

# The CUMBERLAND Lawyer

Fall 2011

**A Decade of  
Deanship: page 13**



# From the Dean

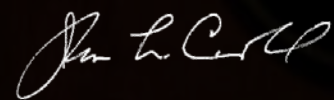
I am somewhat concerned that putting my picture on this issue of the *Cumberland Lawyer* will scare little children but am deeply humbled by the honor. It is hard for me to believe that I have been dean of our law school for 10 years.

People often ask me how I have managed to stay in this position when the average tenure of a law school dean is about five years. My answer is always the same. It is because of the Cumberland people—our students, faculty, staff and alumni—that I have the honor and privilege of associating with on a daily basis. Those Cumberland people make coming to the law school every day a real joy.

All of them have made this a very remarkable place. We have students from all over the country who are bright, but more importantly, good people as well. We have a faculty who are prolific scholars, but just as importantly, very effective teachers. They also possess a quality unique in legal education today; the faculty cares more about our students than they do their individual careers.

We also have a staff that, top to bottom, is the finest at any law school in the country. They are disciplined, highly motivated and committed to our success, and they, like the faculty, care deeply about our students.

Then, of course, we have all of you—more than 8,000 Cumberland lawyers spread all over the world. Your support of the law school is really phenomenal. You hire our graduates, coach our advocacy teams, teach our students and provide the all-important financial support Cumberland School of Law needs. One of the great pleasures of my deanship has been traveling the country, meeting with you and learning about your fascinating careers. You are great ambassadors for our law school and great role models for our students. Thanks for all you do for our law school and for our profession.



John L. Carroll  
Dean and Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law



## 4 Forever Changed

An alumna recalls her encounter with the April 27 tornadoes as Cumberland School of Law assists with Alabama recovery efforts.

## 6 Immeasurable Impact

Graduates share the impact a mentor relationship can have on one's life and career.

## 13 A Decade of Deanship

Lauren McCaghren talks with Dean John Carroll about the pressures of the position and the future of law and the legal profession.

## 17 Continuing a Tradition of Excellence

The law school's Trial Advocacy Program is ranked as one of the top in the nation and offers students more opportunities to develop advocacy skills than ever before.

## 19 Reform and Reorganization

To better prepare students for careers as highly skilled lawyers, Cumberland School of Law is reviewing the current curriculum and seeking input from alumni.

2 Cumberland News	30 Focus on Faculty
21 Graduation	31 Faculty and Staff Notes
23 Student Spotlight	33 Class Notes
26 Alumni	36 In Memoriam
29 Career Development	39 Births

**Cover:** Cumberland School of Law celebrates **John L. Carroll '74** and his 10 years as dean of the school.

*The Cumberland Lawyer* is a semiannual publication of the Cumberland School of Law, Samford University.

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We need your help to make *The Cumberland Lawyer* useful to alumni. Send us your comments and ideas for alumni profiles, articles and ongoing features in addition to your personal alumni updates.

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Produced by Samford Office of Marketing and Communication

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## Alumnus Chuck Malone Named Alabama Chief Justice



Charles R. "Chuck" Malone of Tuscaloosa, Ala., a 1981 graduate of Samford's Cumberland School of Law, has been named chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. A former Tuscaloosa County

presiding circuit judge, Malone was serving as chief of staff to Alabama Governor Robert Bentley, who appointed him chief justice Aug. 1.

Malone is the first Cumberland School of Law graduate to serve as Alabama's chief justice, according to Dean John L. Carroll.

"Judge Malone brings a perfect balance of judicial and administrative expertise needed for this position," said Gov. Bentley at a news conference introducing the new chief justice.

A Republican, Malone succeeds Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb, a Democrat who was elected in 2006 but chose not to run for re-election in 2012. She resigned earlier this summer, effective

July 31. Next year, Malone will run for a full term for the chief justice post beginning in 2013.

Malone, 57, was a lawyer in private practice in Tuscaloosa for 20 years, serving as president of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association. He was elected a Tuscaloosa County circuit judge in 2000 and re-elected in 2006.

The new chief justice has served as an adjunct lecturer at Cumberland School of Law and at the University of Alabama, where he earned his undergraduate degree.

He and his wife, Terri, are parents of two adult children. The Malones are members of First Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa. ☺

## Law Week 2011



Law Week 2011 was more exciting than ever, featuring events each day of the week and culminating in Reunion Weekend 2011. Students showed off their talents in the bowling

tournament, Freshman Follies, croquet tournament, Williams Trial Finals and the highly anticipated Cumberland Idol competition. Students, alumni, faculty and staff enjoyed the festive Rascal

Parade and lunch, and the second annual Cumberland Classic Golf Tournament, which raised money for the Student Bar Association. ☺

## Mercedes Marathon



Thirty-two Cumberland School of Law students participated in this year's Mercedes Marathon in Birmingham.

Cumberland School of Law always has a strong presence at the annual Mercedes Marathon, led by the example of Dean John Carroll, who has competed in the marathon for seven of the 10 years that the marathon has been in existence.

This year, 32 students and faculty participated in the challenging marathon that winds around downtown Birmingham. Five students and Professor Brannon Denning completed the half marathon, and third-year student **Matthew Bracey** completed the full marathon.

Three law school relay teams placed in the top 15 teams in the mixed open division, finishing seventh, eighth and 13th overall of 97 teams. ☺

## Trial Teams Sweep Regional Competitions

Cumberland School of Law trial teams experienced an extremely successful year, sweeping the Regionals of both the National Trial Competition [NTC] and the American Association for Justice [AAJ] Regional Student Trial Advocacy Competition.

Cumberland School of Law's Trial Advocacy Board hosted Region 6 of the NTC competition Feb. 18-20 in downtown Birmingham. The competition welcomed 26 teams from 13 law schools in Alabama, Florida and Mississippi. More than 200 judges and attorneys were recruited from throughout Alabama to judge 52 trials over the weekend. After five rounds of competition, two teams from Cumberland School of Law finished first and second.

The winning team of **Ross Massey '11**, **Carrie Hodge '11** and third-year student **Samantha Nicolle** defeated Nova Southeastern University School of Law in the semifinal round and the

University of Alabama School of Law in the final round to go undefeated for the tournament.

The law school's teams are coached by **Judge Jim Roberts '94** and **Sara Williams '06**.

The mock trial team, coached by **Mike Rasmussen '76** and **Marc Jaskolka '00**, also placed first and second at the AAJ Regional Student Trial Advocacy Competition held in Montgomery, Ala., March 4-6. Cumberland School of Law teams defeated students from the University of South Carolina, University of Mississippi, Charleston School of Law, University of



Cumberland School of Law hosted Region 6 of the National Trial Competition and took both first and second place.

Alabama and Faulkner University in the preliminary and semifinal rounds.

The Cumberland School of Law teams faced each other in the championship round Sunday, with the team of **Charles Elliott '11**, third-year student **Drew Haskins**, **Amanda Kistler '11**, and third-year student **Brittany Stancombe** claiming first place. ☺

# FOREVER CHANGED

## Communities come together to transform a path of destruction into a path of hope

April 27, 2011, was a day that forever changed residents of the Southeast, including many Cumberland School of Law constituents. Officials believe 346 people were killed across seven states when a band of tornadoes dubbed April's Fury ravaged the South, making it the deadliest twister outbreak since the Great Depression.

The law school did not experience any direct physical damage from the storms, but many areas of Alabama were not so lucky. The National Weather Service announced that 13 tornadoes hit Alabama that Wednesday, claiming the lives of 239 residents. Thousands others were directly impacted by the storms, which leveled homes, offices and communities, and ripped apart families and friends.

Cumberland alumna **Julie Love '99** was one of those affected by the storms. Thanks to text messages from fellow alumna **Tricia Gill '99**, Love realized the severity of the storms and was able to escape to her Tuscaloosa, Ala., home just a mile and a half from her office. Her home was unaffected from the storms while her office was completely destroyed.

The first thing Love thought in the aftermath was "Where are my files?" Now she laughs and says, "I know there's

no Bar opinion on what you do if an F5 tornado levels your office." A police officer allowed Love access to her office immediately after the storm, and she was able to retrieve her sturdy 1950s file cabinet. "As we returned to try to recover files, I thought it humorous that

"The one thing that triumphs at a time like this is our humanity and sense of community," said Dean Carroll.

the item that cost me the most money remained hanging on the wall without a scratch," she said. Her Cumberland School of Law diploma survived the tornado amidst the surrounding destruction.

Operations at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa were suspended for the remainder of the semester to accommodate recovery efforts. Cumberland School of Law opened its doors to University of Alabama School of Law students and acted as a host site for final exams.

"While we normally restrict access to the law library to Cumberland



1. Julie Love proudly displays her Cumberland School of Law diploma, which weathered the storm's destruction.
2. Lauren McCaghren, associate director of alumni relations, works with other university employees to assist in recovery efforts.
3. Law faculty and students volunteered with legal clinics in the Birmingham area to aid tornado victims.

students during the exam period, we recognized that this was one way we could help and relaxed our usual procedure," said Greg Laughlin, director of the Beeson Law Library. "Cumberland students were notified of this and enthusiastically approved. Hopefully, it helped make difficult circumstances a little less difficult."

Though final examinations began the day after the storms, Cumberland School of Law students did not let their studies impede their relief efforts. The school partnered with Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Programs to provide legal assistance to victims of the storms. Students worked alongside faculty and area lawyers to apply the skills they learned in the classroom to the overwhelming legal needs in the community.

The Student Bar Association [SBA] hosted a donation drive immediately after the storms. Within days, the SBA office and the dean's office were filled with clothes, toys, diapers and household items for tornado victims. The SBA also hosted a fund-raiser for Crystal Grier, a former employee in the Law Student Records office, who lost everything in the storms. In a single evening, Cumberland School of Law students raised more than \$1,000 for Grier and her family.

"The one thing that triumphs at a time like this is our humanity and sense of community," said Dean Carroll. "I am always proud of our faculty, staff and students, but I have never been more proud than I am now as I watch them respond to the devastation wrought by the tornadoes."

Though people have come together from across the nation to assist in recovery efforts, there is still a long road ahead. Samford President Andrew Westmoreland said it best in an email to the university community: "We must remember that we are now engaged in a marathon, not a sprint. Let's focus on immediate needs while remembering that 'normal' may be a distant point on the horizon." 🙏





# IMMEASURABLE IMPACT

A mentor provides realistic knowledge, motivation and professional guidance to another individual. Some view mentoring as a business and a social imperative, helping to shape the leaders of tomorrow. Others are honored to have been the focus of a mentor and now wish to repay that experience.

The origin of the mentor can be traced to Homer's *The Odyssey*. When

Odysseus left to fight in the Trojan War, he left his son, Telemachus, in the care of his trusted friend, Mentor. Mentor selflessly served Telemachus as both a guardian and adviser, helping him to mature and actualize his untapped potential.

Just as Mentor helped to guide and grow Telemachus, the following pages feature mentor relationships between alumni and others who have shaped the

lives and careers of mentees. In all cases, however, the mentors have also been shaped by the experience, far beyond their expectations.

*If you would like the opportunity to mentor a current Cumberland School of Law student, go to <http://cumberland.samford.edu/alumni/student-success-mentor-program> to see how you can influence the next generation of lawyers.*



**MENTEE**  
**Ricardo Woods '04**  
 Burr & Forman, LLP

**How they met:** Ricardo Woods became hooked on Cumberland School of Law's trial teams after volunteering as a witness his first year. He considered leaving school after he lost his mother and maternal grandmother during his second year, but stayed after he made the trial team coached by Jim Roberts. Over the years, they've watched each other grow professionally: Woods as an experienced litigator, and Roberts as a judge on the 6th Circuit (he was sworn in earlier this year).

**Mentee on Mentor:** I never saw myself as a litigator. Being on Jim's team for those three years changed my path completely. The time I spent on his team became big part of how I practice law today and ultimately a major part of my identity as a lawyer.



**MENTOR**  
**Judge Jim Roberts '94**  
 6th Judicial Circuit and Cumberland School of Law trial team coach

Frankly speaking, I don't know who I would be if Judge Roberts had not taken the time to play a key role in my life.

**Mentor on Mentee:** Even from that first year, I knew that Ricardo had the potential to be something really special. One of the great things about coaching is seeing in people something that they may not see in themselves, and having the opportunity to help them unlock that potential. Ricardo was a perfect example of that. It was just a matter of getting him to understand and appreciate what God blessed him with to realize what he could do.



**MENTEE**  
**Bob MacKenzie '84**  
 Starnes Davis Florie, LLP

**MENTOR**  
**Mike Atchison '68**  
 Burr & Forman, LLP

**How they met:** Bob MacKenzie and Mike Atchison met in 1984 at a party at the home of Chervis Isom '67. MacKenzie was a third-year law student looking for a job. He had heard of Atchison's excellent reputation from Professor Howard Walthall. A couple months later, MacKenzie was hired at Atchison's firm, and their relationship began from there.

