstein** (1983) of Atlanta, GA, celebrated



20 years of law practice together as Bodker, Ramsey, Andrews, Winograd & Wildstein. **W. Henry Parkman** (1983) of Decatur, GA, joined Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan as a partner. **Timothy J. Ramsey** (1983) of Atlanta, GA, was sworn in as the 2006-07 chair for the Real Estate Section of the Atlanta Bar Association. **Elizabeth R. Cook** (1984) of Columbus, GA, joined Hatcher, Stubbs, Land, Hollis & Rothschild as a partner. **Warner S. Fox** (1984) of Marietta, GA, was elected president of the Georgia Defense Lawyers Association. **R. Ann Grier** (1984) of Atlanta, GA, joined The Bernstein Firm. **J. Dean Marshall Jr.** (1984) of Atlanta, GA, joined Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan as a partner. **Samuel M. Matchett** (1984) of Atlanta, GA, gave a presentation on diversity for the Atlanta Association of Legal Administrators.

### 1985 - 1989

**Allen Buckley** (1985) of Mableton, GA, published a new book titled *Why the Fair Tax is a Sham*. **Hendrick L. Cromartie III** (1985)

of Rome, GA, announced his marriage to Jill Whitney Barker on July 22, 2006. **Donna L. Musil** (1985) of Eatonton, GA, had the premiere of her film "BRATS: Our Journey Home" at the Atlanta Film Festival. **Melody Z. Richardson** (1985) of Atlanta, GA, has established Pachman Richardson. **Andrew M. Beal** (1986) of Atlanta, GA, was awarded the Atlanta Bar Association's Distinguished Service Award. **William C. Gentry** (1986) of Marietta, GA, has established Gentry, Smith, Dettmering, Morgan & Schnatmeier. **Sherry M. Knowles** (1986) of Dunwoody, GA, joined GlaxoSmithKline as the global head of intellectual property and senior vice president. **David G. Perryman** (1986) of Atlanta, GA, was featured in the "After Hours" section of the *Fulton County Daily Report* for his participation in Needle & Rosenberg's "Fish & Float" event. **David A. Shirlen** (1986) of Winston-Salem, NC, joined R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company as senior counsel. **Donald D.J. Stack** (1986) of Savannah, GA, received the first Ogden Doremus Award for excellence in environmental law from the Georgia Center for Law in the Public Interest. **Sally Quillian Yates** (1986) of Atlanta, GA, received the Atlanta Bar Association's Leadership Award, an award from the Foundation for Improvement of Justice and the John Marshall Award, one of the U.S. Justice Department's highest litigation honors, for her work on the Eric Rudolph bombing



case. **Sally Curtis AsKew** (1987) of Athens, GA, delivered the 2006 baccalaureate address at LaGrange College and was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree.

**James B. Ellington** (1987) of Evans, GA, was

selected for inclusion in the 2007 edition of the *Best Lawyers in America*. **Reginald R. Smith** (1987) of Houston, TX, was featured in an article in *The Editor* for his practice with King & Spalding's Houston office. **William M. Dallas III** (1988) of Griffin, GA, was named to the board of directors of the United Griffin Bank. **Elizabeth G. Marlowe** (1988) of Athens, GA, won the Country Music Television Listeners' Choice Award for her song titled "What If I Can't." **Russell G. Vineyard** (1989) of Newnan, GA, was elected to fill a vacancy on the U.S. Magistrate Court caused by the retirement of U.S. Magistrate Joel Feldman.

### 1990 - 1994

**J. Michael Childers** (1990) of Norcross, GA, joined Balch & Bingham as a partner. **William C. Collins Jr.** (1990) of Atlanta, GA, was hon-



### Shannon A. McGhee: Passionate legal advocate and volunteer

Third generation lawyer Shannon A. McGhee (J.D.'05) always knew he would follow in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, but he also hoped he would leave a mark of his own in the field.

McGhee, now practicing real estate law for the Michael Law Firm in Atlanta, found his opportunity while awaiting the results of his Georgia bar exam in December of 2005.

