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

Cumberland School of Law seeks to graduate lawyers who are committed to outstanding representation of their clients, impeccable professionalism and ethics, and selfless service to their communities and the bar. Efforts to instill these values begins at Cumberland with Called to the Bar, a yearlong series of presentations to the first year class. Pictured on the cover of this issue of Cumberland Lawyer are Phillip McCallum ’87, executive director of the Alabama State Bar, and Augusta Dowd, president of the Alabama State Bar, who recently led an outstanding discussion on professionalism as part of that series.

The pages that follow contain just a few accounts of Cumberland students and alumni exhibiting these values of service and professionalism in interesting global and local settings. These include Loreta Raulinaitytė ’98, who has served as the representative of the Lithuanian Parliament to the EU and now heads the parliament’s information and communication department. They also include recent graduate Daniel Lopez Rubio ’16, who founded his own firm to provide essential legal representation to the Hispanic population in Birmingham.

They also include current students who worked this summer at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, which prosecutes war crimes and crimes against humanity; in the Rural Summer Legal Corp, which provides legal services to underserved rural populations in the U.S.; and in the Washington Legislative Office of the ACLU. I am proud of Cumberland’s commitment to professionalism, and the professionalism exhibited each day by thousands of Cumberland lawyers.

Henry C. Strickland III
Dean, Cumberland School of Law

Alumni Honored at Founder’s Day

In March 2017, the following Cumberland lawyers (and many spouses) were recognized for financially supporting the university for at least 35 years:

- Mr. John F. Bennett ’69
- Prof. T. Brad Bishop ’71
- Hon. Quentin Q. Brown Jr. ’73
- Mr. William T. Coplin ’77
- Mr. Thomas M. Donahoo ’65
- Dr. Chris H. Doss ’68
- Mr. Charles E. Drimal Jr. ’73
- Mr. S. Wayne Fuller ’75
- Mr. William R. Goodman III ’74
- Mrs. Susan O. Hamilton ’77
- Mr. H. Chervis Isom Jr. ’67
- Hon. George H. Piena ’58
- Mr. Marion A. Quina Jr. ’74
- Mr. William H. Satterfield ’77
- Mr. and Mrs. W. Stancil Starnes ’72
- Ms. Sheila R. Tweed ’76 (deceased)
- Mr. Marion A. Quina Jr. ’74
- Mr. William H. Satterfield ’77
- Mr. and Mrs. W. Stancil Starnes ’72
- Ms. Sheila R. Tweed ’76 (deceased)
- Mr. Michael W. Young ’77

In 2018, Cumberland Law alumni will be added to this list (as they achieve 35 years of giving) and will be recognized on March 22, Samford University’s next Founder’s Day.

The Daniel Austin Brewer Professionalism Award was endowed by Governor Albert Brewer, distinguished professor of law and government and professor emeritus (deceased), in honor of his father. Each year the award is granted to a third-year law student who best exemplifies the high standards of ethics and professionalism expected of members of the legal profession. This year, for the first time, the award was presented to two equally qualified students.

Kevin W. Bufford was executive editor of The American Journal of Trial Advocacy Vol. 40, Committee Chair Vol. 39; the associate justice of Alternative Dispute Resolution, Cumberland Trial Advocacy Board (overseeing Negotiation, Mediation, Arbitration and Client Counseling intramural competitions and tryouts for national teams); a competitor on both Cumberland’s National Negotiation Team and its National Mediation Team; served as a student coach for the mediation team, as a peer adviser for the Career Development Office, and as a Judge Abraham Caruthers Fellow.

Additionally, Bufford was an admissions ambassador for the Office of Admissions and a recipient of the 2016 Frances Marlin Mann Award for Leadership and Character. Currently, Bufford is an associate at Samford & Denson in Opelika, Ala.

Jonathan A. Griffith spent nine years prior to law school as a cross-cultural minister in India and Costa Rica. At Cumberland, he was awarded the Jere F. White Jr. Fellowship; was a Judge Abraham Caruthers Fellow; served as a team leader for the Center for Children, Law and Ethics; was an associate editor for the Cumberland Law Review; and graduated summa cum laude.

Currently, Griffith is clerking for Chief Judge Karon O. Bowdre in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. In 2018, he will begin an associate role with Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff & Brandt in Birmingham, Ala.
Federal Judge William H. Pryor Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals 11th Circuit told graduates of Samford University's Cumberland School of Law that commencement for a law school is more than a celebration of the success of its students and faculty.

Law school commencement celebrates “the American commitment to the rule of law, which is the bulwark of our freedom,” said Judge Pryor. He quoted Thomas Paine as saying that “in absolute governments the King is law,” but “in America the law is king.” Cumberland School of Law has celebrated that fact since 1847, Pryor added.

Pryor, who also serves as acting chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission and is an adjunct faculty member at Cumberland, spoke on May 12 to a law graduation audience of about 1,500 in Samford’s Wright Center. The class comprised 130 candidates for the Juris Doctor and three candidates for the Master of Comparative Law.

Pryor urged the graduates to do three things as they begin their work as lawyers. “First, maintain and defend the nobility of the legal profession. Second, serve the public. Finally, respect the limits of the law,” he said. He described the law as “a largely historical project that is as old as civilization itself,” adding that “our Anglo-American common law developed over centuries to resolve problems that are fundamental to human nature.”

Pryor closed by congratulating the young lawyers, and adding, “Today marks the beginning of a lifetime of professional opportunity and achievement. Seize it.”

Commit to the Rule of Law
By William Nunnelly
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

As I write this, on deadline for this issue, many of us are still concerned about friends or relatives in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Texas and Louisiana, due to damage caused by hurricanes Irma and Harvey. Other places and people have recently experienced effects of fires in the West and Northwest, or by earthquakes that recently occurred in Mexico and Italy. Turbulent times. Crisis realigns perspective, doesn’t it?

We have alumni in every affected area and our thoughts and prayers are with them. It was nice to be able to “check” on some very quickly via Facebook or see via Instagram that some were faring well and escaped flooding or major damage. However, much of the time only the good news gets “posted.” Let us not forget members of the Cumberland community who may have lost their home, car, office or worse.

At the time this issue hits mailboxes, I hope our Cumberland lawyers all over the world are experiencing cool dry autumn air and eating pumpkin-flavored anything. Enjoy reading about our new Class of 2020, summer work experiences of law students and about alumni who are doing very meaningful work. This Thanksgiving season, we at Cumberland are thankful for your ongoing support.

Last, I’d like to thank the students who offered to write features for this issue and especially Leah Johnson ’18 who was “on call” for several photo sessions. It truly takes a village.

Anne
Anne L. Marovich
amarovic@samford.edu

Remembering Justice Janie Ledlow Shores
(April 30, 1932–August 9, 2017)

Justice Shores earned a law degree in 1959 and became the first full-time female faculty member of Cumberland School of Law in 1965. She then went on to receive a degree in history from Samford University in 1968. She taught full time at Cumberland until 1974, when she was elected to the Supreme Court of Alabama. She remained a part-time professor until 1991. She served as a justice on the Supreme Court Bench until January 1999, and then as a supernumerary justice until 2001. Justice Shores passed away on August 9, 2017 at the age of 85.