**Mentee on Mentor:** Mike showed me you can be a successful lawyer and remain on good terms with opposing lawyers and parties. I remember many occasions in trial with Mike when the plaintiff's attorney would begin a closing argument, but instead of talking about the plaintiff's injury and damages, the focus was on how much the jury liked Mike. I have seen Mike totally discredit a witness without raising his voice or a hint of sarcasm. Rather, Mike's approach has always been based upon preparation and sincerity. Mike has an incredible reputation in the legal community and has influenced so many of today's lawyers. You don't get to pick and choose your mentor; I was fortunate. That's not to say I ever could or did measure up to Mike's standard. Mike and I no longer work together, but influence doesn't cease when you move your office from one place to another.

**Mentor on Mentee:** Bob was always outgoing and energetic. He never met a person he didn't like, and to my knowledge, he's never said a bad word about another person. Bob struck out on his own, trying cases by himself, and he's done an incredible job. As a result, he's become a great mentor to other young lawyers. Bob and I are friends first; we practice together second.

**MENTOR**  
**Alicia Haynes '87**  
 Haynes & Haynes

**MENTEE**  
**Judge Shanta Owens**  
 10th Judicial Circuit,  
 District Court

**How they met:** As high school students, Shanta Owens and her twin sister, Sheree, were interested in the law. Following their mother's advice, they sought out an attorney to shadow. When their only contacts fell through, they turned to the Yellow Pages, where they found Haynes & Haynes. Alicia Haynes introduced them to the federal and state courthouse, Chief Judge U.W. Clemon, and a host of lawyers and law clerks. They continued to meet throughout Owens' college and law school career.

**Mentee on Mentor:** These people were superstars to my sister and me. I was able to see a woman as a successful attorney who took the time to give back to two children who didn't look like her, didn't come from her neighborhood, whom she knew nothing about. There wasn't any hesitancy in her voice—she just said "sure, come on over." It was pivotal for me to meet a black judge, who at the time was the chief judge. That planted the seed for me to know that you can always go higher. You never know how you can touch somebody's life; how you can inspire someone to move forward. I try to take time out when young people call me, because someone did that for me. I want to be able to be an inspiration to someone else.

**Mentor on Mentee:** When this mentoring relationship started, I thought, "Ok, I am helping two high schoolers out who think they want to be lawyers." However, they had such infectious eagerness that I wanted to spend time with them and help them along in the process. I was impressed that high school students were calling and that they wanted to shadow someone before they made that big jump. I thought it was important to be a cheerleader through college, law school and after they started practicing law. Now Shanta is a judge, and I cannot tell you the enormous pride I have for her accomplishment.



**MENTOR**  
**J. Mark Hart '78**  
 Hand Arendall, LLC

**MENTEE**  
**Khristi Doss Driver '00**  
 Haskell Slaughter Young  
 & Rediker, LLC

**How they met:** A year after graduation, Khristi Driver went to work at London & Yancey, where Mark Hart served as her superior. Though London & Yancey was a small firm, Hart stood out and took the initiative to teach and invest in Driver over the nine years they worked together.

**Mentor on Mentee:** I thought Khristi was going to be an excellent lawyer, and I was right. I have a philosophy that it's really important to manage young lawyers—to train them professionally to be good lawyers and to train them on the business side as well. I've been at it awhile, and I can see the end of the road in my law career. You hope that you leave something of yourself behind—some legacy or some contribution that people can carry on.

**Mentee on Mentor:** One of the most important contributions Mark made in teaching me how to practice law was not just understanding the big goal, but keeping things moving forward on a daily basis. Mark was also generous with his clients, and has always taken a team approach to business development and relationship building. He didn't hesitate about my having direct face-to-face time with his clients because we built a trust relationship. Because of his generosity, I learned how to interact with clients and how to develop those relationships so that I could go out and build my own. Mark encouraged me to always be myself, whether that meant community involvement or engaging in a hobby or passion.



**MENTEE**  
**Wayne Morse '76**  
Waldrep, Stewart &  
Kendrick, LLC

**How they met:** In 1975, Wayne Morse was hired for contract work for McDaniel, Hall, Parsons & Conerly. He began writing appellate briefs for Ed Conerly, who started practicing law in 1955. Conerly taught Morse the importance of professionalism, thoroughness, preparation and execution.



**MENTOR**  
**Ed Conerly**  
Hall, Conerly & Bolvig, PC

**Mentee on Mentor:** He is and always will be a lot smarter than I am. I recognized early on that I could learn a lot from him, so I pursued his wisdom and knowledge. To this day, I still use his aphorisms in the courtroom and tell new associates the same words he told me while I was conducting legal research or discovery—"It's there, you just haven't found it yet."



**MENTOR**  
**Kelli Hogue-Mauro '94**  
Birmingham Volunteer  
Lawyers Association

**MENTEE**  
**Elizabeth Pilgrim**  
Birmingham Volunteer  
Lawyers Association

**How they met:** When Elizabeth Pilgrim began working at Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program [BVLP] in 2009, the organization was beginning a major restructuring. Kelli Hogue-Mauro came on as the new executive director in 2010, and together, Pilgrim and Mauro shared a passion for making BLVP bigger and better. In 2009, the BVLP opened 200 cases. In 18 months, it has more than tripled that number and has moved from one clinic a year to 16 clinics in 2011.

**Mentee on Mentor:** Before Kelli came on, my job was simply to take calls and decide if they qualified for our program. Under her tutelage, I began taking on more responsibilities, including increased public speaking tasks. I've gained self-confidence and feel comfortable addressing different groups on a variety of topics. Kelli is the reason I can do this. She's pushed me to step out and get a little uncomfortable for what we are so passionate about. Kelli radiates positivity, enthusiasm and self-confidence, and has a sense of strength I strive to attain. Her passion for service and belief in the BVLP has taught me to expand my expectations for not only what this program can accomplish, but what I can accomplish as well.

**Mentor on Mentee:** Immediately, I recognized that Libby was so smart and could do anything you gave her to do; she just didn't have the confidence to think she could do everything. That's been really fun for me. In our line of work, one rarely takes the time to reflect on where and how the work gets done. The reality is that the work is done one day at a time by one set of hands after another. The highlight of this experience has been the personal connections I've made with my staff and board of directors. We all come from various walks of life and feel passionate about this project, and yet the common element is more defining than all the differences. I've learned far more from Libby than I've taught her, and we have had such a fun time along the way.

**MENTEE**  
**Lauren Shine '05**  
Ogletree, Deakins,  
Nash, Smoak & Stew-  
art, P.C.

**MENTOR**  
**Leatha Gilbert**  
Law Offices of Gene  
Sellers

**How they met:** When Lauren Shine was looking to move back to Birmingham, she met with Leatha Gilbert, seeking information about how she could get involved with the Women Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar. She never expected their relationship to turn into anything more than a polite phone call, but they have been close friends for more than three years.

**Mentee on Mentor:** Leatha has definitely been the person who has been the most instrumental in my legal career. She's so easy to talk to, and it's been really helpful to have her to turn to when I need to seek an outside professional opinion that I respect.

**Mentor on Mentee:** Mentoring Lauren has brought me a great new friend who has expanded my perspectives. Because of her, I have learned things that I would not have otherwise learned, both about the practice of law and family life. I had a really great mentor who encouraged me to become involved in both bar and community service. I've tried to take that example and continue it because I think it's important. Mentoring helps me stay adaptable in my practice, widens my network and increases my personal satisfaction in the practice of law.





**MENTOR**  
**Greg Schuck '94**  
 Huie, Fernambucq  
 & Stewart, LLP

**MENTEE**  
**Jennifer H. Reid '07**  
 Huie, Fernambucq  
 & Stewart, LLP

**MENTOR**  
**Dana Bolden Hill '00**  
 Boardman, Carr, Hutcheson and  
 Bennett, P.C.

**How they met:** Jennifer Reid found a mentor both inside and outside her practice. When Reid was a student, she met Dana Hill at the Thurgood Marshall event, and was immediately struck by her personality and wealth of experience. Through BLSA, Reid requested Hill as a mentor and has sought her advice ever since.

Reid met Greg Schuck when she clerked for Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, and was assigned to Schuck as a new associate. The two have worked together on many cases, and his hands-on approach as a partner mentor has helped her to grow within the firm. The combination of the two perspectives has been the perfect fit for Reid and has made her a better lawyer.

**Mentee on Mentors:** Dana has taught me about work/life balance and gives me the perspective of practicing law outside our firm. I'm able to bounce different issues off of her and she's done a great job of giving me perspective of balancing who I am as a new associate. Greg has taught me how to practice and how to think outside the box. It's really easy to get into a practice of doing the same things over and over again. There's no need to recreate the wheel, but Greg taught me the importance of looking at an issue 20 different ways to figure out what we could do that was innovative to address it. As I work with other partners, that way of approaching issues has been an asset to other practice groups within the firm. The reason I can stay excited and motivated about the practice is because I have a really good setup. Dana told me what to look for—I found it at Huie with Greg—and I can stay on fire for the practice because of it. I hope that everyone will seek something like this; it's not something that will fall in your lap.

**Mentor (Schuck) on Mentee:** I first met Jennifer at a dinner while she was a summer associate for our firm, and then quickly sought her out to work together on a project. My sense was that Jennifer would be a fantastic lawyer, and I was excited that we were able to hire her. Without question, it has been a perfect fit. It's been fun to watch her grow as a lawyer and to see those moments when suddenly "the light goes on" or when she really excels. What has been somewhat surprising to me, however, is how much the mentor relationship has done for my growth as a lawyer. It is definitely a two-way street.

**Mentor (Hill) on Mentee:** I thought Jennifer was crazy when she requested me for a mentor. I had only been practicing for four years; so I didn't think I was ready to be a mentor. I would tell Jennifer things about the practice that I wished someone had told me when I was in law school and when I finished. When I was wrapping up my third year of law school and taking the bar, I didn't have any type of support group. No one in my family had gone into law. To have the opportunity to help Jennifer as she began her career was a spectacular experience for me. I've always been impressed with Jennifer; I didn't have any doubt when she graduated and transitioned into the practice that she would be a great lawyer. She has a hunger for the law, which tends to wane after you've been practicing for awhile. She is still very excited about the practice. Seeing her work ethic makes me want to renew my passion for the practice and keeps me going.



# A Decade of Deanship

The approachable and highly respected Dean John Carroll speaks with Editor Lauren McCaghren to reflect on the 10 years he has served as dean and to consider the future.

**How was the initial transition from U.S. magistrate judge to dean of the law school, and what have you learned in this position?**

The transition really was easy because of the people at Cumberland. It was a jump from being responsible only for your

own individual caseload to being responsible for an entire community. That was the toughest part, to understand that responsibility and to understand how to exercise that responsibility.

**Over the past 10 years, you have been able to attract incredible faculty members to the law school.**

**What areas are you looking to strengthen now?**

The challenge for us is to make legal education more affordable. Our focus for the next several years will be on making education more affordable by making more financial aid available for students.





## Courtroom Named in Honor of Carroll

The naming of the John L. Carroll Moot Courtroom in Memory Leake Robinson Hall was announced during the annual reunion weekend activities Friday, March 25, 2011, at the Birmingham Museum of Art.

The new name for the moot courtroom coincides with Judge Carroll's 10th anniversary as dean of Cumberland School of Law.

The designation honors a request from law school benefactors Bettye and Cecil Cheves of Columbus, Ga., whose 2002 gift allowed for a complete renovation of the moot courtroom and continued incorporation of state-of-the-art technology. The courtroom serves as a site for classes, trial practices and competitions, special lectures and other events.

Cecil Cheves and Judge Carroll, both 1974 graduates, were law school friends and moot court competition participants. Carroll won the spring 1972 rounds of the Gordon T. Saad Moot Court Competition in the same courtroom that now bears his name. Cheves placed first in the competition the following fall.

The naming of the courtroom underscores Cheves' appreciation for Carroll's leadership of the law school and his previous involvement as a student.

Prior to becoming dean of Cumberland School of Law, Carroll was a U.S. magistrate judge in the Middle District of Alabama for 14 years.

### The media is questioning the value of legal education in today's economic market. How do you perceive the current and future value of a Cumberland School of Law degree?

The current Cumberland degree is an excellent value and will continue to be an excellent value in the future. I do not agree at all with the notion that law degrees are bad things to have. A law degree is a door opener for all sorts of professions. We live in a country where being a lawyer is an advantage, whether you're a lawyer in the courtroom, the boardroom or running your own company.

### The cost of a legal education has risen significantly over your time as dean. How do you leverage the quality of a Cumberland School of Law degree to attract students to the school?

One thing that students know when they come to Cumberland is that we are going to teach them how to practice law, no matter what they decide they want to do. We have students who come to us because they want that practical sort of education. The greatest selling point of our law school is the sense of community students feel when they spend three years with us. Those are the two most attractive qualities: our ability to teach students how to be lawyers in an environment that's supportive, caring and engenders a sense of community.