The Student Hurricane Network (SHN), a national association providing long-term assistance to Hurricane Katrina victims by organizing volunteer opportunities for law students, was recruiting for the upcoming winter break. He jumped at the opportunity to help out and spent a week during January of last year in New Orleans, La., lending legal advice to those in need.

"There were a number of factors that enticed me to participate. One of those was the simple fact that people needed help, and I had the ability and the time," McGhee said.

Once situated on the Gulf Coast, McGhee was paired with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Louisiana to work on the Orleans Parish Prison (OPP) project. The OPP serves as a county jail housing federal prisoners, deportees, juveniles and pre-trial detainees. Before Katrina, about 60 percent of the prisoner population consisted of those arrested but not yet convicted on attachments, traffic violations or municipal charges.

According to McGhee, days before Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, the mayor of New Orleans ordered a mandatory evacuation because of the potential danger. "However, Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman decided the prisoners of OPP would stay put and ride the storm out," McGhee said.

The ACLU received numerous letters from OPP prisoners reporting incidents of neglect and abandonment by prison authorities during and after the hurricane. "These letters had accounts of jail cells flooding while on lock down, prisoner violence from overcrowding, no water or food for days and the mental anguish of not knowing what was happening during the storm," McGhee said.

Joining other law students from around the nation, the team began fact gathering to determine the possibility of filing a class action suit on behalf of the Orleans Parish prisoners. McGhee aided the project by locating and interviewing prisoners and researching the legal implications of the sheriff's actions taken during the mandated evacuation. The legal implications included the possibility that the sheriff may have violated the Eighth Amendment, which prohibits the infliction of cruel and unusual punishment. According to McGhee, the amendment ensures that prisoners are provided with adequate food, water, shelter, medical care and reasonable safety, which should have protected the prisoners of OPP in this instance.

In September 2006, the ACLU filed a lawsuit on behalf of one of the prisoners. As a result of the ACLU's advocacy and SHN volunteers, such as McGhee, Gusman has adopted a new plan to evacuate the OPP if a Category 2 or higher hurricane threatens New Orleans in the future.

However, this recent graduate is most proud of his team's success in using Katrina as a lens to advocate for a more systemic reform of the OPP. "There must be reform to decrease the number of pre-trial detainees held at the OPP for minor charges," McGhee said.

His time spent in New Orleans was not complete without a visit to the infamous Ninth Ward district. He still vividly recalls the scene of pure destruction surrounding him. "Among all this devastation, I saw on this one lot, as if untouched, a statue of the Virgin Mary still standing," McGhee said. "I thought, I am surrounded by tragedy, yet there seems to be a sign of hope still here."

- Nikki Girard

ored by the mayor of Sandy Springs for his work in helping Sandy Springs to obtain cityhood.

**M. Travis DeHaven** (1990) of Atlanta, GA, rejoined Troutman Sanders as a partner in the compensation and employees benefits group.

**Lewis F. Gossett** (1990) of Columbia, SC, was featured in the premier issue of *South Carolina Trend* magazine. **Lisa Godbey Wood** (1990)

of St. Simons Island, GA, was appointed to the bench of the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Georgia by President George W.

Bush. **Kenneth B. Hodges III** (1991) of Albany, GA, was elected board chairman of the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia.

**Erich Michel** (LL.M. 1991) of Frankfurt, Germany, has joined Bird & Bird. **Karen S. Nadler-Sachs** (1991) of Dunwoody, GA, won the Gold Medal in the household category at INPEX, America's largest invention show, in June 2006 for her patent-pending chair cover design.

