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REUNION WEEKEND
APRIL 12–13, 2013

Cover: Outside the law school on a snowy day, photograph by Derrek G. Smith
*Correction from the last issue: Ted Meadow ’91 practices in Beasley Allen’s mass torts section (incorrectly stated as Burr & Forman). He was chosen to help direct litigation related to hormone replacement therapy as part of the plaintiffs’ steering committee. The Cumberland Lawyer regrets this error.

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Contact Cumberland School of Law
The editors of The Cumberland Lawyer are always looking for story ideas, story submissions and photographs. Please send us your comments and ideas for alumni profiles and ongoing features in addition to your personal alumni updates.

Do you need to update your email address so that you don't miss out on electronic newsletters or other law school announcements?

Please send your updated contact information to lawalum@samford.edu or call 1-800-888-7248.

The Cumberland Lawyer is a semiannual publication from Samford University’s Cumberland School of Law.
It is an honor to send you another issue of The Cumberland Lawyer. As I read the articles contained in it, I am awed by all of the significant and important things our alumni, faculty and students are doing. I am truly blessed to be a graduate and dean of this remarkable law school. We all have a great story to tell.

As I write this message, we have just begun the spring semester. As all of you know, the second semester is very busy, and this year is no exception. On Feb. 8, the American Journal of Trial Advocacy is hosted a symposium titled “The Use of Social Media in Twenty-First Century Litigation.” This symposium brought to the law school leading experts from around the country. On Feb. 28, we held our annual Thurgood Marshall symposium, which honors the first African-American justice of the United States Supreme Court. Our featured speaker was Professor Tanya Katerina Hernández from Fordham University Law School.

On March 1, we hosted the annual symposium for our Center for Biotechnology, Law and Ethics. We again partnered with the University of Alabama at Birmingham’s Lister Hill Center for Health Policy. The symposium focused on the delivery of health care and was titled “Which Outcomes? Whose Rationality? Discretion in a Rationalizing Health-Care System.” As with past symposia, this one brought national experts on the topic to the law school.

The spring also brings Law Week, Rascal Day and Reunion Weekend—events which give us the opportunity to celebrate the wonderful relationships that are part of the fabric of Cumberland School of Law.

As always, thanks for the support you give to the law school.

John L. Carroll
Dean and Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law
Every seven years, the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools visit each law school to assess its compliance with accreditation standards. Cumberland School of Law’s last visit was in 2006. During October 1–3, 2012, a team of law professors and lawyers visited the law school as part of the reaccreditation process.

The seven-person team was comprised of law professors from University of South Carolina School of Law, Barry University School of Law, Florida International University College of Law, Drexel University Earle Mack School of Law and Washburn University School of Law, and a member of the practicing bar. The site team met with law staff, faculty and students during this process.

If you have opened Cumberland School of Law’s website lately, you may have noticed a change to the news page. The law school is posting a growing number of stories that cover achievements from law students, faculty and alumni.

Alumni play an important role in this. Please continue to send Anne Marovich, director of alumni relations (amarovic@samford.edu), and Derrek G. Smith, director of law school communication (dsmith@samford.edu), your news items.

These news items may include, but are not limited to, a link to a news article where you are quoted, details of a successfully completed case, an honor or award received, or details about a lecture you are giving.

In addition to the law school’s news page, these stories will be tweeted and posted on Facebook. If you have not done so already, please join the law school’s social media accounts. Many prospective law students read these items; therefore, it is a great way for us to showcase the law school and alumni success.
Cumberland School of Law prides itself on the high quality of its advocacy program, producing lawyers who are ready for practice. Over the past several years, a centerpiece of the law school’s advocacy training has been the Advanced Trial Advocacy course. That course, which is limited to 12 students a semester, emphasizes the use of real-world skills and technology.

When the law school was renovated in 2005, a new courtroom was built on the third floor and was specifically designed for the Advanced Trial Advocacy course. When the courtroom was built, it was equipped with the same technology that would be found in the finest courtrooms in the country. The law school is pleased to announce this courtroom will now be known as the Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton Advanced Advocacy Courtroom, thanks to a major gift from the firm. This partnership between the law school and Hare Wynn will ensure for years to come that the law school will be able to continue to train students in one of the finest technologically advanced teaching courtrooms in the country.

The partnership is a perfect fit for Cumberland School of Law and Hare Wynn, because each is nationally recognized for advocacy. In its second century of practice, Hare Wynn is one of the most respected plaintiff’s litigation firms in the country. The success of the firm was recently recognized when it was identified as one of the top plaintiff’s firms in the United States on the National Law Journal’s 2011 Plaintiffs’ Hot List. The publication honored Hare Wynn as one of 20 firms nationally “that are at the cutting edge of plaintiffs’ work—and giving the defense a run for their money.”

The great strength of Hare Wynn is the outstanding attorneys employed at the firm, many of whom are Cumberland School of Law graduates. As Dean John L. Carroll remarked when announcing this important gift, “The naming of the Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton Advanced Advocacy Courtroom recognizes the strong relationship between the law school, a thriving Birmingham law firm, and alumni who have served that firm and the law school for many years.”