### Many more opportunities for financial aid and summer stipends for students have been introduced under your leadership. How do you plan to expand these opportunities in the future?

That's the challenge over the next several years: raising enough money so that we can radically increase the amount of financial aid available. Our alumni have provided us a huge amount of support, which I deeply appreciate. But there are many alumni whom we have yet to ask who will support us. The solution to this problem is not to make law school cheaper by cutting back programs, but to make it cheaper by providing more financial aid to students.

### The creation of the Cumberland Public Interest Fellowship Program has been very popular among students. How does this program contribute to the community and interface with the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Association?

The Public Interest Fellowship Program allows us to connect students to areas of need in public service. We had 100 students doing summer public interest fellowships, working for judges and federal defenders. Many of them assisted the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Association with their mission. Third-year student **Stephen Hudgens** received the Alabama State Pro Bono Award for his work with the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Association.

### You have experienced one ABA site visit during your tenure, and another is coming up in the fall of 2012. Is the law school prepared for this site visit, and are you looking to make any further changes outside curriculum reform (see page 19) in preparation for this visit?

Cumberland is well prepared for our site visit, and I do not anticipate making any changes in what we are doing. I am looking forward to having the site visit team meet our remarkable faculty, staff and students, and experience firsthand the exceptional things that are happening at our law school.

### You have managed to keep up your athletic prowess while serving as dean. Do you plan to keep it up?

I do plan to keep it up! I'm not having as much time to train as I need and the students keep getting faster. That's an admissions problem; we've got to stop admitting students who are faster than I am.

### You take on many volunteer positions, such as serving as an appeals judge in response to the BP oil disaster, serving on multiple boards, and serving on the Uniform Law Commission. In addition, you are a renowned expert on the discovery of electronically stored information. How do you manage it all, and what advice do you have for alumni and other aspiring busybodies?

Surround yourself with good people who allow you the freedom to do those sort of things. I mean that. I am surrounded by incredibly good people who do their jobs in such a way that it allows me to do these things that are external to the law school, but I think are beneficial to the law school. 🍷

## TIMELINE

'01  
'02



Judge John Carroll succeeds Professor Mike Floyd as the 19th dean of the law school. **Belle Stoddard '78** joins the faculty to teach legal research and writing and appellate practice courses. Her Southern manner and wit are well-respected among first-year students.



Don Cochran joins the faculty to teach trial advocacy courses. He brought a wealth of experience to the classroom from his past position as an assistant U.S. attorney.



The Moot Courtroom is renovated thanks to a gift from Bettye and **Cecil Cheves '74**. Cumberland School of Law places first in the Regionals of the National Trial Competition.

'03  
'04

The widely published Brannon Denning joins the faculty. He examines constitutional law—specifically the Commerce Clause and the Second Amendment. Denning is also coauthor of a book on how to become a law professor.



The Center for Biotechnology, Law and Ethics is founded to further information about current bioethical issues. It is the only one of its kind in the United States.

The Cumberland Volunteer Income Tax Assistance project is named by the ABA as the best new VITA project.



The Harvey S. Jackson Excellence in Teaching Award is endowed by **Eddie Jackson '76** and **Richard Fikes '85** to recognize outstanding faculty members.

Carroll is invested as the Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law thanks to the generosity of **Joe T. Malugen '77**.



Cumberland School of Law is ranked 10th among all law school in the *Princeton Law Review* for "Overall Quality of Life."

'05  
'06

The Lightfoot, Franklin & White Faculty Scholarship Award is endowed by **Jere White '80** and the Lightfoot, Franklin & White firm to recognize outstanding scholarly publications by law school faculty.

The law school partners with Norwich Law School at the University of East Anglia to create the Norwich LL.M study abroad program.

The Cumberland Public Interest Fellowship Program is established, providing students with relevant legal experience and public interest entities with needed assistance.



Alyssa DiRusso joins the faculty. Her research interests include wills, trusts, intestacy and tax-exempt charitable organizations. Her creative approach to teaching gives students true-to-life client experiences.

The Cumberland Community Mediation Center is established to meet a growing need in the Birmingham legal community.



Robinson Hall is renovated and the state-of-the-art Advanced Advocacy Courtroom is created.

The law school partners with Sidney Sussex College to create the Cambridge study abroad program.



Alumni giving percentage reaches 15%, up 7% from 2002.

'07  
'08

LaJuana Davis joins the faculty. She regularly lends her expertise to pro bono cases ranging from minor criminal violations to death penalty appeals, focusing on the areas of appellate advocacy and criminal law.



The law school's BLSA is named Chapter of the Year by the Southern Region of the Black Law Students Association.

Wendy Greene joins the faculty. Her research interests include employment discrimination and race relations. She is working to further the law school's relationship with the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.



Brewer Plaza is renovated and dedicated in honor of Martha F. and Albert P. Brewer.



Dayna Royal joins the faculty. She focuses on first amendment law, media law and complex commercial law litigation. Her popular articles on current media topics have garnered national attention.



Greg Laughlin joins the faculty. He gained immediate popularity as the law library director by allowing food and drink in the law library. His research interest is in cyber law.



'09  
'10

Cumberland School of Law becomes National Champion of the AAJ National Trial Competition.

*National Jurist* magazine recognizes Cumberland School of Law as a "Best Value Law School."



Carroll hires Rusty Johnson, who brings his experience representing litigants in class and collective actions to the classroom.



The law school partners with NALSAR University of Law in Hyderabad, India, to create a semester study abroad Indian exchange program.

Cumberland School of Law and Baker Donelson found the Alabama Capital Litigation DNA Testing Project.

The law school boasts a student-to-faculty ratio of 17:1.

The Family Court Paternity Docket Pilot Project is established to allow law students to aid Jefferson County Family Court in the administration of the paternity and support docket.



Cumberland School of Law is named by *U.S. News & World Report* as "Top 10 in Trial Advocacy."



The law school hosts the regionals for the National Trial Competition.

Cumberland School of Law boasts the largest bar passage rate in the past decade: 94.73%.

Cumberland School of Law takes first place over 95 teams at the ABA Student Tax Challenge.



**Woody Hartzog '02** joins the faculty. He returns to the law school as an expert in intellectual property and internet privacy.



The Advanced Trial Advocacy class is limited to 12 students and is the ultimate in trial skills training.



Kris Gray came to the law school for its strong trial program, a decision that has served her well.

# Continuing a Tradition of Excellence

*Trial Advocacy Program remains strong in the pursuit to train competent and ethical advocates*

From the very beginning, Cumberland School of Law has been known for its strong emphasis on trial advocacy. It has developed a reputation as one of the strongest programs in the United States, ranking as the No. 5 Trial Advocacy Program in the 2011 *U.S. News & World Report* of Best Law Schools.

The law school recognizes that

advocacy training is important because it teaches students to marshal facts into coherent arguments and to think on their feet. Those skills are important whether one is a courtroom lawyer, a lawyer who represents clients in major financial transactions, or one who represent clients in mediation and arbitration. For students who want to be trial attorneys, Cumberland School of

Law offers a curriculum that fully prepares them to try jury cases from the moment they graduate.

In their first year, students are exposed to advocacy in evidence and LLR, and are offered the opportunity to

participate in the Dean Parham H. Williams Freshman Trial Competition. The competition runs parallel to the first-year curriculum and allows students to consult with faculty during the competition. **Kris Gray '11** was very involved in the Trial Advocacy Program throughout her time at the law school, but admits that her performance in the Williams competition was not her best. "I figured everybody stinks the first time out," she said, "so I stuck with it."

Gray was one of many students who took advantage of the program and obtained the Cumberland School of Law Certificate in Trial Advocacy, a mark of excellence and achievement for students who excel in this area. "I always wanted to be a prosecutor, and I came to Cumberland because of the trial program," she said. "When I saw that Cumberland was ranked in the top 10 in the country for its trial advocacy program, I knew Cumberland was the place for me."

Deborah Young, who has been director of trial advocacy for 14 years, says Cumberland School of Law's program is unique for two reasons: the curriculum spans a student's three years at the school, and full-time tenured faculty are involved throughout. Full-time faculty ensure there is a coherent structure to the program and make sure all of the material is covered in the courses. "We know all of the courses the students have taken, we know the evidence and criminal procedure aspects, and we are here every day, so as students are getting ready for their next class, they can consult with us," said Young.

Adjunct professors are utilized in the second year Basic Skills in Trial Advocacy course, working with full-time faculty members to teach students all the components of a jury trial. These professors are skilled, practicing attorneys. They provide exceptional demonstrations and teach students with extensive hands-on exercises in small groups. "The Cumberland approach to learning is that students learn best by first seeing something done well, and then doing it themselves," said Don Cochran, a professor in the Trial Advocacy Program.

Over the years, the trial advocacy curriculum has expanded to reflect the changing practice of law. Cumberland School of Law's offerings now include Alternative Dispute Resolution,

Mediation, Negotiation, Digital Evidence, and the Advanced Trial Advocacy class. Limited to 12 students, with selection based on merit, this course is the ultimate in trial skills training.

Everything in the course is done in the most realistic manner possible, including direct and cross examinations of actual expert witnesses, utilization of a real jury, and the extensive use of video review of student performances. Students are required to use technology in presenting cases in the state-of-the-art Advanced Advocacy Courtroom, and students are able to watch jury deliberations in real time from a closed-circuit video feed. "It really is an incredible experience for the students," said Young, "and we couldn't do it without the amazing support from our local attorneys and judges."

The final trials in the course take place in front of distinguished state and federal judges.

Students are invited to participate in the school's highly successful national advocacy teams, and are also given the opportunity to participate in inter-school competitions throughout their enrollment. Competitions are sponsored by the Trial Advocacy Board and the Henry Upson Sims Moot Court Board. Though course credit is not offered for participation, the teams and competitions are very popular with students. Practicing attorneys coach the award-winning trial teams, devoting countless hours to mentoring students.

Students who fulfill the Trial Advocacy Certificate requirements also take advantage of advanced seminars such as Advanced Evidence, Scientific Evidence and Ediscovery. Training is concluded with an externship, where they are given the opportunity to try real cases.



**Shannon O'Gunn '11** was a top student in the program and placed second in Baylor University's Top Gun trial competition.

"We get top-notch externs from the Trial Advocacy Program, students who are ready to be trial lawyers," said **Bill North '86** with the Bessemer District Attorney's Office. "We give them an opportunity to polish their skills with real, daily courtroom experience. When those students complete the curriculum, they have more than just the skills—they have a level of confidence that is invaluable in today's legal arena."

"I've talked to other people who have transferred from Cumberland to other law schools," said Gray, "and they say the education, both trial-wise and otherwise, is not comparable. The professors and adjuncts we have are top-notch. We have U.S. attorneys teaching us, federal judges coming to judge our competitions, and we have top-rate coaches for our trial and ADR programs."

Gray will join the U.S. Marine Corps JAG in October and will fulfill her lifelong dream of practicing in the courtroom. Though she is only a few months out of school, she is confident of her abilities and is eager to represent clients. "I learned so much here," she said. "I know what I'm doing. That's the best skill I've learned—to not show my nerves. I'm very thankful for my Cumberland education." 🍷

# Reform and Reorganization

## Law School Deans Explore Curricular Changes and Look to Alumni for Assistance

Today, \$34,500 can buy a C300 Mercedes, a hip replacement or two nights in the penthouse suite at the Atlantis Hotel. It can also buy you a year's worth of classes at Cumberland School of Law. That's a large price tag, which the law school doesn't take for granted.

The law school is undergoing a thorough review of its curriculum under the leadership of Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Corky Strickland. The purpose of the planned curriculum revision is to better prepare students for careers as highly skilled lawyers.

For years, law schools across the nation have essentially duplicated the "Harvard model," said Strickland. "Law school curriculum is based on what Harvard has done since the late 1800s. Although law schools have made some important reforms at the margins, they never systematically articulated the objectives of the law-school curriculum, nor evaluated whether those objectives were being achieved," he said.

Law school accrediting agencies also did not demand that sort of evaluation. The American Bar Association [ABA], the primary law school accrediting agency in the United States, has always focused on inputs rather than outputs. Examples of inputs include how many books are housed in the law library and how many professors are employed. Regional accrediting agencies that accredit colleges and universities (like



In the past six months, law school administrators and faculty have convened seven focus groups to identify the skills graduates need to possess as they begin practice.

the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools [SACS], which accredits Samford), meanwhile, largely acquiesced in the ABA's assessment of law schools.

In recent years, however, SACS has shifted its accreditation standards to focus on outputs rather than inputs.

More importantly for Cumberland School of Law, SACS and other regional agencies have begun to require evaluation of law schools using those same output standards. SACS seeks to evaluate outputs by requiring schools to do three main things: articulate what students should know and be able to do when they graduate; define a mechanism to measure whether students achieve those learning objectives; and designate a system for gathering feedback to modify and revise curriculum accordingly. The ABA has proposed measures to adopt similar accrediting standards.