Left to right: Former Attorney General Bill Baxley, Justice Shores and retired 10th Circuit Court Judge Tom King ’76 in July 2017
Cumberland’s influence in the world is significant and varied. I saw one important example this summer in Lithuania, at the eastern edge of Europe. My wife, Annette Thompson, and I visited Loreta Raulinaitytė ’98 in Vilnius, Lithuania, after spending July at our annual study abroad program at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. Loreta serves in Vilnius as director of the information and communication department at the Seimas, the Lithuanian unicameral Parliament. She and her staff of 60 professionals provide a broad, important range of media and research services for the Seimas.

The connection between our law school and Lithuania goes back decades. Lithuania has a long and rich tradition of choral music, and Loreta first visited Birmingham in 1994 to sing with her Lithuanian choir on a U.S. concert tour. It was our good fortune that she was hosted in Birmingham by Cumberland alumnus Bill Satterfield ’77 and his wife, Carolyn. That was the start of a warm, longstanding friendship which brought Loreta to Cumberland as a J.D. student. “I came to Birmingham in 1994, four years after Lithuania proclaimed independence from the Soviet Union,” Loreta says. “My studies at Cumberland and the four years spent in the United States opened up a new universe for me. I saw how democracy works in reality and how a prosperous nation remained open and most generous to a foreign student from a little-known European country.”

I was associate dean when Loreta finished her J.D., and I practiced for weeks to be able to announce her last name more-or-less correctly at commencement. She has always graciously encouraged everyone to call her “Loreta,” which is much easier for English speakers to pronounce. Annette and I had the pleasure of seeing Loreta’s Cumberland diploma prominently displayed in her office at the Seimas, along with her Order for Merits to Lithuania and the Cross of the Knight Award, which she received from the president of Lithuania in 2004.

We have kept in touch with Loreta through the ensuing decades, while she worked for the courts in Vilnius and then later served in Brussels as the permanent representative of the Lithuanian Parliament and as the permanent member of the COSAC Secretariat based in the European Parliament. COSAC arranges the activities of the EU national parliaments together with the European Parliament during the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, which rotates every six months. She has never forgotten us. “My degree opened wide career opportunities for me in Lithuania and later in Brussels,” she says. “It also allowed me to become a confident professional with a solid academic background and strong work ethic.” As Lithuania prepared to take its turn in the E.U. Presidency (July–December 2013), Loreta returned home to oversee that process.

When Loreta studied in the U.S., she spent a July at Cumberland’s summer study abroad program in England (which was then run by Professor Bo Cole in Durham, United Kingdom). For a few days in most summers of the last decade, Loreta has joined us in Cambridge to share insights from her experiences. Our Cambridge students and faculty always gain a much richer understanding of Europe from her perspective on the European Union, and her insights into life and politics in a small country in the shadow of its aggressive Russian neighbor.

Loreta has repeatedly invited her many American friends to visit her in Lithuania. We are very happy that we finally took her up on it. We gained a much richer understanding and appreciation of her home country. We enjoyed a vast array of fascinating and delightful experiences—far too many to list, let alone describe—but the most powerful of those was our visit to the Seimas in Vilnius. In Cambridge we had heard Loreta vividly describe the dramatic events in 1989–91, when Lithuania declared its independence from the Soviet Union. However, we gained a rich new level of understanding from seeing the Parliament building and the streets where Lithuanian civilians literally held hands (peacefully and unarmed) in the face of the threatening Soviet tanks and troops.

Loreta Raulinaitytė is a proud and remarkably accomplished Cumberland alumna. We are fortunate to count her as one of our own, and even more fortunate to count her as a good friend.
Daniel Lopez Rubio ‘16 embodies all that it means to be a young Cumberland graduate. Immediately upon being admitted to the Alabama State Bar, he founded Lopez Rubio Lawyers, LLC, in Birmingham, Alabama. This young lawyer focuses on immigration, business and contracts, wills, probate and estate planning, family and domestic legalities, real estate, as well as injury cases. Lopez Rubio wants to “... help anyone who walks into our office, whether or not it involves the law. They may not leave with an answer they want, but it is an honest one.”

Of counsel on some immigration cases is Yu Huang ‘14. A former classmate, Kyle Pierce ‘16, has worked with Lopez Rubio on several cases.

A recent matter that gave Lopez Rubio great satisfaction is one where he successfully obtained a protective order from abuse for an undocumented woman. This client was beaten by her ex-boyfriend (an American citizen) and lost her unborn child as a result. “We’ve been able to aid her through the criminal case, which is still pending. We secured a protection from abuse order, and will solicit the federal government for a U Visa for her. The U Visa is granted to undocumented people who aid in the prosecution of a qualifying crime. A civil action is brewing against the American resident, who regularly told her that no one would believe her because she is undocumented. It gives us great joy to know we are helping someone get justice.”

Reflecting, Lopez Rubio offers a few words of wisdom that he believes young, aspiring lawyers should consider before opening up their own firm. “Don’t be scared to give free consultations. Sometimes the best form of payment are the connections that you make along the way. Be humble and get to know people from all backgrounds, those who have differing specialties to better your own reputation.”

Of counsel on some immigration cases is Yu Huang ‘14. A former classmate, Kyle Pierce ‘16, has worked with Lopez Rubio on several cases.

Lopez Rubio invites anyone to stop by his office to visit and learn about his practice... “and for the tacos. We get to be right next to the best taco truck in all of Birmingham.”

Congratulations to the following students selected to represent Cumberland School of Law during 2017-18 as members of the National Trial Team.

Allison Bendall
Callie Brister
Jonathan Brown
Kameron Buckner
Walt Cobb
Brooke DiSalvo
Ashley Feltman
Stephanie Gushlaw
Morgan Hoggle
Jennifer Jayjohn
Denzell Moton
Justice Neloms
Denzel Okinedo
Kingsley Okpara
Craig Shirley
Keith Stephens
Dylan Sutherland
Candace Towns
Krista Tribble
Carmen Weite
Paige West
Amanda Wineman
Andrew York

Team Judges:
Judge Jim Roberts ’94
Michael Rasmussen ’75
Sara Williams ’06
Setara Foster ’12
Michael Eldridge ’12
Blake Milner ’14
Spenser Templeton ’15

Other advocacy teams were being finalized during development of this issue. They will be included in the spring issue of Cumberland Lawyer.
This past summer, I had the opportunity to intern at the International Criminal Court in The Hague. The ICC is the world’s first permanent international criminal court. The court is managed by the Assembly of State Parties, which is an assembly of representatives from all 124 states that are state parties to the Rome Statute. The court currently prosecutes war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity (by way of example, the ICC is the court that has an arrest warrant out for Joseph Kony). Working and learning with such a diverse group of individuals at the ICC was an incredible experience.