Cumberland School of Law alumni at Hare Wynn include:

- Alva C. Caine ’69
- John W. Haley ’75
- Donald P. McKenna, Jr. ’95
- Ashley Reitz Peinhardt ’10
- Scott A. Powell ’78
- James R. Pratt III ’78
- S. Shay Samples ’76

HARE | WYNN
NEWELL & NEWTON

“We are pleased to help ensure the continued excellence of Cumberland’s trial advocacy program. This partnership is a natural fit and one that will now last in perpetuity.”

Scott A. Powell
Partner, Hare Wynn

A student demonstrates the technology in the Hare, Wynn, Newell &Newton Advanced Advocacy Courtroom.
With the 2011–12 academic year behind us, Samford University’s Cumberland School of Law has added three more prestigious trial advocacy championships, among other regional advocacy top honors, to the law school’s ever-growing list of wins. To date, Cumberland School of Law remains one of the most decorated law schools in the nation at advocacy competitions.

**National Trial Advocacy Competition**

The first championship of the year came during the early part of the fall semester at the 2011 National Trial Competition held at Michigan State University School of Law in East Lansing, Mich. Cumberland School of Law’s team defeated a team from the University of Florida College of Law to take first place. Team members included Drew Haskins ’12, Patrick Hinchey, Sam Nicolle ’12, Brittany Stancombe ’12. They were coached by Sara Williams ’06.

**Tournament of Champions**

The second championship came during the latter half of the fall semester at the invitation-only Tournament of Champions competition held at St. John’s University in New York City, N.Y. The tournament is considered one of the premier law school trial competitions in the nation. Only 16 teams are invited to participate based on their past three years of success at trial competitions. Cumberland School of Law’s team defeated a team from Northwestern University School of Law to take first place. Team members included Maurine Evans ’12, SeTara Foster ’12, Cory Ricci and George Shiflett ’12. They were coached by Mike Rasmussen ’75 and Marc Jaskolka ’00.

**American Association for Justice [AAJ] Student Trial Advocacy Competition**

The third championship came during the spring semester at the AAJ Student Trial Advocacy Competition in Las Vegas, Nev. The win marks the third national AAJ championship for the law school since 2000. This competition hosted 14 teams in national rounds, which came from more than 200 teams in regional rounds. Cumberland School of Law’s team defeated a team from the University of Maryland School of Law to take first place. Team members included Michael Eldridge ’12, Maurine Evans ’12, Drew Haskins ’12, Brittany Stancombe ’12. They were coached by Mike Rasmussen ’75 and Marc Jaskolka ’00.
On Friday, May 18, 2012, president of the American Bar Association (ABA), Wm. T. "Bill" Robinson III, delivered the commencement address to Cumberland School of Law’s 153 graduates and a crowd of nearly 1,000 in Samford University’s Wright Center.

Robinson has been a lawyer for 40 years. In his speech, he emphasized the value of pro bono work for young lawyers. He talked about how pro bono work can expand a lawyer’s network of contacts, enhance legal and time management skills and provide them opportunities to try new areas of law.

“I suggest you ask yourself every day for the rest of your legal career, ‘How do I make a positive difference in the lives of those I have the privilege to serve?’” Robinson said in his closing remarks.

Law graduate Katie Garrety of Jackson, Tenn., received the Daniel Austin Brewer Award. This award is presented to the student who most exemplifies the professionalism expected of Cumberland School of Law lawyers. The award is in memory of Gov. Albert P. Brewer’s father.

“I suggest you ask yourself every day for the rest of your legal career, ‘How do I make a positive difference in the lives of those I have the privilege to serve?’” Robinson said in his closing remarks.

Law graduate Katie Garrety of Jackson, Tenn., received the Daniel Austin Brewer Award. This award is presented to the student who most exemplifies the professionalism expected of Cumberland School of Law lawyers. The award is in memory of Gov. Albert P. Brewer’s father.

Pictures:

1. Elizabeth Mathis ’12 and family
2. From left, Whitney Haley ’12, Professor Brad Bishop ’71, Kelly Speir ’12 and Lacey Danley ’12
3. Patrick M. Hyndman ’12 and his sister, Claire H. Puckett ’02
5. From left, parents Jon Barber ’76 and Mary McKeown ’76, celebrate graduation of their daughter, Katie Barber ’12, with her aunt, Honora Gathings ’78, and uncle, Lloyd Gathings ’76.
6. Charles Todd Buchanan ’12 and his mother, Nancy L. Buchanan ’84
7. Katie Garrety ’12 received the 2012 Daniel Austin Brewer Award.
8. Danny Evans ’75, center,
celebrates the graduation of his children, **Patrick Evans '12** and **Maurine Evans '12**.

9. **Dean John L. Carroll '74**, ABA President Wm. T. “Bill” Robinson III speak with Samford University President Andrew Westmoreland.