The law school's objective is to prepare students to graduate as highly qualified beginning practicing lawyers. To design a curriculum that supports this objective, administrators recognize that in addition to current faculty, alumni and practitioners must be

involved in the process. "The practice of law has changed significantly since we [faculty] have been out there," said Strickland, "particularly in the business aspects. We want to hear from alumni and practitioners about what students should know and be able to do, and what attributes and values they should have when they walk out the door."

Over the past six months, Dean

John Carroll and Strickland have been meeting with focus groups to identify the skills and traits law school graduates need to possess as they enter the legal community. Alumni and area practitioners have been invited to participate in these focus groups, which were divided into practice areas such as government lawyers, plaintiffs' lawyers, divorce/family law lawyers, solo practitioners, in-house counsel, civil defense lawyers, criminal defense lawyers and prosecutors.

"Convening these focus groups and listening to the practicing bar has been one of the best things we've done since I've been dean of the law school," said Carroll. "They really have given us great ideas about areas where we may want to look at some curricular change, and they've identified skills that we hadn't thought about that we really ought to be imparting to our students."


**Pat Ballard '96** has participated in both the solo practitioner and the plaintiffs' lawyers focus groups. "I was pleased to be involved in two focus groups conducted by Dean Carroll," said Ballard. "I am very happy to see the

ongoing efforts and obvious commitment of the faculty at Cumberland to provide legal education that is relevant to the realities of legal practice in today's world."

The final focus groups were scheduled for July 2011. Since their conclusion, Strickland has been working to organize the points from each of the focus groups. This year, the faculty will discuss proposals for revising or reorganizing the curriculum to maximize current resources and to assure Cumberland School of Law

continues to produce highly competent graduates who stand out in the legal field.

"This process is exciting because it entails thinking about legal education from the ground up," said Strickland. "It requires us to listen carefully to alumni and practitioners about what new lawyers need to practice successfully in the 21st century, and then to think about how best to provide the required knowledge, skills and values to law students. That task is not easy or quick, nor without some

controversy. The process should never end. We will need to maintain close communication with alumni and the rest of the bar to revise the curriculum to meet the ever-evolving demands of practice." 

## What are your thoughts?

As Cumberland School of Law moves toward the future, we turn to our alumni for your valued input and experience. Please take a moment to fill out this form. Your responses will help us as we examine current curricula and plan programs for students to prepare them for entering the legal community.

1. What skills should students possess when they graduate from law school?

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2. With what substantive areas of law should all students be familiar when they graduate from law school?

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3. What other knowledge (other than law) should all law students have when they graduate?

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4. What deficiencies do you see most often in recent law school graduates?

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5. What is on your short list of things about the practice of law you wish somebody at your school had told you when you were a law student?

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6. What things are important to successful law practice that cannot be taught in law school?

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Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Field of Expertise \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach and mail to Cumberland School of Law, Attn: Corky Strickland, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

# Roby Addresses 2011 Graduates

The Cumberland National Alumni Association welcomed 145 new members on May 13, 2011.

Graduating students hailed from as far as away as Tacoma, Wash., and families from across the United States gathered to celebrate the milestone in these graduates' lives.

Following a reception in the Great Room of Robinson Hall, members of the Class of 2011 processed to Wright Center on the campus of Samford University, led by four bagpipers.

The graduates were addressed by Alabama Congresswoman **Martha Roby '01**, who urged them to give a high priority to public service in their careers and to be ready for such opportunities.

"The call may come when you least expect it," Roby told graduates, "and it doesn't necessarily mean elective office.

Public service is something beyond charity, and it's an essential part of American life."

A Montgomery, Ala., native who represents Alabama's Second Congressional District and serves on the House Armed Services Committee, Roby is the daughter of Chief Judge of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals **Joel F. Dubina '73**. He served as Cumberland School of Law's commencement speaker in 2002.

During commencement exercises, the Daniel Austin Brewer Professionalism Award was presented to graduate **Zachary La Fleur** of Tucson, Ariz. The award was established by law school professor and former Alabama Governor Albert Brewer in memory of his father. Given to a graduating senior who best exemplifies attributes of professionalism that lawyers are expected to exhibit in practice, nominations are received from law faculty,

law staff and members of the graduating class. La Fleur has battled cancer throughout his years at the law school. He was nonetheless able to walk with his class at graduation.

The farewell address was presented by Senior Class President **R. Larry Fantroy, Jr. '11**, who thanked family and friends for their patience and support, even when members of the Class of 2011 were unable to make it home on Thanksgiving because of exam pressure. "We recognize that what we celebrate today is not only about us, but about you as well," he said. Fantroy challenged his classmates to "respect yourself, respect others and respect the profession of law," and to "always remember to be a good person first."

1. Commencement speaker **Congresswoman Martha Roby '01**
2. Anne Marovich with graduates **Bethany Harrison** and **Brandon Prince**
3. **Felicia Lee** and family
4. **Judge Joel Dubina '73** and graduate **Drake Roberts** at the graduation reception
5. **Kris Gray** and **O. Z. Hall** enjoy the procession to Wright Center.
6. **Kirby Harris, Bethany Harrison, Denetra Hartzog, Brandon Hays** pose for a picture before the ceremony.
7. **Zach La Fleur** won the Albert P. Brewer Professionalism Award.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# When India Hits Home

by Matthew Brown '11

- 8. Joshua Vick, Andrew Fulk and Matthew West
- 9. Jordan Beard '11 with his father, Major General William Beard '91
- 10. Jesse Anderson '11 with his father, James Anderson '79
- 11. Chris Romeo '11 with his father, Randolph Cordell Romeo '76

- 12. Bethany Harrison '11 with her brother, Matt Harrison '09
- 13. Molly Savage '11 poses with her proud grandparents after the ceremony.
- 14. Chris Yearout '11 with his father, Gusty Yearout '71



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11.



12.



13.



14.



The darkness of late evening began closing in on the old train station at the northern edge of India's capital. Flickering lights cast an eerie glow through the massive brick structure as the station yawned under the weariness of another hot, busy day. Platforms stood mostly empty as the last several trains of the day traversed quietly through.

I pulled my phone out of my pocket and glanced at the time; "22:15." I felt tired after a long day of travel. I had departed Agra, home of the Taj Mahal, at

4:40 a.m. and arrived in Delhi at 7:30 p.m. I spent the next 14 hours hiking the streets of Delhi with 25 pounds of luggage on my back, enjoying the old city even in the intense heat.

After spending more than four months in India and interacting with people at virtually every level of society, I still felt oddly disconnected. Though I had experienced much of India's rich culture and history; observed firsthand the abject poverty, filth and congestion; and developed numerous friendships

with the resilient people, India seemed more dream than reality. I felt as though I was viewing photos in a magazine or on television back in the United States. India had not yet hit home.

I reached into my dusty computer case and pulled my train ticket out of my Bible. "Train: Hwh Dli Klk Mai (#12311) Departure Time: 23:40 Platform: 6 Coach: AC2 Berth: 4." I slid it back into my Bible and observed my surroundings. Platform 6 was dotted with crates and bundled goods. Metal



Under the gray cloak of dim station lights and the late hour, I saw not a young, dirty, poor Indian boy selling papad, but my own little brother living this same hard life. My eyes teared as I watched this child who had likely been up since early morning, selling food at this filthy train station, and was still working hard at 10:15 p.m.

benches, positioned every 100 feet or so down the center of the platform, sat quiet and empty.

I chose a bench and unloaded my baggage on the metal seat. As I sat down, I noticed a basket of papad on the floor beneath me. Papad is a food that resembles a large, round, tortilla chip. I reasoned it was likely abandoned.

As I relaxed, I saw a young Indian boy slowly approaching. He must have been 9 or 10

years old, stocky, but his grimy clothes and dirty appearance marked him as one of India's countless poor. He continued to approach with sheepish and awkward hesitation. Seconds later, he quickly scooped up the basket. I assumed he was snatching the "abandoned" food for himself, but as he pulled the basket strap over his shoulder, I realized that he was selling papad to passengers.

The boy turned to depart and was immediately called by a man who had just taken a seat on a bench behind me. Not wanting to miss a sale, the boy approached the man and prepared a papad.

As I observed the boy's expressions and studied his mannerisms, he reminded me of my younger brother. Under the gray cloak of dim station lights and the late hour, I saw not a young, dirty, poor

Indian boy selling papad, but my own little brother living this same hard life. My eyes teared as I watched this child who had likely been up since early morning, selling food at this filthy train station, and was still working hard at 10:15 p.m.

There, sitting on Platform 6 of the Old Delhi station, India finally hit home for me. I had observed many poor people who lived unimaginably difficult lives. Yet, this boy made me think of one of my own family facing the same daily hardships. While I likely will never see the Indian boy again, I have him to thank for making India, and the needs of the Indian people, hit home for me. His face will always remain in my mind as a sobering reminder of the undeserved blessing God has showered on my life and the lives of my fellow Americans.

My four-month stay in India, through Cumberland School of Law's foreign exchange program, was a life-changing experience. Although not for the faint in heart, studying in India provided me an unparalleled opportunity for spiritual, professional, academic and cultural growth.

I arrived at NALSAR University of Law in Hyderabad, India, on Dec. 29, 2010, and spent the semester studying General International Law, Human Rights Law, Humanitarian Law, and Law and Poverty. NALSAR has been dubbed by some as the "Harvard or NYU of India," at least in terms of Indian law schools. Of the more than 24,000 students participating in India's Common Law Admission's Test (similar to the LSAT), NALSAR'S incoming

class is derived from the top 1 percent. Not surprisingly, I found that NALSAR students generally came from extremely wealthy, upper-caste families.

Because of their affluence, NALSAR students were also westernized. In fact, the level of westernization among the student body was one of my biggest surprises.

Unfortunately, that affluence did not translate into a cushy campus. Although nice facilities by India's standards, NALSAR operates without air conditioning. I also became proficient at hand-washing my own clothes as there were no washing machines or dryers within miles of campus.

My class schedule at NALSAR was very busy. Each course met for one hour every Monday through Friday, and on every other Saturday. NALSAR does not have a spring break, but Indians celebrate many holidays, which provided me with ample time to explore the country (and even take a quick trip to southeast Asia).

The day after arriving at NALSAR, I stumbled upon a small church similar to my home church. Its missionary pastor planned to return to the Philippines for six weeks, and he asked me to preach services in his absence. Every weekend after class, I made the 90-minute bus trip into the city center, where I helped with the church before returning to the school on Sunday evening. These hours cultivated some of the most amazing opportunities to interact with the "common" people.

From a professional standpoint, a semester in India provided incredible

opportunities to learn about India's massive and rapidly growing economy. India's huge population is quickly becoming the nation's biggest asset. Barring other factors, it will be India's vibrant young population that will create strong economic growth and stability while economies in China and the United States grow top-heavy and unstable.

I was especially intrigued by the rapid growth of legal outsourcing to India from U.S. companies and law firms. In 2008, the ABA gave a thumbs up to legal outsourcing, finding the practice "a salutary one for our globalized economy." While in India, I met with several individuals who are either involved in or entering India's legal outsourcing [LPO] industry.

With the LPO elephant looming in the corner and increasing in size daily, those issues are already being tackled in the northeast and western legal communities of the United States and are beginning to hit home in the South. My direct interaction with legal outsourcing on Indian soil will undoubtedly prove invaluable as I adjust and adapt my future practice to an increasingly global legal market.

My time in India proved to be the most incredible experience of my law school tenure. It's an opportunity that I would encourage other law school and Samford students to embrace. I owe a great deal of thanks to the administration at Cumberland School of Law and Samford University, as well as to my supervising professors, family and friends

for the support, encouragement and prayers during my travels. I will be forever thankful to God for the experience he provided me in India during this past spring semester. 🙏

*Matthew Brown spent his final semester at NALSAR University of Law and graduated from Cumberland School of Law in May. He practices with Milam & Milam, LLC, in Pensacola, Fla., and is engaged to be married next May. Under a cooperative arrangement with Samford and NALSAR, an Indian student has the opportunity to study at Cumberland School of Law and an American student at NALSAR each semester. Cumberland School of Law recently said goodbye to Sunetra Ravindran, the second exchange student to participate in the program. For more information on the law school's international programs, go to [www.cumberland.samford.edu/foreign-programs](http://www.cumberland.samford.edu/foreign-programs).*

# Letter from your Director of Alumni



Fifty years ago, in 1961, Cumberland School of Law moved from Lebanon, Tenn., and convened its first class in Birmingham, Ala. At that time, John

F. Kennedy was president, a gallon of gas was 31 cents and the Dow reached a high of 734. We've come a long way in the last 50 years, and our alumni and students continue to outperform the norms and averages.

On April 14, 2012, we will celebrate our 50 years in Birmingham. All alumni will be invited to visit the school, show their families where they sat in class, find their composite picture, see the immense display of trophies from various competitions, and just have a great day reminiscing. In a few months, look for announcements about this special day. The faculty and staff would like to see you again as well.