My internship was a full three months, so there wasn’t much time to acclimate in the Netherlands before getting to the ICC. Upon arrival I found a grocery store, learned a couple of Dutch words and figured out how to navigate the city by bike. The day before I started my internship, I was able to attend a lecture by Ben Ferencez, the last surviving prosecutor of the Nuremberg Trials. His lecture was both challenging and inspiring and it set the tone for the summer.

My first day at the court was a whirlwind of security clearances, trying to pronounce my new colleagues’ names and locating the restrooms. Once I was able to begin doing more substantive work, I was amazed to see how complex the ICC and international criminal law are. The ICC is an incredible example of what can happen when sovereign states unite to fight against impunity. Diversity is law truly are. The ICC is an incredible example of what can happen when sovereign states unite to fight against impunity.

Dividing goes much deeper at the ICC than simply learning with such a diverse group of individuals at the ICC was an incredible experience.

Moreover, diversity goes much deeper at the ICTY than simply having a broad international representation: the court’s judicial operations represent a conglomerate of many major legal systems and theories of justice. The ICC and its governing law, the Rome Statute, incorporate many elements of both civil and common law. Cases from ad hoc tribunals like the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY: prosecutes crimes committed during the Bosnian genocide) and the ECCE (Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, prosecutes crimes committed during the Khmer Rouge regime), as well as international criminal law treaties, and sometimes even domestic jurisprudence can all be applicable law at the ICTY. However, the ICC cases and Rome Statute are the binding precedent used by the court.

Because the court has only been in operation for 15 years, there is still a lot left to be settled about how the Rome Statute operates, which made this summer a fantastically interesting time to be at the court. Every new decision has huge ramifications for international criminal law. For instance, the first case involving witnesses to give false testimony) is currently being adjudicated. The court recently ruled that defendants can be held liable for crimes committed both by and against child soldiers under their control, and the ICC is moving towards prosecuting the crime of aggression.

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For instance, the first case involving offenses to the administration of justice, in this case, perjury and corruptly influencing witnesses to give false testimony) is currently being adjudicated. The court recently ruled that defendants can be held liable for crimes committed both by and against child soldiers under their control, and the ICC is moving towards prosecuting the crime of aggression.

Having no background in international law and only one semester of criminal law under my belt meant that I had quite a learning curve to overcome. Most of my fellow interns had already finished law school, having specialized in international criminal law, and many of them had completed LLM’s in international criminal law, international human rights law, or international public law.

Thankfully, my colleagues in my office were incredibly patient and helpful and were always willing to point me to helpful resources or explain basic international criminal law concepts to me. In my office, we had 11 people from ten different countries who spoke or explain basic international criminal law concepts to me. In my office, we had 11 people from ten different countries who spoke and helpful and were always willing to point me to helpful resources or explain basic international criminal law concepts to me. In my office, we had 11 people from ten different countries who spoke and helpful and were always willing to point me to helpful resources or explain basic international criminal law concepts to me. In my office, we had 11 people from ten different countries who spoke.

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Because the ICC is so new, most of the resources that we have available through WestLaw or Lexis, like practice guides or Practical Law, are not available in a unified database. The prosecutor’s office has a massive amount of resources and the defense has significantly fewer resources, so my office existed to ensure that there was “equality of arms” between the prosecution and defense by helping the defense with research projects and other small assignments. Because I did so much research into topics I knew nothing about at the beginning of the summer, I was incredibly thankful for my incredibly supportive team.

My roommates in the Netherlands were from Chicago, Germany and Ireland. Two of them worked at another court based in The Hague: the ICTY. In fact, I made friends with who were working at the ICTY’s mandate was over), the OPCW (Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons) and others. Whether I was at home or at work, I was learning about history, culture, war, politics, languages and people. This summer internship was a life-changing opportunity to learn more about our legal realm around the world.
Ivan Gonzalez Dollar, third-year law student

The heading read, “Rural Summer Legal Corp,” and my interest sparked. I grew up in a small cotton town in North Alabama and knew that serving in rural communities struck a note for me. My ambition to give back to my community compelled me to apply for a fellowship position with Equal Justice Works.

I expressed my experience and commitment to serve the underserved population in Alabama after living in rural towns, and later, accepted a summer intern position at Legal Services Alabama. In mid-March I received a call by the director of advocacy at Alabama Legal Services, Michael Forton, and learned I was selected for the fellowship with Equal Justice Works and Legal Services. I chose Selma, Alabama, as my host site.

I began training for the position in Washington, D.C., in early June and briefly visited Martinsville, West Virginia, during the orientation. Martinsville, like other rural communities, experiences recurring issues plaguing counties throughout the United States—inadequate access to legal services.

Unfortunately, these issues reflect broader social issues woven with inadequate mental and physical healthcare services. The goal of the fellowship was to create better access to adequate legal services. I urge law students to take advantage of these types of opportunities to serve rural communities.

Furthermore, I encourage alumni to help create opportunities for law students and young lawyers to serve rural communities by providing services that may save somebody’s home, car, wages or precious benefits.

Ivan Dollar was born in Mexico and became a naturalized citizen when he was a teenager. He knew he wanted to become a lawyer after experiencing how difficult the process to become a citizen of the United States was. He hopes to use his experiences to “help others overcome boundaries and bridge gaps among the races.” At Cumberland School of Law, Dollar serves as president of the Hispanic Interest Law Student Association.

Sierra Gray, third-year law student

This summer I was a legal intern for the Washington Legislative Office of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). The ACLU is a national organization that works daily in the legislature, courts and communities to defend individual rights and liberties.

Coincidentally while there, I met and worked for an extremely talented attorney, Cumberland alumna Jennifer Bellamy ’02. My work focused on a range of topics including racial justice and voting rights. No day was the same and ranged from assisting the development of strategic plans for lobbying of specific legislation, to attending and leading meetings with congressional staffers. A highlight of this internship was writing two articles on voting rights that were published on the ACLU’s national website. I was also quoted in a U.S. News & World Report article.

The majority of my time was spent advocating and lobbying for a Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) bill, which passed through the U.S. House of Representatives prior to the start of my internship. At the conclusion of my internship, a version of the bill was passed by the U.S. Senate. While the bill still has to be consolidated in conference before going to the president to be signed into law, I was able to see how my efforts could be a small part of big change.

I was honored to be able to represent Cumberland School of Law as an ACLU legal intern with interns from other prestigious law schools throughout the country. The experience I obtained was invaluable, and will add depth to the next year of my legal studies and in the start of my legal career.