10. From left, **Brandon Demyan '12**, **Heather Retchless '12**, **Elizabeth Huffman '12**, **Breanne Stanley '12**, **Rebecca Woodruff '12** and **Kenneth Boyles Jr. '12**
106 Undergraduate Colleges and Universities are Represented at Cumberland School of Law

Agnes Scott College
Alabama Agricultural & Mechanical University
Appalachian State University
Arizona State University
Athens State University
Auburn University
Auburn University–Montgomery
Baylor University
Berea College
Berry College
Birmingham Southern College
Bloomburg University of Pennsylvania
Bridgewater College
Carson Newman College
Clemson University
College of Charleston
Colorado State University
Columbus State University
Dakota Wesleyan University
East Carolina University
East Tennessee State University
Emory University
Fairleigh Dickinson University–Madison
Faulkner University
Fisk University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida State University
Franklin University
Furman University
George Washington University
Georgetown College
Georgia Southern University
Gonzaga University
Hampden-Sydney College
Hampton University
Harding University
Huntingdon College
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana University–Bloomington
Jacksonville State University
Judson College
Kennesaw State University
Lee University
Mansfield University of Pennsylvania
Mcgill University
Middle Tennessee State University
Millsaps College
Mississippi College
Mississippi State University
Morehouse College
New Mexico State University–University Park
North Georgia College & State University
Northwestern University
Oglethorpe University
Otterbein College
Rhodes College
Ringling School of Art & Design
Roanoke College
Rollins College
Saint Louis University
Saint Norbert College
Samford University
Savannah State College
Southern Christian University
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College
Spring Hill College
Stetson University
Sweet Briar College
Tennessee State University
The Citadel
Transylvania University
Troy University
Tulane University
United States Military Academy
University of Alabama
University of Alabama–Birmingham
University of Alabama–Huntsville
University of Central Florida
University of Dallas
University of Florida
University of Georgia–Athens
University of Illinois–Chicago
University of Mississippi
University of Montevallo
University of North Alabama
University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina–Charlotte
University of South Alabama
University of South Carolina–Columbia
University of South Florida
University of Southern Mississippi
University of Tennessee–Knoxville
University of Tennessee–Chattanooga
University of Texas–Arlington
University of The Ozarks
University of The South
University of Virginia
University of Virginia’s College–Wise
Valdosta State University
Vanderbilt University
Wake Forest University
Washington and Lee University
Western Carolina University
Wofford College

Did You Know?

Cumberland School of Law was listed as the number four trial advocacy program by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2012. The 2011, the law school was listed as number five.

In the 2011–12 academic year, the law school took first place at three prestigious law school competitions: the Tournament of Champions, the National Trial Advocacy Competition and the American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition.

Cumberland School of Law offers some of the smallest first-year law classes in the nation.

The law school awarded nearly $3 million in scholarship assistance in 2011–12 and 2010–11 academic years.

Cumberland School of Law offers eight joint-degree programs, including a J.D./M.B.A. that can be completed in three years, in most cases. The other joint-degrees include, J.D./M.Acc., J.D./M.Div., J.D./M.P.H., J.D./M.P.H., J.D./M.S.E.M., J.D./M.A.T.S., and, new in fall 2011, J.D./M.S. in Bioethics. More information about joint degrees can be found at http://cumberland.samford.edu/admissions/joint-degrees.
As I watched the opening ceremonies of the summer Olympics in London, I was enthralled with the symbolism and camaraderie shown throughout the games. One of the most visible symbols of the games was the Olympic flame and torch relay that took place across the world in the months leading up to the games. As the torchbearers reached the end of their run, they were able to hand it off to a new holder, one with fresh energy who brought a renewed vigor to the torch’s journey.

The ultimate illumination of the Olympic flame was made possible by the cohesive effort of many around the world. Much like the Olympic flame, the enlightenment of the legal profession for graduating law students comes not only from the law school’s education, but also from the cohesive efforts of Cumberland School of Law’s more than 8,000 alumni.

I have the unique opportunity to interact daily with many diverse students in my role as president of the Student Bar Association. Since I arrived on campus in fall 2010, I have experienced and witnessed much achievement at the law school: Six law students were initiated into the national leadership honor society Omicron Delta Kappa, the moot court teams have received high regional and national honors; and Cumberland School of Law has excelled in trial advocacy, currently ranked fourth in the nation. Rest assured the students who are on their way to becoming alumni are well-prepared to carry the torch that is being passed to them.

As SBA president, I can see the impact that our distinguished alumni make when they are involved with the current student body. Whether it has been assisting with trial competitions, attending social functions or reaching out to mentor eager law students, alumni have left their mark on me and the other students.

As a third-year law student, I find myself now tagged as a “job-seeker.” How did the last two-and-a-half years go by so fast? After reaching out to numerous alumni for guidance, I have received phone conferences, face-to-face meetings and great advice about my next steps. Not one alumnus knew me personally. Not one alumnus had a mutual friend with me. I simply reached out for help, and we shared a common bond. I look forward to the day when I will be in a position to provide the same support that was shown to me.

Passing the Torch: Leave Your Mark on the Next Generation

by Ellen McDaniel, 2012–13 Student Bar Association [SBA] President

The Office of Alumni Relations offers the Student Success Mentor Program to provide students an opportunity to receive consistent guidance and provides alumni an opportunity to advise and impact the next generation of lawyers.