Over the past several months, I've thoroughly enjoyed meeting alumni across the Southeast. From Jackson, Miss., to Asheville and Charlotte, N.C., from Huntsville to Valdosta, Ala., and down to Orlando, Fla.—I never get tired of meeting such interesting people and hearing about our graduates' careers and lives (I'm still lobbying the deans for an alumni event in Hawaii—maybe next year.) The Cumberland Alumni Association deserves to celebrate our network, achievements, share stories and hear about the school's current goals. In the meantime, crack open your window for some fresh fall air and update us on your successes. As always, if we can assist you or if you have a suggestion for us, please contact me.

Best regards,

Anne Marovich

# Letter from your Alumni Association President

## Who is Harry Phillips?



Judge Julian Mann

Harry Phillips was a graduate of Cumberland School of Law, Class of 1933. He had no intention of becoming a lawyer; his life's ambition was to be a journalist. It was not so much that law school

changed his mind about his ambition; rather, it was a series of fortuitous circumstances, coupled with the guidance of his legal mentor, Robert Forrester, that led Phillips to forgo journalism for the practice of law.

Phillips entered the private practice of law with Forrester in his home town of Watertown, Tenn. After serving two terms in the legislature, he joined the attorney general of Tennessee, thereafter served as a judge advocate general during World War II, and later entered private practice in Nashville, Tenn., until the call came in 1963 to join the court.

Upon the recommendation of Senator Albert Gore, Sr., a Cumberland University alumnus, Phillips accepted the nomination of President John F. Kennedy to serve as judge on the Sixth Circuit United States Court of Appeals. He served on that court for many years, rising to be chief judge in 1969. He also authored law review articles, scholarly treatises and several books, primarily in the fields of his legal expertise.

Several years after the law school moved from Lebanon, Tenn., to its present location, Judge Phillips, in April of 1964, made one of the addresses commemorating the dedication of Memory Leake Robinson Hall. Paraphrasing the words of his patron, President Kennedy, Phillips might have termed the transition between campuses as "the torch being passed to a new generation of Cumberland lawyers."

Phillips authored numerous opinions on the Sixth Circuit, some of which reflected the very difficult school

desegregation issues of the early 1970s. Other opinions reflected his brilliant legal analysis in areas such as patent appeals.

In 1985, after taking senior status, Phillips suffered an untimely death while attending an American Bar Association function in London, England, when he was struck by a car at a cross walk. Five years later, he was memorialized in the creation of Nashville's first Inn of Court, which today still bears his name.

What does the life of Harry Phillips have to do with a lawyer and a judge from North Carolina who, like Phillips, is proud of his Cumberland heritage? I never personally knew Phillips, but I did see his reflection in several North Carolinians. The first reflection was found in my longtime friend and mentor, the Hon. Sid Eagles, chief judge (retired) of the North Carolina Court of Appeals. I never met a more ethical or scholarly judge. I am proud to call him friend. Only very recently did I learn that Chief Judge Eagles' father-in-law was Phillips. Eagles' wife, Rachel, was the twin daughter of Phillips.

Rachel Eagles, too, has been an exemplary citizen and contributor to numerous civic causes over the course of many years in Wake County. Sid and Rachael's daughter, Margaret, sits as a district court judge in Wake County. Several years ago, she litigated before me a complex environmental case, which was one of her first trials.

Another scholar who reflects Phillips and whom I greatly admire is Professor Charles Daye, the first African American tenured faculty member at the University of North Carolina Law School. In my opinion, Daye is the foremost academic expert in the field of state administrative law and the one who authored the seminal law review article on North Carolina's Administrative Procedure Act. Judge Phillips appointed Daye as his law clerk, the first African American to serve as a law clerk on the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

These traditions of excellence are carried on the shoulders of all who practice law as Cumberland School of Law graduates. They require us to

recognize and emulate those who came before us, like Phillips. Looking down upon us today, perhaps Phillips might say, "The torch has been passed to a new generation of Cumberland Lawyers, who are now burdened with the professional responsibility of preserving these rich traditions."

If you look around at those who reflect these traditions, whom do you see? You are bound to see the law school's dean and faculty. Like the phoenix that arose from the

ashes when the law school moved to Birmingham, these professors, who are without peer anywhere in this country, are preparing a new generation of Cumberland Lawyers for the practice of law and who will expect these new lawyers to carry forward the admonishment of Harry Phillips into the new millennium.

I pledge to do all that I can to uphold these goals as your national alumni president, and I give thanks for the torch

that has been passed to me by last year's president, Lenora Pate, who embodies the finest of these traditions. Together, we expect all alumni to honor the traditions of Cumberland School of Law, which in case you might not know, is the finest law school that has ever existed.

Julian Mann III '74  
National Alumni President

## Upcoming Alumni Events

Oct. 11	Huntsville Alumni Luncheon	Nov. 1	Mobile Alumni Recess
Oct. 12	Tuscaloosa Alumni Luncheon	Nov. 8	Pensacola Alumni Reception
Oct. 13	Nashville Alumni Recess	Nov. 15	Atlanta Alumni Reception
Oct. 18	Montgomery Alumni Recess	Nov. 17	Washington, D.C., Alumni Reception
Oct. 20	Advisory Board Dinner	Nov. 19	Samford vs. Auburn Tailgate at Auburn
Oct. 21	Advisory Board Meeting	April 13-14	Reunion Weekend 2012
Oct. 25	Birmingham Young Alumni Recess	April 14	50th Anniversary Celebration

## Reunion Weekend 2011

Reunion Weekend 2011 was held March 25-26 and was a smashing success! With a golf tournament, dinner gala at the Birmingham Museum of Art, family picnic and class party all on the agenda, the reunion classes of '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01 and '06 had plenty of opportunities to catch up with old friends and reconnect. **Cam Ward '96** was named Young Alumnus of the Year and **Brad Bishop '71** was named Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. More than \$4,500 was raised during the Friday night silent auction, with all proceeds going toward the Student Public Interest Fellowship Program. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this wonderful weekend!





# Reflections

## My thoughts on the search for a meaningful summer internship following my first year of law school

by Sonya M. Buchanan,  
second-year law student

I feel very fortunate to have obtained an outstanding summer internship with the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Alabama. I had the opportunity to work alongside an amazing group of federal prosecutors whose work I admire and respect.

This internship required me to apply my law school studies to real-life situations and enabled me to start building skills that are instrumental in the practice of law. The Career Development Office [CDO] was a great help to me throughout my job search, providing me with the information and training that I used to obtain this position.

Like that of most law students, my job search was a time-consuming process. It required drafting a strong legal résumé, learning about legal practice areas and job opportunities in those areas, extensively preparing for interviews, and networking with attorneys. The CDO presented educational programs that prepared me for each of these tasks.

I also took advantage of opportunities to learn from and interact with practicing attorneys through the Lunch with a Lawyer program, the mock interview initiative, and other programs

the CDO hosts to engage students with alumni and the broader legal community.

In addition, I often checked the CDO bulletin board for news or interesting tips, responded to online job postings, and remained current on email messages. To complement the CDO's efforts, I conducted independent research on various job opportunities. Collectively, these activities crystallized my path and interests—which led me to the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Alabama in Birmingham.

The internship with the U.S. Attorney's Office was an enriching experience. For six weeks, other summer associates and I discussed noteworthy cases with assistant United States attorneys. We conducted legal research and writing assignments on evidentiary and procedural issues. We also frequently visited the United States Courthouse to observe legal proceedings, including initial appearances, hearings and trials. In addition, we participated in field trips where we met, conversed with and learned from esteemed government officials. The internship provided a representative cross-section of the work the U.S. Attorney's Office for the

Northern District of Alabama performs on a regular basis.

Legal analysis, research and writing skills were critical for my internship. Fortunately, Cumberland School of Law's rigorous first-year curriculum effectively prepared me, and I felt comfortable I was ready for the work. My professors did an outstanding job teaching us how to analyze cases, and draw parallels and distinctions between them. My Lawyering and Legal Reasoning class provided extensive and thorough training in legal research, and oral and written advocacy. A professional work ethic was also very important in the U.S. Attorney's Office.

I have my wonderful professors and the Cumberland School of Law family (including several alumni I met) to thank for exhibiting and reinforcing the important attributes of thorough preparation and a commitment to excellence inside and outside the classroom. I extend my sincere thanks to each and every one of them. This helped me be a more productive intern and made my internship experience a more rewarding one. ☺



# FOCUS ON FACULTY

## Introducing Woody Hartzog

Cumberland School of Law is proud to introduce the newest addition to its faculty, Woodrow “Woody” Hartzog.

A graduate of the Class of 2002, Hartzog is excited to return to his alma mater. “While I was a student, I received incredible support and excellent classroom instruction from the faculty. Their guidance played a pivotal role in my legal career and my choice to become a professor,” he said. “I am honored to join them.”

Hartzog begins the fall semester teaching Payment Systems, and will expand his course load in the spring semester to teach Intellectual Property and a seminar on Internet Privacy.

“Woody’s hire, as are all our hires, was the result of a national search,” said Dean John Carroll. “What really attracted us to Woody was when we talked with the people who had come into contact with him in his graduate programs. They identified him as absolutely one of the rising young scholars in the field of internet privacy.”

Currently a Ph.D. candidate in mass communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Hartzog is a leading expert in internet privacy law, online communication and electronic agreements. He has been widely published in law reviews and peer-reviewed publications such as the *American University Law Review*, *Journal of Intellectual Property Law*, *Michigan Telecommunications and Technology Law Review* and *Communication Law and Policy*.

“I have been fascinated by privacy and technology since I was a student at Cumberland,” Hartzog said. In his dissertation, he explores when confidentiality can be implied online. He examines privacy and the internet from a legal, sociological and psychological

perspective, and draws from such disciplines as media effects, information science and human-computer interaction. “It has been a great experience that has given me perspective on how the law, social norms, market forces and technology all affect our notions of privacy,” he said.

Hartzog holds an LL.M. in intellectual property from George Washington University Law School and received his B.A. from Samford University. He was also selected as a Junior Affiliate Scholar at the Center for Internet and Society at Stanford Law School, and will remain an affiliate through 2012.

Hartzog and his wife, Jen, reside in Birmingham with their 3-year-old son Will. Jen is also Samford graduate (B.A. ’99). Hartzog enjoys playing guitar, cooking and reading dinosaur books with Will. 🐊



## Faculty and Staff Notes

August 2010 through June 30, 2011



Adams



Bishop



Carroll



Connor



Craig



Davis



DeBow



Denning



DiRusso



Floyd



Greene



Greene

**Cassandra Adams** served on a panel at the 2011 Gilvary Symposium. The panel examined “Children and the Use of Mediation and Other Alternative Forms of Dispute Resolution.”

**Brad Bishop’s** latest journal article, “Municipal Safe Streets Act: To Tow or Not to Tow—That is the Question” was published in *The Alabama Municipal Journal*. The 2010 supplement to Bishop’s book, *The Prosecution and Defense of DUI Cases*, is now available. As chair of the Supreme Court Advisory Commission on Municipal Courts, Bishop chaired and presented two sessions, “Anonymous Tips in DUI Cases” and “Forensic Analysis and the Right to Confrontation.” Bishop was the chair and speaker of the Nov. 12 CLE Program “DUI Practice in Alabama: From Arrest to Appeal.”

**John Carroll** was named a member of the National Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court and has been named a commissioner of the Uniform Law Commission, and the reporter to the Uniform Law Commission Asset Freezing Order Drafting Committee. He acted as facilitator at the ABA’s Advanced Mediation Program in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Nov. 18 and was appointed as an appeals judge for the Gulf Coast Claims Facility in response to the BP oil disaster.

**Linda Connor** was appointed to the Alabama Law Institute’s Nonprofit Corporation Committee. The committee is reviewing the Model Nonprofit Act, drafted by the ABA, and will make recommended changes to Alabama’s Nonprofit Corporation Law to the Legislature.

**Ed Craig, Becky Hutto** and **Greg Laughlin** attended the fall meeting of the Law Libraries Association of Alabama. Laughlin, association president, presided, and Craig, association treasurer, gave a report of finances.

**LaJuana Davis** participated in the Florida Legal Scholarship Forum Nov. 13, a conference devoted to the presentation and development of works in progress of junior faculty members.

**Mike DeBow** presented a paper Nov. 18 on insurance bad faith litigation to a conference sponsored by the Searle Civil Justice Institute at George Mason University. On March 14, he lectured on “The Affordable Care Act Meets the Principle of Enumerated Powers” at Oglethorpe University and presented a paper on “Austrian Economics and American Tort Law” to a conference at George Mason University School of Law April 15.

**Brannon Denning** was a guest on WHYY’s morning talk show, *Radio Times*, in Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 4, discussing health-care litigation.