Sierra is from Tuskegee, Alabama, and received a sales and marketing degree from Tuskegee University. At Cumberland, she is chair of the Thurgood Marshall Symposium for the Black Law Student Association (BLSA), and sub-region 1 director for Southern Region BLSA.
Assistant Professor and Director of the Advocacy Program

Ramona Albin

Before joining the Cumberland faculty, Ramona Albin worked as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama for over 10 years. She handled criminal trial and appellate litigation. She was also chief of the Appellate Division and argued cases before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Earlier in her career, Professor Albin worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Texas and Massachusetts, trying cases ranging from assault to rape to murder. She graduated with honors from Wesleyan University and received her law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. Professor Albin also received a Master of Public Health from Boston University. She is a member of the Alabama, California, Massachusetts, Michigan and Texas State Bars and is admitted to practice before the federal district courts in the Northern and Middle Districts of Alabama, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. She and her husband, Leon Dure, a professor and chief of pediatric neurology at UAB, have two children.

What are two or three priorities you’d like to accomplish at Cumberland School of Law this year?

Cumberland has a tradition of excellence in advocacy. To continue that tradition, this year I plan to review and evaluate the advocacy curriculum and determine areas where our program can be enhanced and/or expanded; increase the use of technology in our trial skills classes to prepare our students for the future; and help students gain the skills and understanding to become better advocates.

What is exciting to you about being back in the classroom?

The integrity of our legal system depends on ethical, effective advocacy. Helping students gain the skills and understanding to become lawyers who are ready to practice with honesty and integrity is a privilege and is what most excites me about being in the classroom.

Outside the classroom, do you have a specific research interest?

My research interests include issues of race, gender and access to the criminal justice system, particularly victim access, and issues surrounding Institutional Review Board structure and function.

Assistant Professor and Director of Lawyering and Legal Reasoning Program

Kandice Horsey

Kandice L. Horsey is an assistant professor and director of the Lawyering and Legal Reasoning program. Before joining Cumberland, she worked in the United Kingdom practicing criminal law and teaching British and American law students. As a solicitor with Higher Rights of Audience, she was licensed to be an advocate in every criminal court in England and Wales, on par with criminal barristers. Professor Horsey also taught at Stetson University College of Law. For three years, she was an advocacy trainer for Irish law students and legal professionals in Dublin, Ireland, as a part of Stetson’s partnership with University College Dublin-Sutherland School of Law. Additionally, she served as an Assistant District Attorney in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and an Assistant State’s Attorney in Prince George’s County, Maryland. As a prosecutor, she tried over 100 adult felony cases to verdict in both bench and jury trials.

What are two priorities you’d like to accomplish with your class at Cumberland School of Law this year?

I want the 1Ls to start their professional careers from the first day of law school. We now have a time stamp for LLR submissions to replicate court filings and reinforce the importance of deadlines. In addition to preparing 1Ls for practice and helping them pass the bar so that they can practice, I am committed to making sure that they are ready for clerkships in the summer after their first year with practical skills and a firm foundation in analysis.

Is there something unique about your professional experience that you are excited to convey to the students?

I had the opportunity to start my career in a D.A.’s office where there was an emphasis on ethics, compassion and respect for all people, including the defendants we prosecuted. I am most excited to share the human side of lawyering and the benefits of keeping your moral compass set to due north at all times.

Outside the classroom, do you have a specific research interest?

Practicing in the U.S. and the U.K. exposed me to many differences in our criminal justice systems. I will focus on those comparisons in my research.
Terry W. McCarthy

As a partner of Lightfoot Franklin & White LLC, Terry McCarthy has a very diverse litigation practice where he has served as lead counsel and appellate counsel in various matters in more than 20 states. Following an undergraduate education at Auburn University, where he was president of the SGA, he earned master's and doctoral degrees in education from the University of Alabama. Then he went on to law school (University of Alabama) and became an expert in the subject of evidence. In fact, McCarthy co-authored McSherry's Alabama Evidence and the latest edition of Gamble's Alabama Rules of Evidence. He serves on the Alabama Supreme Court Advisory Committee to the Alabama Rules of Evidence and regularly publishes and presents in the area of education law. Cumberland School of Law students benefit from his expertise in the classroom.

Outside of his legal and teaching careers, Terry is an active member of his church and he supports many charities and educational organizations such Alex's Lemonade Stand, the Greater Birmingham Humane Society, Adopt a Golden Birmingham, Jimmie Hale Mission and John Carroll Catholic High School.

He is teaching Advanced Evidence at Cumberland.

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

I still get nervous before every class and every time I speak in public.

Will you describe an “embarrassing” moment or mistake you’ve made while practicing law; and what, if anything, did you learn from it?

I remember impeaching a witness with a prior inconsistent statement and trying to make the witness look like a liar when the witness really just made an honest mistake. I learned that you don’t always have to “attack” a witness on cross examination.

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

Too many to mention, but they certainly include Charles Gamble, Warren Lightfoot, Sam Franklin, and my brother, Brian McCarthy. They are humble, treat everyone with respect, are highly ethical and professional. Warren Lightfoot, Sam Franklin, and my brother, Brian McCarthy.

How do you balance your legal practice and responsibilities with a hobby or family time?

I love my practice, I love writing about evidence, and I love teaching evidence, so I rarely feel the urge to “get away” from it all. But I still make a point to exercise regularly, hang out with friends, support charities that are important to me, and see my family. I don’t have a wife or kids, so I probably have a lot more free time than most.

Do you have a 5-10 year professional goal you would like to share? I am doing exactly what I want to do with a perfect blend of law practice and academics. I wouldn’t change a thing. In 5-10 years, I hope I am doing the same thing, but hopefully I will be doing it a little better.

Brooke Nixon ’08

A shareholder of Rensen Harwood, PA, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Brooke’s practice focuses on labor and employment law and general business law. She has represented clients in discrimination and harassment litigation, contract disputes and retaliatory discharge claims. She also works with clients to form new businesses and helps them deal with a variety of workplace issues. Additionally, she provides management and employee training on numerous topics including anti-discrimination and harassment policies, effective discipline, FMLA, employee investigations, FLSA and retaliation. Brooke received her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama and her J.D. summa cum laude from Cumberland School of Law. She is licensed to practice in Alabama and Florida.

Outside her firm, Brooke was codirector of the Young Professionals of Tuscaloosa from 2012-16. Then, she became the first female chief volunteer officer of the Tuscaloosa County YMCA Board of Directors in 2016. Currently, she is vice president of the Bessemer Academy Board of Directors and the legislative chair of the Tuscaloosa Human Resource Professionals.

She is teaching Representing Small Businesses at Cumberland.

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

My primary goal is to teach students how to be a lawyer. We are learning how to talk to clients, how to draft emails to clients and how to interact with other lawyers in meetings or negotiations. My second goal is to provide real-life simulations of duties that young lawyers often have to perform right out of law school.

Scott Simpson ’93

Scott Simpson established Simpson, McMah, Glick & Burford law firm in 2007. His vision was to provide the level of experience, creativity and technology required in today’s business environment. He is an expert in the areas of civil litigation and alternative dispute resolution, including mediation and arbitration. Scott is a registered mediator, registered appellate mediator and commercial arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. He has handled state and federal cases all over the U.S., including cases before the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeals, as well as the U.S. Supreme Court.