**Michael C. Pruett** (1991) of Athens, GA, joined the Athens office of Hall, Booth, Smith & Slover as a shareholder. **Deena S. Williamson** (1991) of McLean, VA, was selected as one of five finalists for the Outstanding In-House Counsel of the Year Award by the Washington Metropolitan American Corporate Counsel Award Committee. **Timothy Mann Jr.** (1992) of Atlanta, GA, joined Jones Day as a partner. **Prescott L. Nottingham** (1992) of Atlanta, GA, joined Bird & Mabrey as of counsel. **Steven A. Pickens** (1992) of Suwanee, GA, joined Mahaffey, Pickens & Tucker. **Stephen M. Brooks** (1993) of Atlanta, GA, was selected for inclusion in the 2006 listing of "Georgia Rising Stars" by *Law & Politics*. **Christopher H. Dunagan** (1993) of Roswell, GA, completed mediator training and is registered as a neutral with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. **Stephan J. Frank** (1993) of Roswell, GA, was deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom and returned home in late summer 2006. He has joined the Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit as the circuit court administrator. **Michael M. Raeber** (1993) of Atlanta, GA, was featured in the "After Hours" section of the *Fulton County Daily Report* for his work as a mentor for the Truancy Intervention Project. **Anthony E. Waller** (1993) of Monticello, IL, celebrated with his wife Kristen (2003) and daughter Maggie the birth of son Charles "Charlie" Matthew on June 3, 2006. He joined the administration at the University of Illinois College of Law as assistant dean for career services and was elected to the board of directors for the National Association for Law Placement this past summer. **Wallace D. Bonner Jr.** (1994) of Albany, GA, was profiled in an article in the *Albany Herald* news-

paper. **Robert J. Moye III** (1994) of Atlanta, GA, joined The Facility Group, an international construction management firm, as associate general counsel. **Daniel R. Tompkins III** (1994) of Alpharetta, GA, was installed as the president of the Atlanta Association of Health Underwriters in June 2006.

## 1995 - 1999

**Kimberly Fletcher Bowden** (1995) of Atlanta, GA, merged her firm Patton & Fletcher with Morris, Manning & Martin's residential real estate group. **Kevin T. Caiaccio** (1995) of Atlanta, GA, has established Caiaccio & Graham. **Austin E. Carter** (1995) of Macon, GA, was named partner at Stone & Baxter. **Cecil L. Davis Jr.** (1995) of Brentwood, TN, joined Nissan North America as senior counsel. **Jeanna M. Mastrodicasa** (1995) of Gainesville, FL, was sworn in for a three-year term on the Gainesville City Commission. **Cesar C. Mitchell II** (1995) of Atlanta, GA, joined Epstein, Beckerb & Green. **Rainey Astin Parks** (1995) of Washington, D.C., announced her marriage to Matthew Parks on Oct. 14, 2006. **Ginger K. Patton-Schmitt** (1995) of Suwanee, GA, merged her firm Patton & Fletcher with Morris, Manning & Martin's residential real estate group. **C. Celeste Creswell** (1996) of Smyrna, GA, was named Young Alumna of the Year by the Berry Alumni Association. **Marc B. Hershovitz** (1996) of Atlanta, GA, was selected for inclusion in the *Fulton County Daily Report* article "On the Rise: 14 Under 40." **Vernita L. Lee** (1996) of Valdosta, GA, was the guest speaker at the June 2006 Thomasville-Bainbridge Young People's and Children Division banquet. **Kimberly J. Many** (1996) of New York, NY, established her own law



firm. **Marisol Salazar-Cisneros** (LL.M. 1996) of Stuart, FL, celebrated with her husband and son the birth of her second son Angel Alejandro on July 25, 2006. **Mark A. Shaffer** (1996) of Decatur, GA, joined the real estate investments-legal affairs department of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company as assistant general counsel. **William H. Weber IV** (1996) of Marietta, GA, joined Cbeyond Communications as vice president and corporate counsel. **Amelia M. Willis** (1996) of Marietta, GA, associated with Epstein, Becker & Green. **Michael A. Woocher** (1996) of Atlanta, GA, was named senior vice president in the private wealth management group at SunTrust Bank. He and his wife Katherine have two sons,