**Alyssa DiRusso** presented “The Reason Why Retirement is Preferable to Death: Taxes” as part of a panel on “Retirement Planning: From the Last Day of Work to the Last Day of Life” at the annual conference of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools in Palm Beach, Fla., Aug. 3.

**Mike Floyd** traveled to São Paulo and Fortaleza, Brazil, April 23–29. He met with current, former and prospective students, and officials in Cumberland School of Law’s partner institutions. He

spoke in São Paulo at the Tribunal de Justiça Militar and at the Faculdades Metropolitanas Unidas. He directed the June study for Master of Comparative Law Program [MCL] for students from Brazil and Nigeria in Birmingham, and directed the July 2011 study abroad program for J.D. and M.C.L. students at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

**Bob Greene** participated in the first International Online Scientific Conference: “European Educational Space: State, Problems and Prospects” conducted by the Dnepropetrovsk National University in Ukraine. On Jan. 18, he presented “An Overview of the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts for Municipal Leaders” at the Environmental Regulations and Planning for Municipalities conference sponsored by Samford University’s Vulcan Materials Center for Environmental Stewardship and Education.

**Wendy Greene** presented a paper entitled “Race No More? Race, Color and American Race Relations in the 21st Century” at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference in August. Her article, “Pretext Without Context,” was published in the *Missouri Law Review*, and her article, “Black Women Can’t Have Blonde Hair . . . in the Workplace,” was published in the *Iowa Journal of Gender, Race and Justice*. Greene’s article, “Title VII: What’s Hair



(and Other Race-Based Characteristics) Got To Do with It?” was cited by the Chicago Commission on Human Rights in two public accommodations cases, and an excerpt of her article was included in the third edition of *Race Law: Cases Commentary, and Questions*. During the Third National People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Greene moderated and served on a panel examining appearance codes in the workplace. She served as a member of the Conference Planning Committee and as a cochair of the Works-in-Progress program. On Oct. 23, 2010, Greene presented “Paradoxes of Perception,” one of 5 papers selected for the Fifth Annual Seton Hall Employment and Labor Law Scholars Forum. She served as vice chair of the Joint Meeting of the Southeast/Southwest and Midwestern People of Color Legal Scholarship Conferences held in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., March 31–April 3, and also served as moderator and panelist for the Employment and Equality panel.

**Pattie Harris**, director of Law Student Records, won the third annual Cumberland School of Law Staff Appreciation Award. Award recipients are student-selected.

**Paul Kuruk** chaired an international program in Accra, Ghana, Nov. 1–2, on the establishment of a regional competition authority to regulate activities of private and public enterprises in West Africa. He proceeded to Geneva, Switzerland, where he reviewed proposals regarding exceptions and limitations to the rights of authors of literary and artistic works, and drafted parts of an international instrument developed by the World Intellectual Property

Organization to facilitate access to copyrighted materials by persons with disabilities, educational and research institutions, and libraries and archive centers.

**David Langum’s** book, *Crossing Over the Line: Legislating Morality and the Mann Act*, was cited by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals as authority to support a particular interpretation of one provision of the Mann Act.

**Tracy T. Miller** was appointed by the Alabama State Bar President to the Editorial Board of *The Alabama Lawyer*.

**Bill Ross** spoke about the constitutionality of the Arizona immigration law at a symposium in Montgomery, Ala., Oct. 21, 2010.

**David Smolin** participated in a program titled “Stolen Children: Illegal Practices in Intercountry Adoption and the Need for Reform” presented by the UNROW Human Rights Impact Litigation Clinic April 4.

**Henry Strickland** and **Howard Walthall** prepared a proposal, “Learning

Outcomes, Practicing Lawyers and the Berkeley Effective Lawyering Predictors.” Strickland presented it in April at “Future Ed III: New Business Models for U.S. and Global Legal Education,” a conference cohosted by Harvard Law School and New York Law School.

**Belle Howe Stoddard** was re-elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Alabama Women’s Hall of Fame at Judson College during the fall board meeting. She has served as the representative of law on the board since the 1980s.

**Kathy Walton**, administrative assistant to Judge Carroll, won the third annual Cumberland School of Law Staff Appreciation Award. Award recipients are student-selected.

**LaVone Warren** was appointed to the Planning Committee for the midyear meeting of the Association for CLE, which was held Jan. 22–25 in San Francisco, Calif.

**Deborah Young** taught the summer course on Evidence at Vermont Law School in South Royalton, Vt., during July and August. 🍷

## Donaldson Publishes Autobiography

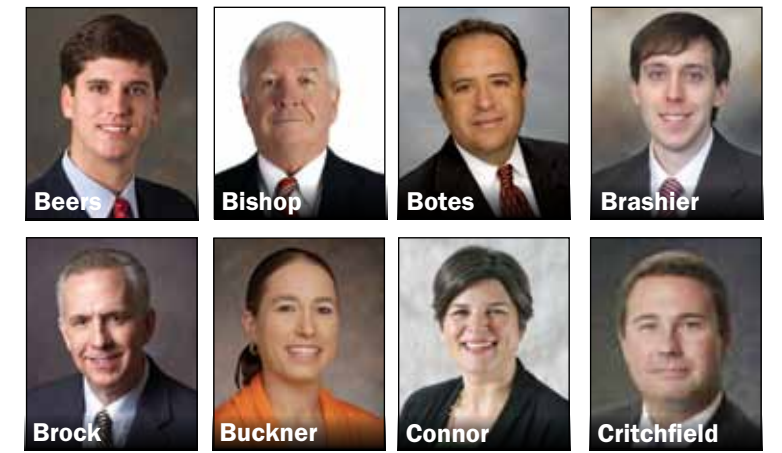
Cumberland School of Law Professor Emeritus Frank W. Donaldson recently published his anecdotal autobiography, *Glimpses of an Abundant Life*. The book is a collection of short stories chronicling the author’s 90 years. Tales of growing up during the Great Depression, flying a plane before learning to drive, serving as a World War II pilot and an FBI agent, practicing law, teaching law school for more than 40 years, and enjoying more than 60 years of marriage reveal a joyful journey.

Donaldson held office as United States attorney for more than a decade. While there, he demonstrated his loyalty to the law school, hiring 25 Cumberland School of Law alumni as assistant U.S. attorneys.

If you are interested in purchasing *Glimpses of an Abundant Life*, please go to [www.frankwdonaldson.com](http://www.frankwdonaldson.com). 🍷

# Class Notes

Through Aug. 25, 2011



1951

**Harry Wilters, Jr.**, a retired Baldwin County Circuit Judge, was honored by the Baldwin County Commission with the naming of the bridge over Fly Creek on Baldwin County 13 in his name.

1968

**William Wilkes** is retiring as circuit court judge of Clay County in Green Cove Springs, Fla.

1969

**Skip Ames** is an associate dean of Sorrell College of Business of Troy University in Dothan, Ala.

**Roy B. Gonas** of Miami, Fla., conducted a lecture and tutorial series this spring on international arbitration at the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine.

**Edward P. Meyerson** of Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, was named president of the advisory board of UAB’s Comprehensive Cancer Center.

**Thomas M. Woodruff** competed in the Nature Valley NASTAR National Championships in Winter Park, Colo. He won the silver medal, his second in three championships. Woodruff qualified as No. 1 of 41 in the bronze division (alpine), at Breckenridge, Colo., in February.

1972

**Benjamin R. Rice** joined Wilmer & Lee PA as a shareholder.

1973

**Larry Coben** joined Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman & Smalley, P.C., as a shareholder in the Philadelphia, Pa., office.

**R. A. “Sonny” Ferguson**, a retired circuit judge, joined Christian & Small LLP’s ADR practice group.

1974

**David K. Howard** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**Troy H. Myers, Jr.**, a shareholder of Merrill, Cullis, Timm, Furin & Ginsburg, PA, won the Florida Bar President’s Award for Pro Bono Service for 2011 for the 12th Judicial Circuit.

**Marion A. Quina, Jr.**, joined Burr & Forman’s Mobile, Ala., office as counsel.

**Bruce Williams**, Madison County circuit judge, retired at the end of August.

1975

**Byard Bower** accepted the position of director of contract management, Fluor Federal Government Group, at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

**C. Richard Johanson III** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**Rodney Max** is a charter member of the Alabama chapter of The National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

**Miles A. McGrane III**, a partner with the law firm of McGrane, Nosich & Ganz, was renamed chair for the second two-year term of the Judicial Qualifications Commission. He will cochair a 30-member commission on review of the discipline system of the Florida Bar.

**John E. Northcutt** will retire Aug. 31 after nearly 30 years with Robertson Banking Company.

**Joe Ritch**, an attorney with Sirote & Permutt, P.C., serves on the boards of the University of Alabama, the Huntsville-Madison Chamber of Commerce, Sci-Quest, the Alabama Space Camp Foundation and the UAH Eminent Scholars Foundation. He is a member of the Tennessee Valley Relocation and Closure Committee. Ritch founded the UAH Chargers Ice Hockey team and was inducted to the Huntsville-Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame April 13.

1976

**Marcella Auerbach**, managing partner of Nolan & Auerbach, P.A., spoke at the University of Miami 2011 Law Review Symposium on health-care fraud Feb. 18 during the opening panel discussion.

**John G. Beard** was named to the 2011 Birmingham Business Association board of directors.

**Wayne Morse**, with Waldrep Stewart Kendrick, LLC, was selected to serve as Alabama Chair of the Council on Litigation Management.

**Helen Nelson** is acting director of New Mexico’s income support division.

**Betsy Sue Scott** was elected president of the Virginia Women Attorney’s Association Loudoun chapter.

**James F. Walsh**, a partner at Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell, was elected president of the Alabama chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness and will serve a two-year term.



### 1977

**Joseph A. Fawal** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**H. Mark Kennedy** is chairman of the Alabama Democratic Party.

**Robert F. Northcutt** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**Susan Reid** was appointed general counsel of McCalla Raymer, LLC.

### 1978

**Tommy Spina** was a guest speaker at the Ninth Annual Iron Bowl CLE in Birmingham.

### 1979

**Jamie Benjamin** was elected vice president of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys.

**Steven F. Casey** joined the Birmingham office of Jones Walker as partner in the firm's commercial litigation practice.

**Ray D. Gibbons** and **Christina A. Graham '00** announce the opening of Gibbons Graham LLC, 100 Corporate Parkway, Suite 125, Birmingham, Alabama 35242, 205-437-1331.

### 1980

**F. Laurens "Larry" Brock** joined the law firm of Adams and Reese as a partner in the Nashville, Tenn., office, and was named to the board of the United Way of Greater Chattanooga.

**Dennis Nabors**, a shareholder with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, will lead the firm's new Montgomery, Ala., office.

**Romaine S. Scott III**, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker LLC, was named to the bankruptcy committee of the Baldwin County Bar Association.

**Judge William Bruce Smith** was elected to become the newest chief judge for the 10th Judicial Circuit, which covers Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties in Florida.

### 1981

**Roger Bedford** received an Alabama Law Institute Legislative Award from the Alabama State Bar.

Former Florida Governor **Charlie Crist** joined the firm Morgan & Morgan. He is a distinguished professorial lecturer at Stetson University College of Law.

**Ronald T. Henry** retired after 24 years with the United States Attorney's Office, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville Division.

**Brig. Gen. J. Derek Hill** was appointed homeland security adviser and administrator of the Iowa Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

**Trevor Howell** received the 2011 Distinguished Faculty Award from the Nashville School of Law.

**David J. Hyman** joined the offices of Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson. He is an active scholar and frequent lecturer who has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Tulsa College of Law for more than eight years.

**James Ingram**, an assistant U.S. attorney in Birmingham, Ala., was selected by the U.S. Department of Justice to serve as a

senior trial attorney for the asset forfeiture and money laundering section in Washington, D.C., on a one-year detail. He will work in the international unit as part of a new Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative, targeting proceeds of large-scale foreign official corruption.

**Bill Ratliff** is a charter member of the Alabama chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

**Al Scott** of Montgomery, Ala., was named assistant to the president of Alfa Insurance. He will continue to serve as general counsel and corporate secretary for Alfa Insurance companies, but will now play a more visible role representing Alfa and coordinating functions of the company's various divisions.

**Lynda K. Walker** recently became executive director and general counsel to the Tax Council and Tax Council Policy Institute.

### 1982

**Tim Crocker** was elected a fellow of the Tennessee Bar Foundation.

**N. Gunter Guy, Jr.**, was appointed by Governor Robert Bentley as commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and by President Barack Obama as state representative, Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force.

**Judge Michael Joiner**, Shelby County Circuit Judge, was appointed by Governor Robert Bentley to the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals.

**Alan King** is a member of the Alabama Electronic Recording Commission,

which was established to develop the standards and procedures by which electronic recording will be conducted.

**Captain Bruce MacKenzie** was invested as the chief judge, Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary in June 2008 in Washington, D.C. He was also awarded a certificate in general jurisdiction judicial studies from the National Judicial College.