To find out more about the program and to become a mentor, please go to http://cumberland.samford.edu/alumni.

From left, Ricardo Woods ’04, Judge Jim Roberts ’94, J. Mark Hart ’78 and Khristi Doss Driver ’00. These two sets of alumni each have a mentor and mentee relationship.
Alumni Support Directly and Immediately Benefits Law Students

Your gifts directly and immediately benefit law students by providing support for scholarships, student organizations and the law school’s nationally recognized advocacy program.

Every donation will make a difference in the lives of students. Every gift counts and is important. Help the law school increase its total alumni giving percentage. Please consider a gift to a Cumberland fund. You can make a direct gift to the fund of your choice by going to http://cumberland.samford.edu, then clicking “Giving” and selecting a fund. If you prefer to give by check or estate planning, please contact David R. Hutchens, senior advancement officer, by phone at 205-726-4542 or by email at drhutche@samford.edu.

Meet the Trial Team Members

Left: Team members from the spring 2012 National Trial Competition Regional Championship held in Orlando, Fla., include, from left, George Shifflett ’12, Chambers Waller, Charles Buchanan ’12, Coach Sara Williams ’06, Judge Jim Roberts ’94, Jennifer Reynolds, Keith Knowlton and Patrick Hinchev. Waller and Reynolds won the competitions. Danny Patterson [not shown] and Knowlton acted as their witnesses. Setara Foster ’12 [not shown] and Buchanan lost in the semi-final round. Hinchev and Shifflett acted as their witnesses.

Right: Team members from the spring 2012 American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition held in Las Vegas, Nev., include, from left, Coach Mike Rasmussen ’75, Drew Haskins ’12, Brittany Stancombe ’12, Maurine Evans ’12, Michael Eldridge ’12 and Coach Marc Jaskolka ’00.
The first-year service project continues to be a very successful way to end the week of orientation for the entering class. On Aug. 17, 2012, the Class of 2015 joined students visiting from the University of East Anglia and Nalsar University, law faculty, and staff to donate more than 450 volunteer hours to five service locations. These projects included two clean-up teams for Jefferson County Department of Health, and teams at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve, Ruffner Mountain Nature Center and Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

1. From left, law students Nicholas D. Leslie, Avery M. Adcock and Krista Cowley paint at Ruffner Mountain Nature Center.

2. From left, law students Ellise M. Washington and Sheena M. Johnson participate on one of the Department of Health teams.

3. Some members of the Class of 2015 pose outside Robinson Hall before departing to several service projects.

4. From left, Allen E. Sorrell, Jay Sewell and Chris D. Mauck participate on the Habitat for Humanity ReStore team.
Law School Invests Two Academic Chairs

Longtime professors Howard P. Walthall and William G. Ross were invested as holders of academic chairs at a ceremony Sept. 6, 2012, at Cumberland School of Law. Walthall was named Leslie S. Wright Professor of Law. In 1958, Wright became the 16th president of Howard College, which later became Samford University under his leadership. In 1961, he led the historic acquisition of Cumberland School of Law and moved its library, archives, faculty and students from Lebanon, Tenn., to the current location in Birmingham, Ala.

Walthall is an expert on the history of Cumberland School of Law. He has coauthored a book with David J. Langum titled From Maverick to Mainstream: Cumberland School of Law, 1847–1997. Walthall has served as director of the Cumberland State Constitutional Law Project and currently serves as a staff person for the Alabama Law Institute. Walthall has served as reporter to the Uniform Law Commission and to the American Bar Association for the drafting of the Business Organization Act. Walthall is an elected member of the American Law Institute.

Ross was named Lucille Stewart Beeson Professor of Law. Beeson and her husband, Dwight Moody Beeson, were close friends, admirers and coworkers of Frank Park Samford, Sr., and Samford was one of the primary beneficiaries of their generosity. They donated money to build the Dwight and Lucille Beeson Center for the Healing Arts, provided funds toward the Dwight M. Beeson School of Business Building, gave millions for the Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library and provided the first fully endowed professorship at the law school in 1990.

Ross is a nationally-recognized expert on the ethics of legal fees and judicial ethics. He is the author of two books on attorney billing issues, The Honest Hour: The Ethics of Time-Based Billing by Attorneys and Legal Fees: Law and Practice, as well as numerous articles about legal fees and judicial ethics. His Honest Hour book was cited several times by the U. S. Supreme Court in Gisbrecht v. Barnhart (2002). Ross is also a specialist on American constitutional history. He is the author of A Muted Fury: Populists, Progressives and Labor Unions Confront the Courts, 1890–1937; Forging New Freedoms: Nativism, Education, and the Constitution, 1917–1927; and The Chief Justiceship of Charles Evans Hughes 1930–1941. Also, he has published many articles and book reviews about American legal history. In addition, Ross is an authority on federal separation of powers issues and he has published many works on the appointment of U. S. Supreme Court justices and other federal judges.

The occasion, said Samford President Andrew Westmoreland, was an opportunity to celebrate the work of two good teachers who love their craft, "and love practicing it at Cumberland."