Charlie and Graham. **Lee Ann S. Anand** (1997) of Atlanta, GA, was selected for inclusion in the 2006 listing of "Georgia Rising Stars" by *Law & Politics*. **Charles E. Auslander III** (1997) of Athens, GA, was featured in the "After Hours" section of the *Fulton County Daily Report* for his participation in the Nashville Country Music Marathon and 1/2 Marathon. **Todd S. Colarusso** (1997) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Constangy, Brooks, & Smith. **Carlton A. DeVooght** (1997) of St. Simons Island, GA, won the Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service for the First Judicial District. **Michael P. Dickey** (1997) of Lynn Haven, FL, was appointed to a five-year term on the Florida Board of Bar Examiners. **Randolph Frails** (1997) of Evans, GA, was featured in an article in *The Augusta Chronicle* about his second career as a lawyer. **Charles B. Jones III** (1997) of Avondale Estates, GA, was named vice president and general counsel of the Georgia Textile Manufacturers Association. **David C. Jones** (1997) of Augusta, GA, has established Trotter Jones. **Matthew C. Kramer** (1997) of Atlanta, GA, announced his marriage to Katrina Park on May 20, 2006. **Joseph G. Silver** (1997) of Atlanta, GA, joined DLA Piper US as a partner in the corporate and securities group. **Robert S. Highsmith Jr.** (1998) of Atlanta, GA, celebrated the birth of his daughter Elizabeth Campbell on June 14, 2006. **Robert D. Howell** (1998) of Moultrie, GA, established his own law firm. **Anthony D. Lehman** (1998) of Atlanta, GA, associated with DLA Piper US. **Nancy Cochran Maddox** (1998) of Jasper, GA, established her own law firm in East Elijay, GA. **Mary Carter Martin** (1998) of St. Louis, MO, associated with The Lowenbaum Partnership. **Jason G. McCart** (1998) of Covington, GA, affiliated with Best Law Firm Solutions as an independent legal software consultant. **B. Lyn Schroeder** (1998) of Atlanta, GA, was named counsel at Powell Goldstein. **William R. Silverio** (1998) of Marietta, GA, joined the Atlanta office of Fish & Richardson as a principal. **Andrew T. Starr** (1998) of Mission, KS, announced the release of Directory Widget™ by his company eMailman. **Jeffrey P. Cowan** (1999) of Falls Church, VA, joined the international section of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service in the chief counsel's office. Also, he celebrated the birth of his daughter Giselli Allie on Feb. 1, 2006. **Braden E. Cox** (1999) of Washington, D.C., joined the Association for Competitive Technology as research and policy counsel. **Robert C. Davis III** (1999) of Chicago, IL, associated with Kay Scholer. **Michael Peter Doerr** (1999) of Flint, MI, associated with Harness, Dickey & Pierce.

**Stephanie L. Friese** (1999) of Atlanta, GA, was featured in the article "On the Rise: 14 Under 40" in the *Fulton County Daily Report*. **Scott E. Hitch** (1999) of Roswell, GA, associated with Balch & Bingham in the environmental



and natural resources law group. **Spencer Pryor** (1999) of Atlanta, GA, celebrated with his wife Lissa the birth of their daughter Olivia Austin on May 2, 2006. He joined Alston & Bird in the litigation and trial practice group where he will concentrate in the areas of white collar criminal defense, corporate compliance, government investigations and internal corporate investigations. **Brian K. Ross** (1999) of Stone Mountain, GA, established his own law firm. **Adriane Yelton Sammons** (1999) of Atlanta, GA, was named partner at Nall & Miller. **Joshua D. Walker** (1999) of Savannah, GA, celebrated with his wife Karen the birth of their son Joshua Daniel Jr. on July 17, 2006. **S. Cindy Wang** (1999) of Stone Mountain, GA, joined the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council as general counsel.

## 2000s

**Carl E. Beck III** (2000) of Richmond, VA, announced his marriage to Sarah Boxley Parrott on Oct. 14, 2006. **Adrienne M. DerVartanian** (2000) of Kensington, MD, has joined the Farmworker Justice Fund. **Chris J. Hoofnagle** (2000) of Berkeley, CA, joined the Samuelson Law, Technology and Public Policy Clinic as senior staff attorney and the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology as senior fellow. **L. Michael Johnson** (2000) of Tifton, GA, was named 2005 Juvenile Defense Attorney of the Year for the state of Georgia. **Joshua P. Jones** (2000) of Gainesville, VA, joined the narcotics and dangerous drug section of the U.S. Department



of Justice in the criminal division. **Aaron Lipson** (2000) of Decatur, GA, celebrated with his wife Leslie (2001) the birth of their daughter Karen Elaine on June 6, 2006. **Kimberly Van Bussum Loies** (2000) of La Grange, IL, rejoined the Chicago office of Lord, Bissell & Brooke. **T. Wood Lovell Jr.** (2000) of Atlanta, GA, announced his marriage to Sara Joan Yankus in June 2006. **Kerry A. Nelson** (2000) of Woodstock, GA, associated with Balch & Bingham to help start the firm's environmental practice.