### 1983

**Clay Clark**, of Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP, was selected to speak at the 2011 Annual Conference of the Council on Litigation Management.

**Dennis M. Wright**, assistant attorney general, Alabama Department of Insurance and lieutenant colonel, U. S. Army Reserve, was selected to Command the 926th Engineer Battalion, Birmingham, Ala.

**Alex W. Zoghby** was elected president of the Mobile, Ala., chapter of the American Inns of Court and will fill that position until September 2012.

### 1984

**LaBella Alvis**, a partner with Christian & Small, was inducted into the Alabama Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates and was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**Robert P. MacKenzie III** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**David L. Manz** is chair of the Florida Bar Family Law Section.

**Russell Neighbors** was elected to represent Pleasant Gardens on the McDowell Board of Education in Marion, N.C.

**J. Allen Schreiber** is a charter member of the Alabama chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

**Greg Snell** restored the historic Ormand Beach Fire House, built during the WPA era. The building, which serves as the home of his firm, Snell Legal, was added to the National Register of Historic Places.



### 1985

**Michael A. Anderson** joined the Chattanooga law firm of Patrick, Beard, Schulman & Jacoway, P.C.

**Katherine Barr**, an attorney with Sirote & Permutt, was appointed to a second three-year term as a supervisory council member of the American Bar Association's Real Property, Trust & Estate Section.

**Judge Michael A. Flowers** was invested to the office of Circuit Judge, First Judicial Circuit Feb. 18 at the Okaloosa County Courthouse, Crestview, Fla.

**Dan Sparks**, of Christian & Small, led a webinar discussing alternative dispute resolution.

**R. Donald Word III** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

### 1986

**Phillip E. Fleenor** joined the law firm of Duncan, Hatcher & Hixson P.C. His practice is in the areas of construction disputes, employment matters, insurance and commercial litigation. He and his wife live on Lookout Mountain with their children, Griff and Michelle.

**Warren Laird II** is a member of the Alabama Electronic Recording Commission.

**Wallace Davis Malone III**, of Dothan, Ala., was approved by the Alabama Senate to serve a new term as a trustee for the University of Alabama System.

**William Wade** was selected as secretary of Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Inc.

**Kenneth White** joined Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

### 1987

**Jason Knight** was named new municipal judge for Cullman, Ala.,

**Helen Shores Lee** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**John Lentine** was named by the American Trial Lawyers Association to its list of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Alabama for 2010.

**Phillip McCallum** won the President's Award from the Alabama State Bar and is the president elect for the Alabama State Bar.

### 1988

**Linda Connor** was appointed director of continuing legal education at Cumberland School of Law.

**Tamera K. Erskine** was named a partner at the Birmingham, Ala., firm of Smith, Spires & Peddy, P.C.

### 1989

**Rhonda Pitts Chambers** was elected to fill the position representing politics as the successor of Justice Janie L. Shores on the board of directors of the Alabama Women's Hall of Fame at Judson College.

**Michael H. Johnson** joined Johnston Barton Proctor & Rose LLP as counsel. He will focus on international trade,

# In Memoriam

Through June 30, 2011

**Deborah Susan Braden '83** died Sept. 25, 2010. She served as chair of the Birmingham Bar Association Scholarship Committee and on the Executive Committee of the Birmingham Bar Association. She was cochair of the Jefferson County Bar Association Community Education Committee. Braden served as counsel for Gifts, Inc., a nonprofit organization providing gifts for terminally or chronically ill and abused children. She attended the School of Theology in Sewanee at the University of the South and received a master of divinity in 2004. She was ordained in the Episcopal Church, and served in the parishes of St. Matthias in Tuscaloosa and St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands in Birmingham.

**Reid Brogden '89** of Nashville, Tenn., died Dec. 29, 2010. He was general counsel for the Tennessee Health Services and Development Agency.

**David Raymond Cole '51** of Nashville, Tenn., died Aug. 23 at the age of 82. He spent his career working in the property and casualty insurance industry. In 1964, he was awarded the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter designation.

**Edwin Davis Cooper '71**, age 65, died Sept. 29, 2010. He was an attorney, and taught at Mid-South Community College and East Arkansas Community College.

**Charles W. Cope IV '74** died March 31, 2011.

**Deane Corliss '89** died Nov. 7, 2010, after fighting cancer for more than two years with great courage, dignity and grace. She joined the law firm of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in 1989. After becoming a partner, she served as chair of the firm's Health Care Practice Group and as vice chair, Regional Health Care Practice Group.

**Rebecca Jean Davis '80**, of Villa Rica, Ga., died of lymphoma July 20, 2010.

**Truman John Costello '75**, age 61, died June 21, 2011, in an auto accident in Lehigh Acres, Fla. He cofounded the law firm of Costello, Royston & Wicker, LLP, and practiced law for 36 years in estate planning and taxation, probate, trusts, real estate, and business law.

**Dwight Duke '75** died May 15 in Huntsville, Ala. He served 18 years as district attorney of Jackson County.

**Jeffery Alan Foshee '81** of Montgomery, Ala., died Sept. 28, 2010.

**James T. "Jim" Havron '58** died Aug. 5 at age 78. He was the longest serving public defender in Davidson County, and was responsible for greatly increasing and expanding services for indigent criminal defendants.

**Michael Mayhew Ingram '78** died April 20, 2011, at age 57. He practiced real estate law, maintaining offices in Tampa and Boca Grande, Fla.

**Judge Jefferson Morrow '82** of Jacksonville, Fla., died March 2, 2011, at age 56. His law practice spanned 25 years in personal injury, wrongful death cases and appellate law. He specialized in nursing home abuse litigation, where he was board certified and was respected as an expert. In 2008, he was elected as a circuit court judge in the 4th Judicial Circuit, where he served in both the Juvenile and Adult Felony Divisions.

**Franklin William Neumann III '73** of Vestavia Hills, Ala., died Jan. 1, 2011. He practiced law at Family Court and the Jefferson County D.A.'s office, and ran a private practice until his retirement.

**Daniel Lassiter Greene Pitts '06** of Mountain Brook, Ala., died April 11, 2011, after a long and valiant fight with cancer.

**Sherman Blackstone Powell, Jr. '70**, age 66, of Falkville, Ala., died March 3, 2011, at his residence.

**Barbara Holley Reid '80** of Theodore, Ala., and Meridian, Miss., died Jan. 28, 2011.

**Linda "Missy" Rylee '82** died Feb. 26, 2011, in Austin, Texas.

**Wayne Robert Nicholas Searle '74**, age 65, of Midway, Utah, died May 29, 2010. He was an attorney, an avid skier and an artist. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force before entering Cumberland School of Law.

**Claire Blount Underwood '77** of Vestavia Hills, Ala., died March 8, 2011, following a complicated illness. Her interests after law school included medical clinic management and helping to set up new medical clinics.

**Marvin Wilson '55** of Florence, Ala., died March 24, 2011. He served as county attorney for the Lauderdale County Commission for more than 30 years. 🍷

## Room Named in Honor of Brad Bishop



**B**rad Bishop has taught at Cumberland School of Law for more than 40 years. The trustees of Samford University approved the naming of the main conference room in Robinson Hall for Bishop, whose gifts to the law school prompted the naming recommendation. He has taught at Cumberland School of Law since graduating from the law school in 1971.

The T. Brad Bishop Conference Room, formerly known as the Dean's Conference Room, is located on the

second floor of Robinson Hall near the Riley Road entrance. It contains photos of all former Cumberland School of Law deans, including Bishop, who served as interim dean during 1984-85.

At the school's reunion gala, Bishop was honored as the 2011 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year by the Cumberland National Alumni Association for his teaching ability, authorship of textbooks and service to the community as a municipal judge. 🍷

### Class Notes continued

cross border transactions, economic development and commercial and corporate law.

**George Walton Walker III** joined Pope, McGlamry, Kilpatrick, Morrison & Norwood LLP as a partner. He was elected president of the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys and named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

### 1990

Congressman **Robert Aderholt** was selected to be chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

**David L. Selby II** announces the opening of law offices of David L. Selby II LLC at One Chase Corporate Center, Suite 400, Birmingham, AL 35244.

**Judge Ronald Thompson** was elected state court judge of Effingham County in Springfield, Ga.

### 1991

**Brig. Gen. William G. Beard** was nominated for promotion to the rank of major general and for assignment as deputy commanding general, mobilization and reserve affairs, U.S. Army Pacific Command, Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

**Richard Costigan III**, a former deputy chief of staff and legislative affairs secretary for former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, filled the State Personnel Board seat on CalPERS' Board of Administration.

### 1992

**Tim Gary**, a partner in the Nashville, Tenn., office of Adams & Reese, was named the health care practice team leader for the firm.

### 1993

**Barbara Kelley** is president-elect and community relations director on the board of directors for the Assistance League of Birmingham.

**William A. McBride** joined Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz in the firm's Atlanta, Ga., office as a member of the business litigation practice group.

### 1994

**Judge Shonna Young Gay** was appointed to a judgeship in the 14th Judicial Circuit.

**Coleen D. Hosack** joined the firm of Freeman Mathis & Gary, LLP as an associate in the government law practice group. Her practice focuses on local government liability, land use and zoning.

**Kelli Hogue-Mauro** was named a 2010 fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation.

**Nan R. Jenne** was elected to serve as director of Athens Federal Community Bank and its holding company, Athens Bancshares Corp. She is an attorney with the Cleveland law firm of Jenne, Scott, and Jenne, PLLC.

**Zeb Little** joined Knight Griffith LLP as a partner.

**Judge James H. Roberts, Jr.**, was appointed circuit judge for Tuscaloosa County by Alabama Governor Robert Bentley.

**Ashley T. Senn** joined Gault & Hendrix of counsel.

### 1995

**Robert A. Boland**, a faculty member of New York University School of Continuing Professional Studies, was named academic chair of the Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism, and Sports Management.

**Mary Ann Etzler** is a named partner at Miller Etzler & Maloney, PL in Orlando, Fla., and serves as public relations director of the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers.

**Michael Fish**, an attorney with Fish Nelson, LLC, was recently selected as one of LexisNexis' "Workers' Compensation Notable People" for 2010.

**Mike Jenne** was elected a fellow of the Tennessee Bar Foundation.

### 1996

**Tristan R. Armer** was nominated by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to serve on its Southeastern Data Assessment and Review [SEDAR] Advisory Panel.

**Alicia Bennett** is cochair of the Alabama Bar CLE and Membership Criteria Task Force.

**Jason William Gumula** married Morgan Michelle Tuckness Nov. 6, 2010.

**Susan Haygood McCurry** joined Ely & Isenberg LLC.

**Brian McVeigh** was appointed by Governor Robert Bentley as district attorney of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Alabama, which includes Calhoun and Cleburne counties.

**Cam Ward** won an Alabama Law Institute Legislative Award from the Alabama State Bar and serves as an Alabama uniform law commissioner.

**Joseph A. Zarzaur, Jr.**, announces the opening of Zarzaur Law PA at 11 East Romana Street, Pensacola, FL 35219, 850-444-9299.

## 1997

**Judge Elisabeth (Roberts) French** was elected circuit judge of Jefferson County, Civil Division.

**Mary Martha Parish** owns an online-based company, Cheeriodicals.

**Jonathan Walker** was named a partner in the Pensacola, Fla., office of Conroy, Simberg, Ganon, Krevans, Abel, Lurvey, Morrow & Schefer, P.A.

## 1998

**Sterling Anderson** married Anne Carroll Guthrie, of Alexandria, Va., Sept. 16, 2010. They reside in Spartanburg, S.C., where he started his law firm, W. Sterling Anderson II, LLC, Attorney at Law. Anderson is a member of the South Carolina Army National Guard.

**Michael J. Clemmer** joined Burr & Forman LLP as counsel.

**Norman M. Orr**, a partner with Burr & Forman LLP, was appointed to a one-year term as vice president of Special Equestrians, Inc. In addition, he was named to the board of directors in December 2010 and will serve a three-year term.

**Gina Pearson** announces the opening of her new law firm, Over the Mountain Law Center, LLC, 1903-A Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209, 205-870-8480.

**Tamula R. Yelling** was named a partner with Constangy, Brooks & Smith LLC.

## 1999

**Anna Funderburk Buckner** of Cabaniss, Johnston, Gardner, Dumas & O'Neal LLP, was invited to become a fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.

**Caroline Coker Coursey** joined Premiere Global Services as corporate counsel in their Atlanta, Ga., headquarters.

**John B. Critchfield** became a shareholder in the law firm of Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel, P.C. He is a member of the firm's Litigation Practice Group, and focuses on construction, insurance defense and general civil litigation.

**Chad Stewart** joined Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C. as of counsel in the firm's Consumer Fraud Section.