Being the holder of a chair raises expectations and challenges the occupant to perform at a high level, observed Ross. "I love to teach, and believe that teaching and writing complement one another," Ross said, adding that he encourages students to pursue a law career about which they are passionate.

"I would not have had the opportunity to teach if [Leslie S. Wright] had not brought the law school to Birmingham, where it allowed me to move from practicing law to teaching without disrupting my family," said Walthall. "Without Leslie S. Wright, I might never have found my calling."

Cumberland School of Law Dean John L. Carroll noted that academic chairs are the result of the generosity of donors, "people who invest in the law school. Ross and Walthall, he said, are examples of the quality men and women who make up the law faculty, all of whom have exceptional teaching abilities, and are "people of incredibly high character.”

Samford president Andrew Westmoreland, right, congratulates Professors Walthall, left, and Ross at their Investiture ceremony.
Faculty Media Quotes
From Jan.–Oct. 2012

“Good legal advice is expensive but bad legal advice can be even more expensive,” said Professor Michael Floyd. (Feb. 19. The Birmingham News. “Lawyers costing Jefferson County $250,000 per week.”)

“Creditors and county officials have to find a reasonable resolution on the sewer rates. The question of how much people can afford to pay is a complicated one,” said Professor Michael Floyd. (Oct. 30. The Birmingham News. “Jefferson County to consider first step to exit Chapter 9 bankruptcy.”)

“There are so many different ways to manipulate technologies to increase violations or decrease violations, and we need to have this conversation now before these systems are entrenched,” said Professor Woodrow Hartzog. (July 27. Bloomberg’s Tech Blog. “Computers Aren’t Perfect Drivers or Policemen.”)

“The law generally has not answered these questions about privacy, and I’m guessing most Twitter users don’t know either,” said Professor Woodrow Hartzog. (July 31. Bloomberg. “Twitter Draws Scorn After Blocking Writer Critical of NBC.”)

“One question I have is whether the FBI is treating Jones as relevant to surveillance technologies that don’t require physical attachment to individuals or vehicles,” said Professor Woodrow Hartzog. (Aug. 15. ars technica. “ACLU to FBI: Tell the public how you interpret GPS tracking ruling.”)

“Additionally, while the right for individuals to control the use of their data by third parties could be an important part of protecting online privacy, it’s unclear exactly what this statement in the platform is referring to,” said Professor Woodrow Hartzog. (Aug. 29. ars technica. “Republicans call for reduced regulation online, more data protection.”)

“This [South Carolina] decision is more evidence of how intractable and inconsistent our statutory electronic surveillance regime has become,” said Professor Woodrow Hartzog. (Oct. 11. ars technica. “Reading someone’s Gmail doesn’t violate federal statute, court finds.”)

“Young adults are notoriously protective of their privacy. I think the best way to approach the situation is to have a conversation with them if you want to use the technology. It would set a dangerous precedent to employ this technology without letting the children know,” said Professor Woodrow Hartzog. (Oct. 20. USA Today. “Parents use technology to monitor teen drivers.”)

“It’s virtually unprecedented for a president to criticize the institutional powers of the Supreme Court,” said Professor William Ross. (April 4. USA Today. “Other presidents took on high court before Obama.”)

“It’s squarely at the intersection of personal rights and government’s power to regulate private property. While disputes over graves in peoples’ yards might be rare, lawsuits over the use of eminent domain actions and zoning restrictions are becoming more common as the U.S. population grows,” said Professor Joseph Snoe. (Aug. 19. Associated Press article, “Alabama man fights to keep wife buried in front yard.”)

Faculty Radio and TV Spots

On Jan. 23, Professor Woodrow Hartzog appeared on NPR’s Talk of the Nation to discuss the risks of password sharing.

On April 18, Professor Michael Floyd appeared on ABC 33/40 TV to discuss a report about Regions Bank and its plan to perhaps sell its small holdings of Jefferson County debt.

On April 19, Professor William Ross appeared on the Wall Street Journal’s radio network to discuss President Obama taking on the high courts.

On Sept. 18, Professor Woodrow Hartzog appeared on Hearsay Culture, Stanford University’s KZSU-FM (90.1 FM), to discuss his article “The Case for Online Obscurity.”

Professor Woodrow Hartzog Speaks to Google’s Employees

On Oct. 4, 2012, Professor Hartzog addressed Google’s employees at its headquarters in Mountain View, California, in an hour-long presentation on privacy law. His presentation was viewed by a live audience and streamed globally to all of Google’s employees via the company’s intranet.

Hartzog’s presentation was titled “Obscurity as Privacy for Social Technology Users.” He explored the concept of obscurity as a form of privacy. His presentation proposed how policy and design solutions for social technologies can focus on obscurity rather than the more expansive and vague concept of privacy.
LaJuana S. Davis was awarded tenure in spring 2012.

Michael E. DeBow presented “Anti-trust Enforcement and the Obama Administration” on March 20 to the Federalist Society chapter at Columbia Law School.

Alyssa DiRusso spoke at the annual conference of the Law and Society Association in Honolulu, Hawaii, on June 5. Her session was titled “Testamentary Appointments of Guardians for Minor Children.”