**Elizabeth Brooks Scherer** (2000) of Knightdale, NC, celebrated with her husband Carl the birth of their daughter Brooke Morgan on June 14, 2006. **Robert B. Teilhet** (2000) of Smyrna, GA, joined Southeastern US

Insurance as counsel charged with the responsibility of establishing the company's new in-



house legal department. **Wanda L. Vance** (2000) of Buford, GA, celebrated with her husband Richard the birth of their daughter Samantha Margaret Steem on Jan. 25, 2006. **Thomas M. Hall** (2001) of Atlanta, GA, associated

with Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan. **Kristin Holloway Jones** (2001) of Decatur, GA, celebrated with her husband Shane the birth of their daughter Carson Elizabeth on March 22, 2006.

**Leslie Kulbersh Lipson** (2001) of Decatur, GA, celebrated with her husband Aaron (2000) the birth of their daughter Karen Elaine on June 6, 2006. **Joshua M. Moore** (2001) of Norcross, GA, was selected by the Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta to receive the 2006 Volunteer of the Year Award. **James**



**W. Stevens II** (2001) of Mableton, GA, was appointed to the board of directors of the Georgia Bankers Association's Bank Counsel Section. **Paul H. Threlkeld** (2001) of Vidalia, GA, was selected for inclusion in the "2005 Georgia Rising Stars" list by *Super Lawyers* and has joined Andrew & Threlkeld as a partner. **Sandra Crowe Almy** (2002) of Lawrenceville, GA, joined the Supreme Court of Georgia as a staff attorney. **Osjha M. Anderson** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, joined Select Management Resources, a Rod Aycox Company, as director of governmental relations. **Andrew E. Goldner** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, joined Ragland & Jones. **Kelly D. Kautz** (2002) of Snellville, GA, established her own law firm. **Melissa L. Kotun** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Jackson Lewis. **Peter B. Murphy** (2002) of Greenville, SC, associated with Oglettee, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart. **Kelley Martin Robertson** (2002) of Gainesville, GA, announced her marriage to John Robertson Jr. on Oct. 15, 2005.



**Maria N. D'Antonio Sayers** (2002) and **Thomas Bruce Sayers** (2002) of Savannah, GA, celebrated the birth of their son Bruce Osten on Nov. 4, 2005. **Rachel S. Shockley** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Nelson, Mullins, Riley & Scarborough.

**Stephanie Baker Skidmore** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Hartman, Simons, Spielman & Wood. **Patrick H. Smith** (2002) of Mountain View, CA, co-authored a treatise titled "State Taxation of Pass-Through Entities and Their Owners," published by Warren Gorham & Lamont. He was appointed a member of the Executive Committee of the State and Local Taxes Section of the American Bar Association's Section of Taxation and co-chair of the Pass-Through Entities Subcommittee. **Charles W.**

**Smitherman III** (2002) of Dalton, GA, graduated with a Ph.D. in international law from the University of Oxford, England, and has established the legal research firm of Smitherman Legal Consulting. **Bonnie Ezell Tinker** (2002) of Alpharetta, GA, joined American International Group (AIG) as a staff attorney.

**Kristie C. Bowers** (2003) of Woodbridge, VA, joined the U.S. Mint in Washington, D.C., as legal counsel. **Melissa Farmer Calabrese** (2003) of Louisville, KY, associated with O'Bryan, Brown & Toner. **Leigh Taylor Hanson** (2003) of St. Simons Island, GA, associated with the Brunswick firm Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford & Martin. **Allison Carter Jett** (2003) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Weissman, Nowack, Curry & Wilco. **Damon P. Kitterman** (2003) of Tucker, GA, passed the Foreign Service Exam and will be posted to Chennai, India, by the U.S. Department of State in May 2007. **Cara Runsick Mitchell** (2003) of Gainesville, GA, was named partner at Whelchel & Dunlap.