Simpson earned a Bachelor of Arts with honors from the University of Florida in 1989 and received his Juris Doctor magna cum laude from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in 1993. Since 2002, he has taught a class at Samford on dispute resolution to educate and inform tomorrow’s young attorneys. He has also spent time lecturing at Cambridge University in England and several law schools in Brazil. Simpson has published numerous articles on evolving issues in alternative dispute resolution. He is teaching ADR and Arbitration at Cumberland.

Did you have a professional mentor while during or after law school?

I have worked closely with Tom Scroggins, also a partner at Rensen Harwood, since graduating from Cumberland in 2008. One of his mottos is, “If you are explaining, you are losing.” Remembering to keep things direct, simple and to the point in brief writing and during oral arguments is a valuable lesson. The facts need to be speak for themselves. If you have to explain them, you are losing.

How do you balance legal career with family life?

Even before I graduated law school, I decided I wanted to work at a small- to medium-size, family-oriented firm. I knew I needed the work-life balance that a large firm might not offer. Balancing career with family life is not always easy, but if you are at the right firm it doesn’t have to be stressful.
2018 Faculty Awards
The following Cumberland School of Law faculty members received awards for the 2016-17 academic year

Harvey S. Jackson Teaching Award for first-year courses: Robert J. Goodwin
Harvey S. Jackson Teaching Award for upper-level second year courses: William G. Ross
Lightfoot, Franklin & White Scholarship Awards: Alyssa DiRusso and David M. Smolin
Outstanding Adjunct Professor Awards: Dr. Leslie S. Ennis ’92 and (retired) Judge J. Gary Pate ’76

New Degree Program: Master of Studies in Law
Samford University’s Cumberland School of Law is currently accepting applications for a new, fully online, part-time master’s degree program, the Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.). Students may choose from one of four M.S.L. concentrations: health law and policy, financial services regulatory compliance, higher education law and compliance or legal project management. Students may also opt for a custom option that allows them to choose from a variety of elective courses. The first cohort will be admitted in fall 2018.

The new degree option was recently approved by Samford University’s board of trustees. The M.S.L. concentration will replace the law school’s Master of Science in health law and policy which welcomed its third cohort in fall 2017.

A M.S.L. will prepare students for roles in compliance, regulatory affairs, e-discovery, legal project management and more, according to Laura Tomlin, director of graduate and professional programs at Cumberland School of Law. The 36-credit-hour curriculum is specifically designed for mid-career professionals and can be completed in just 24 months, with students taking two courses per semester for six semesters (including two summers). Students who have already earned a J.D. may apply for advanced standing and reduce the total credit hours from 36 to 30.

The application deadline for fall 2018 admission is June 1, 2018.

Allen Howell
In May 2017, G. Allen Howell was named assistant dean of external relations and career development. Allen graduated from University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2006, then Faulkner University’s Thomas Goode Jones School of Law in 2009. Allen served as the director of career development and public interest at Jones School of Law for four years prior to becoming the associate director of career development and director of outreach and reporting at Cumberland School of Law in 2014. Currently, Allen is earning a Master of Science in educational leadership at Samford University. At Cumberland, Allen oversees the career development office and coordinates the alumni relations, development, admissions, communications and career development departments.
A GLIMPSE AT FACULTY ACTIVITIES
APRIL 2017–AUGUST 2017

Cassandra E. Adams

Adams served as a panelist, during the Alabama State Bar Annual Meeting, in a program titled “Implicit Bias: A Frank and Continuing Conversation from the Bench’s, the Educator’s and the Practitioner’s Perspectives.”

Brannon P. Denning

Denning taught Constitutional Law at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and presented a work-in-progress entitled “Can Judges Be Uncivilly Obdient” to the faculty. His most recent publication is “Is There a Second Amendment ‘Right to be Negligent?” 68 Fla. L. Rev. Forum 99 (2017).

Alyssa DiRusso


In addition DiRusso presented two times during the SEALS conference in August: “Inequality, (Re) Distribution of Wealth, and the Federal Tax System: Taxexit (Tax Planning to Shift Revenue from Federal to State and Local Government),” as a panelist; and “Pedagogy and Assessments in Tax Courses,” as a moderator and proposer.

Michael D. Floyd

Floyd directed Cumberland’s Master of Comparative Law Program in June and the Cambridge summer study abroad program in July. The second edition of Michael D. Floyd, Mastering Negotiable Instruments: UCC Articles 3 and 4 and Other Payment Systems (Carolina Academic Press, forthcoming 2d ed 2017) is in near-final page proofs.

Kandise L. Horsey

Horsey taught for Stetson University, College of Law’s Comparative Advocacy Course: Mastering Trial Advocacy, in Oxford England at St. Hughes College.

Edward C. Martin

Martin recently published a second edition for the Mastering Tort Law (Carolina Academic Press), and is presently finishing up his contribution to the fifth edition of his Torts casebook (also published by Carolina Academic Press) to be released in spring 2018. This marks the 13th year of the publication of Professor Martin’s treatise on Premises Liability Law, and that publication has now expanded to include five volumes, all of which include continuing bi-annual updates. Martin also taught Professional Responsibility and a course on the Endangered Species Act during the summer semester as part of Cumberland’s online course curriculum.

Tracey M. Roberts

Roberts delivered her article, “Picking Winners and Losers: Examining Tax Subsidies to the Energy Industry” at Vanderbilt Law School as part of their Faculty Workshop Series on March 29, in Nashville, Tenn. The article was published in 2016 in the Columbia Journal of Environmental Law. She presented her paper, “Plato’s Laws and the Demands of the Socratic Dialogue,” at the Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities at Stanford Law School in Palo Alto, California on April 1. As part of the Sabin Colloquium at Columbia Law School, she presented “Environmental Opportunities in Comprehensive Tax Reform” on May 4 in New York. She delivered her paper, “Choice of Instrument, Efficiency and the WTO,” at the Sustainability Conference of American Legal Educators at Arizona State University, Sandra Day O’Connor School of Law, in Phoenix, Arizona on May 12.

William G. Ross


Henry C. Strickland III

Strickland gave Barry’s national Uniform Bar Exam lecture on Conflict of Laws, and gave state-specific lectures on Conflict of Laws or Civil Procedure in Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Oklahoma. At SEALS, he served on a panel entitled, “External Challenges Faced by Law School Deans” and made a presentation on “Admissions and Recruitment.”

Deborah Young

Young returned to Vermont Law School, in South Royalton, Vermont, to teach Evidence during the summer term.
This certificate and framed United States flag was sent to Cumberland School of Law from Captain Alan S. Kirk ’08, U.S. Army.

Did you know?
Samford University is ranked #1 in the South for best colleges for veterans among regional universities by U.S. News & World Report. Cumberland School of Law received a top 10 designation in the 2018 Military Friendly Schools guide.
Richard W. Moons, previously inspector general of the Tennessee Valley Authority, was confirmed and sworn in to serve as the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama.