On July 29, she spoke at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools in Amelia Island, Fla. Her session was titled “Law and Reality of Trusts and Estates.”

Professor DiRusso’s recent article, “Parental Testamentary Appointments of Guardians for Children,” coauthored with S. Kristen Peters was published in 25 Quinnipiac Prob. L.J. 369 (2012) and was a Social Science Research Network Top Ten download.

Brannon P. Denning discussed his recent work, “Anti-anti-evasion in Constitutional Law,” at the University of Tennessee’s College of Law faculty forum on June 27.

On July 30, he spoke at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools in Amelia Island, Fla., in a roundtable discussion titled “Justice Thomas and the Dormant Commerce Clause: Anatomy of a Doctrinal Divorce.” He was also a panelist in a session titled “Whither Skills Training, Clinics, and Scholarship in ‘Tough Financial Times’.”


His “National Federation” article was accepted in 2012 and was a Social Science Research Network Top Ten download in its first week of posting Oct. 1.


On April 21, Professor Hartzog presented his paper “Confronting Automated Law Enforcement” at the We Robot conference, the inaugural conference on legal and policy issues related to robotics. The paper was coauthored with the following professors from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point: Lisa Shay, Gregory Conti, John Nelson and Dominic Larkin.

On June 7 and 8, Professor Hartzog’s work-in-progress, “The Life, Death, and Revival of Implied Confidentiality,” was discussed in a workshop at the 5th Annual Privacy Law Scholars Conference in Washington, D.C. A second paper, “Obscurity by Design,” coauthored with Fred Stutzman was also selected for presentation at the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) Women in Legal Education Executive Committee.

Professor Greene was awarded tenure in spring 2012 and was appointed director of faculty development.

Professor Greene chaired the SE/SW People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, which Cumberland School of Law hosted from March 29–April 1.

On June 30, Professor Greene presented her paper, “Paradoxes of Perception,” at the Lutie Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Conference at Suffolk University Law School, Boston, Mass.

During the National Bar Association’s national convention July 15–18, Professor Greene moderated the Law Professor Sections CLE panel, “Law School Diversity Admission and Success,” and served as a panelist on an AALS committee on recruitment and retention of minority faculty and students for practitioners exploring the pathways to entering the legal academy.

On July 23, Professor Greene attended the White House African-American Women’s Forum in which key White House, Cabinet and agency officials—including Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin, Senior Adviser to the President Valerie Jarrett and First Lady Michelle Obama—briefed and dialogued with participants from business, academic and nonprofit sectors on issues and the administration’s initiatives related to African-American women.

On Sept. 14, Professor Greene presented her paper, “Categorical Discrimination” at the Seventh Annual Labor and Employment Law Colloquium, Loyola University-Chicago School of Law.

Professor Greene’s most recent article, “Categorical Discrimination,” was listed on Social Science Research Network Top Ten download in its first week of posting Oct. 1.

On Sept. 14, Professor Greene presented her paper, “Categorical Discrimination” at the Seventh Annual Labor and Employment Law Colloquium, Loyola University-Chicago School of Law.

Professor Greene’s most recent article, “Categorical Discrimination,” was listed on Social Science Research Network Top Ten download in its first week of posting Oct. 1.


On April 21, Professor Hartzog presented his paper “Confronting Automated Law Enforcement” at the We Robot conference, the inaugural conference on legal and policy issues related to robotics. The paper was coauthored with the following professors from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point: Lisa Shay, Gregory Conti, John Nelson and Dominic Larkin.

On June 7 and 8, Professor Hartzog’s work-in-progress, “The Life, Death, and Revival of Implied Confidentiality,” was discussed in a workshop at the 5th Annual Privacy Law Scholars Conference in Washington, D.C. A second paper, “Obscurity by Design,” coauthored with Fred Stutzman was also selected for presentation at the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) Women in Legal Education Executive Committee.

Professor Greene was awarded tenure in spring 2012 and was appointed director of faculty development.

Professor Greene chaired the SE/SW People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, which Cumberland School of Law hosted from March 29–April 1.

On June 30, Professor Greene presented her paper, "Paradoxes of Perception," at the Lutie Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Conference at Suffolk University Law School, Boston, Mass.

During the National Bar Association's national convention July 15–18, Professor Greene moderated the Law Professor Sections CLE panel, “Law School Diversity Admission and Success,” and served as a panelist on an AALS committee on recruitment and retention of minority faculty and students for practitioners exploring the pathways to entering the legal academy.

On July 23, Professor Greene attended the White House African-American Women's Forum in which key White House, Cabinet and agency officials—including Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin, Senior Adviser to the President Valerie Jarrett and First Lady Michelle Obama—briefed and dialogued with participants from business, academic and nonprofit sectors on issues and the administration's initiatives related to African-American women.

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regular discussion and an encore discussion at this workshop.

On July 24, Professor Hartzog served on a panel titled "The Right to Be Lost: Comparative Law Approaches to Internet Privacy and Personal Data Protection" at the 2012 American Association of Law Librarians Annual Convention in Boston, Mass.

On July 27, Professor Hartzog gave a talk titled "Life Inside a Skinner Box: Confronting our Future of Automated Law Enforcement" at the popular annual hackers' convention, DEF CON 20, in Las Vegas, Nev.