**Benson Edward Pope** (2003) of Decatur, GA, announced his marriage to Meredith Nicole Graetz on April 29, 2006. **Addie Smith Pratt** (2003) of Laurinburg, NC, joined the Robeson County District Attorney's Office. **R. Matthew Reeves** (2003) of Duluth, GA, celebrated with his wife Suzette the birth of their daughter



Susannah Hart on Oct. 10, 2006. **Melissa D. Strickland** (2003) and **Ryan Thomas Strickland** (2003) of Atlanta, GA, celebrated the adoption of their son Thomas Davis who was born on

Oct. 16, 2005, and brought home on April 25, 2006. **Hillary Smith Stringfellow** (2003) of St. Simons Island, GA, associated with the Brunswick firm Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford &



Martin. **Christopher M. Thomas** (2003) of Raleigh, NC, associated with Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein. Also, he and his wife Jennifer announced the birth of their daughter Joesphine Reid on Sept. 16, 2005.

**Greg W. Thomas** (2003) of Arlington, VA, joined The Options Clearing Corporation as a government relations associate. **Tracey L. Wagner** (2003) of Smyrna, GA, associated with Fain, Major & Brennan. **Kristen C. Waller** (2003) of Monticello, IL, celebrated with her husband Tony (1993) and daughter Maggie the birth of son Charles "Charlie" Matthew on



June 3, 2006. **Anjula Singh Amin** (2004) of Atlanta, GA, announced her marriage to Chintan Amin on April 16, 2006.

**J. Geoffrey Anderson** (2004) of Roswell, GA, associated with Thompson, O'Brien,

Kemp & Nasuti. **Kristen Marie Beystehner** (2004) of Atlanta, GA, was featured in a *Fulton County Daily Report* magazine insert about golf course communities. **Russell E. Blythe** (2004) of Fairburn, GA, celebrated with his wife Lindsay the birth of their son Ryder Emerson on Feb. 21, 2006. **Meredith A. Bunn** (2004) of Atlanta, GA, associated with King & Spalding. **Jason J. Carter** (2004) of Atlanta, GA, celebrated with his wife Kate the birth of their son Henry Lewis on Sept. 2, 2006.

**Christopher C. Frost** (2004) of Birmingham, AL, celebrated with his wife Elizabeth and son Nicholas the birth of daughter Anna Reid on May 3, 2006. **Sireesha Chenumolu Ghanta** (2004) of Atlanta, GA, joined the Genuine Parts Company as associate counsel. **Clete D. Johnson** (2004) of Washington, D.C., announced his marriage to Virginia Hutter Muir in September 2006. **Jennifer Cohoon McStotts** (2004) of Charleston, SC, joined the faculty of the College of Charleston as an assistant professor in historic preservation and urban studies. **William R. Merck** (2004) of Athens, GA, established his own law firm. **Ann M. Rotz** (2004) of Waynesboro, PA, associated with Beauchamp & Beauchamp. **David M. Stewart** (2004) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Chilivis, Cochran, Larkins