David D. “Chip” Schwartz was honored with the Justice Albie M. Sachs Award for the Alabama State Bar Association annual meeting.

James A. “Jim” Hoover was appointed to the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute’s Board of Directors.

Bracy H. Kerr is a member of Stroock, New York, Mountain Brook.

Brady W. Scott, senior partner at Simmons, McGuire, and Mott, Birmingham, Alabama, was a keynote speaker at the Women in Automotive conference in Orlando, Florida.

Gina E. Pearson is of counsel at Sterlings Denver, Birmingham, Alabama.

Loreta Rainbault, parliament member was a guest speaker during Cumberland School of Law’s summer program at Cambridge, England.

Tamala Yelling is a house counsel for marketing Firm, Birmingham, Alabama.

Jonathan G. Wells is in the Strategic Compliance Department, Regions Bank, Birmingham, Alabama.

Nicole C. Luet was installed as the 7th president of the State of Alabama Young Lawyers Division in June 2017. Nicole is a partner at Gray, St. Arrmand Mattel and Mott, Birmingham, Alabama.

Ashley McMahan is a division manager, Quality and Safety, Physician Services, for KentuckyOne Health, in Louisville, Kentucky.

Luisa Kay Reyes wrote a piece published in the Public Policy Exchange Magazine titled “Divide and Social Babble.”

Katy Horn Smith is a grants and contracts officer at University of Alabama at Birmingham.

April D. Wise was selected to serve as the 2017-18 treasurer of the Montgomery Estate Planning Council.

Jose Blankenship was appointed as speaker of the house for the Alabama Athletics Commission. Jose maintains his private practice in Homewood, Alabama.

Mu’min Islam is a member of the American Law Society Board of Directors with ALI distinction.

Andrew Knowland was a partner to Hall Booth Smith, Birmingham, Alabama.

Joshua R. Pipkin announced the opening of the Pipkin Law Firm, Employees, Alabama.

Jordan Wood is a COO at Redleaf Biologics, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee.

Rachel VanHoutte received a tenured joint position as a professor in Northeastern University’s School of Law and its College of Computer and Information Science.


Brandon Donn Aus, in a partner at 5 Points Law Group LLC, Birmingham, Alabama.


Bobbi A. Hooper, a member of the American Bar Association’s annual meeting.

Brian H. Lawton, married to an American bar association’s annual meeting.

Michael I. Fish, a founder of Fish Nelson & Holden PLC, Birmingham, Alabama, is a member of the National Women’s Compensation Defense Network.

JoAnn C. Green, opened 2nd Circuit, Mountain Brook, and Birmingham, Alabama.

Gary LLP, Atlanta, Georgia.

Gray Stiffler was a faculty of the Tennessee College of Law’s annual meeting.

Mark Martin, Supreme Court of North Carolina, on July 15, 1974, was appointed to the 2017 list of Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America.

Gary C. Hingson was elected as Sigma Alpha Epsilon’s 1971-1972 national president.

Michelle几乎所有信息的关键词都是“His 2017-2018 term.

Even before the Alabama House of Representatives approved the bill creating the award to be presented to a municipal judge who has made a significant contribution to the conference over the course of his career on the bench. E. Frank Woodrow Jr. was inducted as president of the Alabama Association for Justice at the organization’s annual meeting.

Robert S. Kolden was named Pennsylvania State University’s attorney’s integrity officer.

Mark I. Fish, a member of the American Law Society of America, received the Volunteer of the Year Award at the 2017 Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America.

M. “Buck” Dougherty III is an attorney at Duncan, Weaver, and Weaver, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Thomas D. Johnson was named a director of Heidelberg White, Birmingham, Alabama, was named to Benchmark Consulting at Precision Discovery, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia.

Jennifer M. Miller was elected as a leader for the Women in Automotive conference in Orlando, Florida.

S. Leslie Barineau was a recipient of Positive Municipal’s 2017 Top 50 over 50 award.

Robert J. Hedge is the managing partner for Beasley Allen, Montgomery, Alabama, is a leader of the American Bar Association’s annual meeting.

Gray Stiffler was a member of the National Women’s Compensation Defense Network.

Roderick N. Hartigan was elected as Sigma Alpha Epsilon’s 1971-1972 national president.

Thomas M. Methvin, manager of partner at Beasley Allen, Montgomery, Alabama, is a member of the Leadership Alabama Class XXVII.

Judge James E. “Jim” Hill was installed as the 71st president of the American Bar Association’s annual meeting.

Robert A. Holand was named Pennsylvania State University’s attorney’s integrity officer.

Brian H. Lawton, a former senior vice president in the Office of Administrative Affairs, is a member of the Alabama Association for Justice at the organization’s annual meeting.

James A. “Jim” Hoover was appointed to the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute’s Board of Directors.

S. Leslie Barineau was a recipient of Positive Municipal’s 2017 Top 50 over 50 award.

G. David Johnston

Christopher H. Macturk opened Evolution Divorce & Family Law PLLC, Richmond, Virginia.

Joel R. Shumaker was appointed to the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute’s Board of Directors.

David D. “Chip” Schwartz was honored with the Justice Albie M. Sachs Award for the Alabama State Bar Association annual meeting.

D. Lionel Moore was a member of the National Women’s Compensation Defense Network.

Christopher H. Macturk opened Evolution Divorce & Family Law PLLC, Richmond, Virginia.

Robert A. Holand was named Pennsylvania State University’s attorney’s integrity officer.

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CLASS NOTES

2011

Jonathan S. Budwell is an attorney at Mike Slucre Law Firm, Auburn, Alabama.
Benjamin D. Cohn is a partner at William E. Cohn & Cohn, Birmingham, Alabama.
Jamella L. Davis is a manager at Ochsner Health System, New Orleans, Louisiana.
Clark H. Henderson is a partner at Ochsner & Henderson Attorneys at Law, Fort Walton Beach, Florida.
Ashlee Hightower headed a new business. Contracts for Consultants, where she provides contract templates and contract services for bloggers, creative entrepreneurs, and small business owners. As well, she continues her work for Bloomberg BNA, Inc. in Washington D.C.
Calhoun D. Hollander is president of Shackle & Company, Florence, Alabama.

Megan Pearson is chair of the 2017 State Bar of Georgia’s YLD committee. Further, Pearson received an award during the annual meeting for outstanding service to the bar for her work on the YLD committee during 2016-17.

Jonathan Stokoe is an associate with Mike Slucre Law Firm, Richmond, Virginia.