From Aug. 7–12, Professor Hartzog attended the national conference for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Chicago, Ill. At the conference, he spoke on two panels, "Social Media and the First Amendment" and "Texts, and Tweets and Flickr, Oh My: Social Media Law Update." A peer-review selected article, "The Life, Death, and Revival of Implied Confidentiality," was presented in the Law & Policy Division.

**Rusty N. Johnson’s** recent article, "Disambiguating the Disparate Impact Claim," was published in the fall 2012 issue of the *Temple Political & Civil Rights Law Review*.

**Paul Kuruk** presented a lecture to government officials and business executives of the Republic of Cape Verde at the National Conference Center, Praia, Cape Verde on May 7. His lecture was titled "The Implications and Challenges of the European Union—West Africa Negotiations for Investments in ECOWAS." The next day, he spoke about traditional knowledge and genetic resources to faculty and students at the Instituto Superior de Ciencias Economicas Empresarias (Institute for Law and Social Sciences).

From June 6–8, on behalf of the African Union, Professor Kuruk participated in a meeting of experts in Geneva, Switzerland, and coauthored a draft instrument on limitations and exclusions to the international copyright regime to facilitate access to protected works by educational institutions, libraries, museums and the visually impaired.

On Aug. 8, Professor Kuruk presented his paper, "Facilitating International Cooperation, in Particular, South-South Cooperation in Using the Intellectual Property System for the protection of Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources," at an international conference organized jointly by the Government of Brazil and the World Intellectual Property Organization in Brasilia, Brazil.

From Sept. 24–26, Professor Kuruk participated in the Second Africa Trade Forum which took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The forum was organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on the theme "Boosting Intra-African Trade and Establishing the Continental Free Trade Area." Professor Kuruk served on a panel discussion that examined the role of regional economic communities in the development of an African free-trade area.

On Oct. 15, Professor Kuruk chaired a regional conference organized by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in Porto Novo, Benin, to develop regional investment policy. He also presented a paper titled "Competition Policy in Aid of Investment Promotion: A Consideration of Policy Measures and Strategies."


**Gregory K. Laughlin,** director of Beeson Law Library, and Cherie Feenker, acquisitions librarian, attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in Boston, Mass., from July 21–24.


On April 12, Professor Ross published a column in *jurist* titled "Obama’s Comments and Challenges to Judicial Review." Professor Ross also published two other *jurist* columns this year, "Popular Vote Compact: Fraught With Constitutional Peril?" (Feb.) and "Why the Supreme Court Should be a Key Election Issue" (Oct.).

For the month of July, Professor Ross taught legal and constitutional history of Great Britain at Cumberland School of Law’s Cambridge Summer Abroad Program in England.

Professor Ross’ article, "The Supreme Court as an Issue in Presidential Campaigns," was published in 37 *Journal of Supreme Court History* 322-34 (2012).

**David M. Smolin** spoke at the BACHE Forum on Alabama’s Immigration Law, cosponsored by UAB and Samford University on Feb. 9. The title of his talk was "Alabama’s HB 56 in Constitutional and National Perspective."

On Feb. 10, Professor Smolin was the keynote speaker at a session titled "The Right to be Treated with Integrity" at The Fred Gray Civil Rights Symposium at Faulkner Law School.

On Sept. 26, Professor Smolin presented "The Theology of Adoption and Orphans: A Response to the Evangelical Christian Adoption and Orphan Care Movement" at Samford University’s Faculty Shop Talk series.

From Oct. 8–9, Professor Smolin participated as an independent expert to an expert group on the financial aspects of inter-country adoption under the auspices of the Hague Conference on Private International Law. The meetings were held at the offices of the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference, in The Hague, Netherlands.

On Oct. 19, Professor Smolin gave the keynote plenary address, "An Inside Critique of the Evangelical Christian Adoption and Orphan Care Movement," at the 7th Biennial Adoption Conference at St. John’s University in New York City. Professor Smolin also led the breakout session, "Identifying, Understanding, and Assisting Victims of Abusive Adoption Practices," at the conference.

On Oct. 20, Professor Smolin gave a presentation to an adoption forum, "The Impact of Chinese and other International Adoption Practices in Relation to Birth Families, Abandonments, and Searches," cosponsored by FCCNY (Friends of Children of China, New York) and the Asian/Pacific American Institute of New York University, held at New York University.

On Oct. 22, Professor Smolin spoke regarding the theology and practice of adoption for the convocation program at Samford University.

**Belle H. Stoddard** ’78 was on the Federal Practice Section's panel, "The Power of the Pen—Legal Writing from the Federal Court's Perspective," at the Birmingham Bar Association Bench-Bar Retreat held March 9–10.

**Henry C. Strickland** delivered bar exam review lectures for BarBri in 11 cities in seven states: Birmingham & Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Louisville and Lexington, Ky.; Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Columbia, S.C.; and Milwaukee, Wis. He did BarBri’s two or three-day civil procedure lectures, one-day conflict of laws lectures, and one-day remedies lectures. The lectures were recorded in each state to be shown in BarBri classes in smaller cities in each state.