& Bever. **David E. Tooley** (2004) of Washington, D.C., joined the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in Alexandria, VA, as a trademark examining attorney. **Colin S. Wright** (2004) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Hope, Baldauff & Hartman. **Clark R. Calhoun** (2005) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Alston & Bird. **Gina M. Cook** (2005) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz. **Jonathan L. Cook** (2005) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Kilpatrick Stockton. **Eric C. Crawford** (2005) of Athens, GA, announced his marriage to Cynthia Beverly Boyles on June 10, 2006. **Charmel L. Gaulden** (2005) of Albany, GA, joined the Doughtery Judicial Circuit as a staff attorney. **Sherif Guindi** (2005) of Harlan, KY, associated with Lawson & Lawson. **Julie Jun** (2005) of New York, NY, associated with Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler. **John Michael Kearns II** (2005) of Lawrenceville, GA, associated with Burr & Forman in the litigation department. **T. Buckley Levins** (2005) of Marshallville, GA, associated with the Americus firm Gatewood, Skipper & Rambo. **Jesse W. Lincoln** (2005) of Decatur, GA, associated with Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan. **Gary T. McDermott** (2005) of Charlotte, NC, associated with Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice. **Maureen R. McGowan** (2005) of Washington, D.C., joined Stateside Associates as regulatory counsel. **Kenneth Leroy Mishoe IV** (2005) of Dalton, GA, associated with Minor, Bell & Neal. **Amanda Lang Norcross** (2005) of Norcross, GA, announced her marriage to Duncan A.M. Norcross on Sept. 3, 2005. **Jessica A. Price** (2005) of Atlanta, GA, associated with Thompson, O'Brien, Kemp & Nasuti. **Tracy L. Rhodes** (2005) of Cartersville, GA, associated with Vaughan & Evans. **Jessica Robin Smernoff** (2005) of Augusta, GA, associated with The Rhodes Law Firm. **James S. Trieschmann Jr.** (2005) of Newport News, VA, joined the Army in the Judge Advocate General Corps. **Daniel W. White** (2005) of Marietta, GA, associated with Haynie, Litchfield & Crane. **Elizabeth Barganier Insogna** (2006) of Nashville, TN, announced



her marriage to Jonathan Vincent Insogna on Aug. 26, 2006. **Rachel Nicole Saloom** (2006) of Atlanta, GA, announced her marriage to Aaron Kall on Aug. 19, 2006.



## Ronald S. Cooper: Laboring for America's workers

In August of last year, Ronald S. Cooper (J.D.'69) was sworn in as general counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), a job he describes as complicated and demanding, but rewarding.

"In a typical day, I address a wide variety of legal and management issues ranging from reviewing proposed lawsuits and approving appellate briefs to working to secure new technology so that our attorneys can do their

jobs more efficiently," Cooper said.

The EEOC is the nation's primary enforcer of the civil rights employment laws, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, religion, sex, age and disability. The agency also provides guidance to the public on complying with the law, issues regulations and enforcement policies, and engages in an active program of outreach to educate employers and workers about their rights and responsibilities under the equal employment laws.

According to Cooper, he has grown up with the EEOC by involving himself in much of what the agency was doing for as long as he has practiced law. While at his former firm of Steptoe & Johnson, this seasoned veteran dealt mainly with employment law issues, the bulk of which pertained to the EEOC.

"The EEOC has a very prominent role to play in the area that I've been focused on for most of my career," Cooper said. "I was attracted to my current position by the opportunity to work in an area that I knew a lot about and by the opportunity for public service."

Cooper faces substantial challenges as he steps into his four-year term as general counsel. Not only does he oversee a nationwide litigation program out of Washington, D.C., which includes 15 principal offices around the country, but his office has also begun the process of implementing a new systemic litigation program. This new program calls for the EEOC to take on bigger, more substantial cases.

He is also adjusting the way the general counsel's office does business to better utilize the substantial talents of the attorneys in his office and to enhance the effectiveness of the systemic initiative. Cooper foresees these changes will have a significant impact on employment law and the enforcement of the rights of American workers.

Cooper plans to take the general counsel's office as far as he can during his term. By the time he finishes his stint, the new initiative should be well in place and contributing to a more unified office operation. Cooper hopes his team of attorneys will be better prepared for all kinds of legal hurdles.

"All the offices need to be coordinated," Cooper said. "They need to be electronically interrelated, and they need to be operating in the most efficient manner that they can so that they're bringing to bear the best resources that are most appropriate for any particular challenge no matter where it arises."

The new program may also aid in clearing up a misconception people have about the EEOC. According to Cooper, some believe the agency's selection of the cases that it brings to court is haphazard and the litigation vehicles are not carefully or thoughtfully chosen. He does not believe this is the case now, but "bigger, more significant cases should ease the public's concerns [and demonstrate] that the EEOC is working for America's workforce," Cooper said.

Cooper knows that when his current term at the EEOC is finished, he must move on. "I just hope that my new job is as interesting as this one."

- Nikki Girard