## 2000

**Leesa Booth** was named a partner in the firm of Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings.

**Shayana Boyd Davis** joined the Law Office of Jack Carney LLC as of counsel.

**Khristi Doss Driver**, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, was appointed as chair of marketing for the Electronic Discovery Committee of DRI. She served as keynote speaker for the Linly Heflin Unit's 52nd Annual Scholarship Benefit Luncheon and Fashion Show, and was featured on a live continuing legal education webcast entitled "Small World: The Ethics of Legal Process Outsourcing and Off-Shoring." The webcast was presented by the Professionalism and Ethics Committee of DRI.

**Amy Hampton** was named a partner in the firm of Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings.

**Kim Hudson**, an attorney with Davis Law Firm in Auburn, Ala., was the keynote speaker at the Auburn Women's Philanthropy Board winter meeting.

**Scott Kelly**, of Ogletree Deakins, was appointed by the ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law as cochair of the section's Leadership Development Program.

**Denetra Liggins** was named a partner at Thompson & Knight.

**Walt M. Merrell III** was elected in the November general election to the Office of the District Attorney for the 22nd Judicial Circuit for the State of Alabama. He and wife, Hannah, and their three girls, Bay, Cape and Banks, live outside Andalusia, Ala.

**V. Michelle Obradovic**, court mediator for the 10th Judicial Circuit and private practitioner, is a charter member of the Alabama chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. She presented on the topic of constitutional issues in criminal mediation in Washington D.C., as part of the Supreme Court Fellows Program. She also taught Criminal Mediation, Theory, Style and Strategy at the National Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution in Greenbelt, Md.

## 2001

**Meredith McCollum Aldridge** serves as director of the Consumer Protection Division of the Mississippi Attorney General's Office.

**Gordon L. Blair** was elected shareholder in the Birmingham office of Ogletree Deakins.

**Brandy M. Burnette** joined the firm of Milligan & Coleman in Greenville, Tenn.

**Champ Crocker** was appointed to the the Public Affairs Committee of the Alabama AAJ.

**Chris Glover**, shareholder with Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C., was elected president of the Southern Trial Lawyers Association.

**Mieke A. Hemstreet** was chosen for partnership in the Birmingham office of Jackson Lewis LLP.

**Judge Adrian Johnson** was appointed District Judge of Lowndes County by former Alabama Governor Bob Riley.

# Births

Through June 30, 2011

Ben and **Meredith McCollum Aldridge '01**, a daughter, Ann Carlton, born Feb. 22, 2010.

Catherine and **Charles E. Atchley, Jr. '93**, a daughter, Catherine "Cate" Elizabeth, born Feb. 14, 2011.

Tammy and **Rob Chumley '97**, a daughter, Charlotte Marion, born Dec. 28, 2010.

**Steven C. '03** and **Christy McInturff Huret '03**, a daughter, Reagan Claire, born Feb. 18, 2011.

Thomas and **Kelly Pate '04**, twin sons, Alden James and Grady Thomas, born Dec. 15, 2010.

**Riley B. Phillips '10** and her husband, a daughter, Davy, born in November 2010. They live in Phoenix, Ariz.

Moriah and **Mark Robinson '09**, a daughter, Lydia Jeanne, born April 17, 2011.

Peter and **Andrea Shaw '10**, a daughter, Chloe, born Sept. 7, 2010. 🍀

Congresswoman **Martha Roby** was featured as a "Rising Star of the GOP" by NPR correspondent Corey Dade.

**Latanishia D. Watters**, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, was named vice chair and newsletter editor of the Staff Counsel Committee with the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Association. In addition, she has been named as a member of the section's Standing Committee on Diversity in the Profession. Watters was elected as the 2010-11 Assembly Clerk of the ABA Young Lawyers Division and was named one of Birmingham's "Top 40 Under 40" by the *Birmingham Business Journal*.

## 2002

**Kent Altom** was named managing partner of the Georgia and Alabama litigation and trial practice group of the law firm McCalla Raymer LLC.

**James A. Barnes IV** is an attorney with Patterson Dilthey LLC in Raleigh, N.C.

**Luther P. Crull III** was elected shareholder in the Birmingham office of Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz PC. He is a member of the real estate/finance group.

**M.E. Buck Dougherty III** was named partner at Husch Blackwell in Memphis, Tenn.

**Katherine E. Loper**, rejoined Edwards & Ragatz, P.A., as a civil litigation attorney.

**Ellen M. Melson** joined Wilmer & Lee PA as an associate.

**Vincent Swiney** of Wettermark Holland & Keith was named a partner in the firm.

## 2003

**Andy Anderson** was elected shareholder in the Birmingham office of Carr Allison.

**Ginny Gambacurta** was elected shareholder in the Birmingham office of Carr Allison.

**Christy McInturff Huret** is an owner of the law firm of McInturff & McInturff PLLC, in Johnson City, Tenn., where she practices primarily in the areas of real estate, estate planning and probate.

**Steven C. Huret** is a shareholder at the law firm of Wilson Worley Moore Gamble & Stout PC in Kingsport, Tenn., where he practices primarily in the areas of landlord/tenant litigation, civil rights litigation and insurance defense.

**Elizabeth J. Kanter** is a member of the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyers' Section of the Alabama State Bar for 2010-11.

**Susan E. McPherson** rejoined the firm of Wallace Jordan Ratliff & Brandt, LLC, as an associate.

**D. Brian Murphy** is a member of the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyers' Section of the Alabama State Bar for 2010-11.

## 2004

**Shaun Decoudres** was elected shareholder in the Birmingham office of Carr Allison.

**Wes Etheredge** is an attorney with Kenneth S. Nugent, P.C., Attorneys at Law, in Huntsville, Ala.

**William J. Luse** opened the Law Office of William J. Luse in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

**Samantha Smith** joined the Birmingham office of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart P.C.

**W. Chris Waller, Jr.** is secretary of the Young Lawyers' Section of the Alabama State Bar.

## 2005

**Crystal Boudreaux** is an assistant district attorney for Blount County.

**Rodney E. Miller** is a member of the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyers' Section of the Alabama State Bar for 2010-11.

**Bill Pemerton** recently formed William H. Horton & Associates, PLLC, in Chattanooga, Tenn. His practice includes personal injury, family law and general litigation.

**Lauren H. Shine** is of counsel with Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

**Matt Simpson** was named a Rising Star of the Alabama GOP. He is a circuit court prosecutor with the Mobile County District Attorney's office and chairman of the Baldwin County Republican Party Executive Committee. He serves on the Alabama Republican Party State Executive Committee and the Young Republican Federation of Alabama Executive Committee.

## 2006

**Joe Hubbard** was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives for House District 73.

**Captain Brent N. Jones** was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force as a judge advocate. He is a captain assigned to Travis Air Force Base near San Francisco, Calif.

**Will Lawler** was hired as compliance coordinator for the athletics department of Arkansas State University.

**Captain Michael O'Mara** is an instructor/senior defense counsel stationed at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala.

**Andrew Perreault** and Kathryn Dietrich were married at Samford University in December 2010.

**Thomas C. Phelps III** joined Gaines Wolter & Kinney, PC, as an associate in the firm's Huntsville, Ala., office.

**W. Drew Senter** joined Isom & Stanko LLC as a member.

**Michael A. Sierra** joined the firm of Raley & Sandifer, P.C., in Atlanta, Ga., as an associate.

**Maria C. Stewart** opened Maria C. Stewart, Attorney at Law, in Bowling Green, Ky.

## 2007

**Michelle Butler** joined King & Spaulding in their Atlanta, Ga., office.

**Joshua Campbell** is an attorney with Hall Booth Smith & Slover, P.C., in Atlanta, Ga. He practices medical malpractice defense, governmental liability defense and government affairs.

**Jakarra Jones** is an associate with Maguire Woods in Washington, D.C.

**Jennifer Reid**, attorney with Huie Fernambucq and Stewart, was selected to serve on the University of Alabama Minority Health Young Professionals Board.

**Andrew J. Thomson** rejoined Fish & Richardson as an associate in its patent group in Atlanta, Ga.

**Margaret Younce Williams** joined Cunningham Bounds, LLC, as an associate.

## 2008

**Michael J. Alfano** joined the State Attorney's Office in Jacksonville, Fla.

**M. Baird Beers, Jr.**, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, was elected to the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association for 2011.

**Mary Turner Benoist** is an attorney at Regions Bank in Birmingham.

**Casey Cogburn** is an attorney at William Hall PC.

**L. Kenneth Elmer** joined Bond, Botes, Reese & Shinn PC as an associate.

**Lisa Knapp** joined Porterfield Harper Mills as an associate.

**David Kutcher** joined Broadband Capital Management LLC as an investment banking associate.

**Teresa Magnus** of Vulcan Industrial Contractors, Inc., was nominated for a Top CEO: Rising Star Award by the *Birmingham Business Journal*.

**Ashley McGrane** was accepted in to the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine.

**Tondra Moore**, assistant professor at Texas State University-San Marcos, was awarded a \$75,000 grant by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation's leading philanthropy on health and health care.

**Adam Russell** joined the Knoxville, Tenn., firm of Kramer Rayson LLP as an associate.

**Andrew D. Stanley** joined Samford & Denwson LLP as an associate.

**Anna Cates Williams** joined Special Counsel, Inc., as placement director in the Brentwood, Tenn., office. She focuses on lateral attorney placement and business development in Tennessee and nationwide.

## 2009

**Summer Austin Davis** joined the Litigation Practice Group of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings as an associate. Her practice focuses primarily on product liability and other complex litigation.

**Jeffrey P. Doss** joined Lightfoot Franklin and White as a new associate.

**Dara D. Fernandez Perez** of Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, led an ExecSense webinar on "Immigration Basics and Best Practices for Corporate Lawyers" in October. She was named the Alabama deputy representative for the Hispanic National Bar Association.

**Lindsay E. Hale** serves as assistant attorney general, Texas Office of the Attorney General.

**Lisha Li** is an associate at Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell in Orlando, Fla. She practices in the areas of commercial litigation, product liability, labor and employment, worker's compensation, and criminal defense.

**Anna Belle Wilder Norton** joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings as an associate. She serves as a member of the firm's financial services and litigation practices.

**Jessica Thomas Patrick** joined the Nashville, Tenn., office of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. as an associate.

**Katherine "Katie" Reeves** joined Ogletree Deakins as an associate in the Birmingham office.

**Teresa B. Watson** announces the opening of Teresa B. Watson, Attorney at Law, LLC, at 717 Kerr Drive, Gardendale, AL 35071, 205-631-4019. She is part of the Jefferson County mentoring class with Judge Verin, and presented "The Medicaid Application Process" at Cherokee County Health and Rehabilitation Center in February.

## 2010

**Taylor Bartlett** was selected for the six-member moot court team at Kings College in London.

**Andrew Brashier** joined Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C. as a new associate in the Consumer Fraud Section.

**Stewart R. Civils** joined King Lyons LLC as a new associate.

**Benjamin B. Coulter** is a new associate at Burr Forman in the financial services litigation practice group.

**William L. DeBuys** joined Starnes Davis Florie LLP as an associate.

**Matthew Edward Dye** joined the firm of Miller & Christie, P.C.

**Rachel W. Eidson** joined Ables, Baxter, Parker, Pippin, Avant, P.C. in Huntsville, Ala.

**Alexander B. Feinberg** joined Maynard Cooper & Gale P.C. as a new associate in the Birmingham office. He practices in the securities litigation and insurance and financial services litigation groups.

**Nick Gonzalez** joined Huie Fernambucq & Stewart as an associate.

**Rachel L. Goodson** joined Kathryn S. Crawford LLC as an associate.

**Elizabeth Stewart Hall** opened her own practice at 1623 Second Avenue North, Bessemer, AL 35020, 205-436-2664.

**Joshua T. King** joined Massey Stotser & Nichols, P.C. as an associate.

**Heather Locklar** joined the firm of Hughes & Scalise PC as an associate.

**Cristi Malone** joined the law firm of Emmanuel, Sheppard & Condon as an associate attorney, practicing in the areas of personal injury and wrongful death and employment law.

**Staci M. Pierce** joined Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz PC.

**Ashley Reitz Peinhardt** joined Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton as an associate. She married Curtis Lee Peinhardt on May 14, 2011, at Barnsley Gardens Resort in Adairsville, Ga.

**Sheri Rouse** joined the law firm of David L. Martin in Northport, Miss.

**T. J. Schaffer** and Brittany Adkins were on married Aug. 21, 2011, in Nashville, Tenn. He joined the firm of Parker, Lawrence, Cantrell & Smith in Nashville.

**Christina Lorino Schutt** joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings as an associate in the firm's Environmental and Toxic Tort Practice Group.

**William S. Starnes, Jr.**, joined Starnes Davis Florie LLP as an associate. His practice focuses primarily in the areas of medical, health care and commercial litigation.

**Lindsay Singletary Whitworth** joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings as an associate in the firm's Real Estate Practice Group.

**Stephanie Williams** joined Liles & Rushin, LLC.

**Joshua Wradly** joined Huie Fernambucq & Stewart as an associate. 🇺🇸



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