2012

Mary H. Kieseler is a legislative assistant at Richard Wayne ProAssurance Companies, Madison, Wisconsin.
Jeffrey E. "Jay" Friedman Jr. is an associate at Friedman-Dazzi Zulanas & Bowling PC, Birmingham, Alabama.
Aubrey D. Gordon is an associate at Baker Law Group PLLC, Florence, Tennessee.
JohnK. Schultz is an associate at Burch Bled Jones & Leopold PC, Marietta, Georgia.
Evan W. Jimmy is a private trial specialist at Regna Blockchain Corporation, Nashville, Tennessee.
Brandi Elliott Bliss opened Brandi Elliott Bliss Attorney at Law LLC, Donalsonville, Georgia.

2013

Nicholas Arctiliega is an attorney at Boulton Ironglaw Immigration Law PLLC, Falls Church, Virginia.
Amanda R. Dutton is an associate at Kirk Drinan Law, Birmingham, Alabama.
Mag Grew is a founder and president of Young Professionals of Dublin—Laurens County (GA). Meg is a manager at Warren Greer Law, Dublin, Georgia.

Jeffrey E. "Jay" Friedman Jr. is a member of the junior board of the YMCA. Lauren works for Regions Bank, Birmingham, Alabama.
Samuel D. Nekovich is a private trial specialist at Regna Blockchain Corporation, Nashville, Tennessee.
Brandi Elliott Bliss opened Brandi Elliott Bliss Attorney at Law LLC, Donalsonville, Georgia.
Hilary Armstrong is an attorney with Legal Services of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama office.
Raul Bollin is an associate attorney with Legal Services of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama.
Sarah Boltin is an associate with Walter Lanard, Nashville, Tennessee.
Whitney M. Dyer was elected vice president of Alabama State Bar at the Alabama State Bar Convention in May 2017.

2014

Paul D. Bagley is an IT manager in category sourcing for Covelli, Atlanta, Georgia.
Jeffrey E. "Jay" Friedman Jr. is an associate at Friedman-Dazzi Zulanas & Bowling PC, Birmingham, Alabama.
Aubrey D. Gordon is an associate at Baker Law Group PLLC, Florence, Tennessee.
John K. Schultz is an associate at Burch Bled Jones & Leopold PC, Marietta, Georgia.
James T. "J.T." Hoffer is a partner at Legal Services of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama office.

2015

Eliass K. McNeil is an assistant public defender at Downtown Legal Court Circuit, Cleveland, Georgia.
Terrel A. "Alain" Moore Jr. took a seat at the University of East Anglia Law School in Norwich at the Ninth Annual Multilingual Research Colloquium regarding the potential effect of jury participation in the Edward Snowden case.
Charles W. Newman III is an associate at White & MacLeod, Washington, DC.
Kyle D. Pierce was elected vice president of Alabama Young Democrats.

Brook V. Roberts is an associate at Bunt & Ferran LLP, Birmingham, Alabama.
Kristen Schad is a cofounder of a middle eastern market, LTD LLC, D.C., Alabama.
Mac Brooks Smith is a staff attorney for pro bono at The Rudolph Institute.
Lincey W. "Weathers" Vauxx is an associate at Couch, Couch & Bell, LLC, Birmingham, Alabama.

2017

Steven Boydston is a contracts and compliance manager at University of Montevallo, Birmingham, Alabama.
Kevin W. Burford was one of the two recipients to receive the Daniel Austin Brewer Award on May 12, 2017. This award is given to a graduate candidate who exemplifies the high standards of ethics and professionalism expected of members of the legal profession. He is an associate at Samford & Denson, Opelika, Alabama.
Hunter Gamett is an associate at Warren Simpson, Huntsville, Alabama.

Jonathan A. Griffin was one of two recipients to receive the Daniel Austin Brewer Award on May 12, 2017. This award is given to a graduate candidate who exemplifies the high standards of ethics and professionalism expected of members of the legal profession. He is a federal judicial law clerk for Chief Judge, Karin D. Broderick, U.S. District Court (N. Dist. AL).
Cameron Parsons Jr. joined The Parsons Firm, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Guilfo "Chip" Sloan III was named as a 2017 James Wilson fellow. Sloan will serve as a research assistant in the Department of Justice’s Office of Legislative Affairs for one year, followed by a one-year clerkship with Judge Joel Dubina on the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.
Travis Thomas is an apprentice at Deloitte, Georgia, District Attorney Office.

MARRIAGES

Franziska E. Abbott '14 and Aubrey D. Gordon '14 were married May 12, 2017. They reside in Columbia, Tennessee.
Laura L. LeDale '10 and Bryan Fipps were married July 2, 2017. They reside in Nashville, Tennessee.
Jeanne B. Cole '07 and Daniel L. Russell, Jr. were married June 3, 2017. They reside in Hampton Cove, Alabama.
Austen C. Evans '17 and Lauren Batchelor were married on August 26, 2017. They reside in Nashville, Tennessee.
Roderick J. Evans '10 and Cornelia Terry were married July 1, 2017. They reside in Birmingham, Alabama.
Lesley Ireland '13 and Hunter Sewell were married on August 26, 2017. They reside in Pensacola, Florida.
Amanda Kister '11 and Patrick Hinchey '13 were married on April 22, 2017. They reside in Savannah, Georgia.
Lacey M. Moore '02 and Hugh McIntosh, "Mac" Duvan Jr. were married June 3, 2017. They reside in Charlotte, North Carolina.

BIRTHS

Andrew Brashier '10 and his wife, Cara Brashier, announced the birth of their son, Beckham Brashier Bur, on June 1, 2017.
Matthew D. "Matt" Conn '09 and Elizabeth Conn announced the birth of their son, James Richard Conn, on July 4, 2017.
James H. Denham '12 and Lauren Wilson Denham announced the birth of their son, James Howard Denham Jr., on July 5, 2017.

Martin H. Drake '11 and Jessica Pablos announced the birth of their daughter, Martha Ruth Drake, May 24, 2017.
Charles B. Elliott '11 and Cara Elizabeth Elliott announced the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Elaine Elliott, July 26, 2017.
Leon Hampton, Jr. '13 and his wife, Torquita Hampton announced the birth of their daughter, Kori, August 12, 2017.
Wesley J. "Wes" Hunter and Abby Hunter announced the birth of their daughter, Penny Hawkins Hunter, April 4, 2017.
Emily Irvin '16 and her husband, Jason Curran, announced the birth of their daughter, Lucy Merrall Curran, August 30, 2017.
Whitney Henry Kimerling '10 and her husband, Alex Kimerling, announced the birth of their son, Maxwell Clark Kimerling, April 12, 2017.
David Leffard III '14 and his wife, Caitlin White Leffard, announced the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Marie Leffard, on August 31, 2017.
Nicholas D. "Nick" Leslie and Lauren St. John Leslie announced the birth of their daughter, Eloise Mac Leslie, July 15, 2017.
Zachary R. Lewis '13 and Haley Colston Lewis announced the birth of their daughter, Vivian Lewis, May 19, 2017.
Andrews Atwell MacKee '10 and her husband, Blake L. Atwell, announced the birth of their son, Wyatt Briggs MacKee, August 16, 2017.
Ross Massey '11 and his wife, Keri Massey, announced the birth of their son, Henry Bridges Massey, August 26, 2017.
Jerrika Kuitte Walker '14 and her husband, Anthony Walker, announced the birth of their daughter, Josephine Abigail Walker, August 1, 2017.
J. Freemone Zarzour '12 and Grant Zarzour announced the birth of their daughter, Campbell Anne Zarzour, July 3, 2017.

IN MEMORIAM

J. Parks Keith '72 of Selma, Alabama, died July 17, 2017.
Mark L. Rowe '84 of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, died May 14, 2017.

If you have news you would like to include, please email amarovic@samford.edu or submit online at samford/cumberlandlaw/Update-your-info.

29 / CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW / ALUMNI MAGAZINE SAMFORD.EDU/CUMBERLANDLAW / 30
Cumberland School of Law welcomed 147 engaging, and motivated new 1Ls on August 14. During the first day of orientation, the Class of 2020 received an introduction to professionalism from Judge Carroll, advice from alumna LaBella S. Alvis '84, and learned the history of Cumberland from Professor Walthall. Each day included various activities to ensure each student's success. On the third and final day, over 99% of the incoming class volunteered his or her time to one of seven local service projects. If this gesture of selflessness is any indication of what the future holds for this class, then we can be confident in their ability to carry on the Cumberland commitment to public service.

The Class of 2020 represents 15 states, 54 undergraduate colleges and universities, and 38 college majors. The median age is 24, and the group is 51% male and 49% female. They have played collegiate sports, earned master’s degrees, served in the military, lived abroad, served their communities, and, in three years, will be alumni of Cumberland School of Law. Please welcome this class to the Cumberland community by mentoring, coaching or supervising them in your office. As always, I want to encourage you to continue being our top source of referrals. Our alumni are our best ambassadors, so thank you for your help recruiting the Class of 2020!

Future Cumberland Alumni
Join the Ranks!

By Whitney Dachelet, Interim Director of Admission

You have saved all your life. Now use your IRA to create your legacy.
If you are 70½ or older, you can use your individual retirement account (IRA) to support Cumberland School of Law. Making an IRA charitable rollover gift to Cumberland School of Law will lower the income taxes from your IRA required minimum distributions. Visit our website to learn how you can create your legacy by making an IRA charitable rollover gift this year. But hurry; time is running out. Begin by contacting Samford or your IRA administrator today.

2017 required minimum distributions must be completed by Dec. 31, 2017.

Ready to talk now? Please give us a call.

Gene Howard III, J.D.
Director of Gift and Estate Planning
205-726-2366 (office) • 1-877-782-5867 • wehoward@samford.edu • samford.edu

You have saved all your life. Now use your IRA to create your legacy.
If you are 70½ or older, you can use your individual retirement account (IRA) to support Cumberland School of Law. Making an IRA charitable rollover gift to Cumberland School of Law will lower the income taxes from your IRA required minimum distributions. Visit our website to learn how you can create your legacy by making an IRA charitable rollover gift this year. But hurry; time is running out. Begin by contacting Samford or your IRA administrator today.

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Avoid taxes on transfers of up to $100,000 from your IRA to support Samford.
Satisfy some or all of your required minimum distribution for the year.
Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions.
Make a gift that is not subject to the 50% deduction limits on charitable gifts.
Use your rollover to make payments on an existing pledge to the Forever Samford campaign.

Your Savings, Your Legacy

You have saved all your life. Now use your IRA to create your legacy.
If you are 70½ or older, you can use your individual retirement account (IRA) to support Cumberland School of Law. Making an IRA charitable rollover gift to Cumberland School of Law will lower the income taxes from your IRA required minimum distributions. Visit our website to learn how you can create your legacy by making an IRA charitable rollover gift this year. But hurry; time is running out. Begin by contacting Samford or your IRA administrator today.

2017 required minimum distributions must be completed by Dec. 31, 2017.

Ready to talk now? Please give us a call.

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For God, For Learning
FOREVER SAMFORD
Building a strong future for Samford University
Curtis Seal and Carmen Weite won Award in Top Gun Competition

In June, Curtis Seal '17 and Carmen Weite (3L) participated in the Top Gun competition hosted by Baylor School of Law. Every year, since 2011, Baylor invites competitors from the sixteen premier trial programs across the country to participate in a unique mock trial competition. This was Cumberland's eighth year to be invited and to compete. The competitors, who knew nothing about the case before arriving at Baylor, received the case file the day before the first trial. Moments before trial, the plaintiff is allowed to pick one, two or all three causes of action available. This format is the most intense and fluid used by any of the major national competitions and requires a high level of skill and experience. It is also one of the few competitions that not only allows but encourages the competitors to use courtroom presentation technology. Although Curtis and Carmen did not win the competition, they won the award for the best use of technology.

Michael Rasmussen '76, who accompanied the team to the competition, described their use of the technology as masterful.

Did you know?

For the ninth consecutive year, Samford University posted a record-breaking enrollment, with 5,509 students. Of that number, 3,373 are undergraduates and 2,136 are enrolled in our graduate and professional programs. The students come to us from 45 states and 30 countries. This year, Samford is 176 years old and is the top-ranked university in Alabama in national rankings by Forbes Inc. and The Wall Street Journal.

Congratulations

During the Alabama State Bar Annual Meeting the following alumni were honored and recognized:

Sarah “Sally” Clark Bowers '82
with the Mediation Award and Cumberland Law student Jessica Chang (Pro Bono awards)

Chief Magistrate Judge John Ott '81
with the Judicial Award of Merit

David Chip Schwartz '77 and J. Massey Relfe, Jr. '71 (posthumously)
with the Jeanne Marie Leslie Service Award

Martha Jane Patton '78
received the Maud McLure Kelly Award.

Tracy Luke

Behind every successful advocacy team is managerial muscle holding it up. Tracy Luke serves as a manager and muscle for the Cumberland School of Law Advocacy Program. As the program assistant for the Center for Advocacy and Clinical Education, Ms. Luke helps students with advocacy classes, externships, Moot Court Board and Trial Advocacy Board activities, and the law school’s national competition teams. In addition, she serves as the point person and event organizer when Cumberland School of Law hosts regional and national advocacy competitions. She began working at Samford University in 1989.
Find and like us on social media.

CumberlandSchoolofLaw  @CumberlandLaw  CumberlandSchoolofLaw  CumberlandSchoolofLaw

SAVE THE DATE
AND PLAN TO ATTEND

Jan. 18, 2018
Birmingham Alumni Luncheon

April 6–7, 2018
Alumni Reunion Weekend
• All Alumni Reception on Friday, April 6
• Open House on Saturday, April 7

Nov. 9, 2018
4th Jere F. White Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute
This biennial seminar is cosponsored with the Alabama chapter of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Proceeds from the seminar fund the Jere F. White Jr. Fellows Program at Cumberland School of Law.