**Deborah Young** taught evidence as a visiting professor of law at Vermont Law School in South Royalton, Vt.
The Inaugural Jere White Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute was a Great Success

On Nov. 30, 2012, Samford University’s Cumberland School of Law and the Alabama State Committee of the American College of Trial Lawyers hosted the Jere White Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham, Ala.

The Institute was in honor of Jere White Jr., a 1980 graduate of Cumberland School of Law who died in Oct. of 2011. The proceeds from the Institute went to fund the newly established Jere F. White Jr. Fellows Program at the law school.

The inaugural Jere White Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute was a huge success thanks to a grassroots effort led by alumnus Robert “Bob” P. MacKenzie III ’84 (Starnes Davis Florie LLP), Samuel H. Franklin and Harlan I. Prater IV (both with Lightfoot Franklin & White LLP). The Institute reached its capacity of 250 registrants. Nearly $140,000 was raised for the Fellows Program from registration proceeds and contributions.

“Jere epitomized the qualities of a great lawyer and person. He was smart and always prepared. Jere had the respect of judges and other lawyers, and was so well liked by everybody. He had a sense of grace which caused others to embrace him. It is evident from the number of attendees and the enthusiasm that surrounded the institute of how much everyone misses Jere. The Fellows Program is a tremendous way to honor Jere’s legacy,” said Bob MacKenzie ’84.

Prior to his death, White and his wife, Lyda, established the Jere F. White Jr. Fellows Program. The Fellows Program seeks to recruit outstanding students with strong academic credentials, a history of leadership and commitment to service, thereby promoting the development of lawyers who share the ideals that were so important to White. These are all qualities held by White, according to Dean John L. Carroll ’74.

White will long be recognized as one of the most outstanding lawyers in the country. More importantly, he will be remembered as a great person, friend and mentor. In addition to graduating from Cumberland School of Law, White was a graduate of the University of Georgia and he was a founding member of Lightfoot Franklin & White LLP in Birmingham, Ala. White held himself and others to the highest standard of the prac-

Attendees at the sellout inaugural Jere White Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute at the Wynfrey Hotel.

From left, Dean John Carroll ’74, Judge Sharon Blackburn ’77, Allen Chason, Bobby Lee Cook, Warren Lightfoot, Lyda White and Samuel Franklin are seated at the head table during the Jere White, Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute luncheon. (Seated at the head table but not shown: Bob MacKenzie III ’84, Harlan Prater IV, Chilton Varner and Chris King).
A Message from the Director of Alumni Relations

Do you know what the law school’s mission statement is?

The mission of the Cumberland School of Law is to educate a diverse community of students with knowledge and practical skills, equipping them to become highly competent, ethical lawyers committed to professionalism and public service.

It is very rewarding to meet alumni working throughout the United States who exemplify the goals described in our mission statement. I suppose that means we are on task. From Chicago to Dallas to Fort Lauderdale and back to Birmingham—in this issue of The Cumberland Lawyer, you can read about just a handful of these lawyers. My only frustration is time and space prohibiting us from featuring many more alumni who have unique backgrounds, stories, and/or who consistently serve their community.

In September, student members of the Cumberland Public Interest and Community Service Organization organized a program titled “Serving the Public Interest: How Law Students Can Impact the Needs of Our Community.” It is these types of programs that fuel an ongoing effort to serve the communities across the United States. During National Pro Bono Week, in addition to a general legal clinic, our students gained experience working with local lawyers and alumni by offering free will clinics to senior citizens at three different locations. We very much appreciated the time devoted during these clinics by Cumberland Lawyers.


Keep emailing news to me at amarovic@samford.edu so that it can be included in Cumberland Connections and The Cumberland Lawyer publications. Also, make sure your contact information is up to date so you can continue to receive announcements and invitations.

Thank you for your interest and support!

Anne L. Marovich
Director of Alumni Relations
Communities Across the Nation Benefit from the Work of Cumberland Lawyers

Although they earned their law degree from a small law school in the Southeast, graduates of Cumberland School of Law have a large national presence. Cumberland alumni illustrate incredible diversity in terms of geographic influence, background and practice. Featured here are just a handful of Cumberland School of Law lawyers with unique stories.

WEST: Richardson, Texas (Dallas): Sean Modjarrad ’00

Emigrating with his family from Tehran, Iran, in 1985, Sean Modjarrad ’00 arrived in Texas just prior to starting high school. He quickly learned English through observation and a personal commitment to excel. After talking to an admissions officer at a law school forum in Texas and learning that he could enter the joint-degree program, he knew Cumberland School of Law was where he wanted to spend the next three years. In three years on Samford’s campus, Modjarrad earned a juris doctor, a masters of business administration and a masters of accountancy. The day he learned he passed the Texas Bar, Modjarrad started his own firm, calling it Modjarrad & Associates—with the goal of someday having associates.

Each month his practice inched forward and in 2002 he brought in a contract attorney who eventually became his partner in their firm. With this, the firm was renamed to Modjarrad & Abusaad Law Firm. With a dedication to hard work and a focus to build their reputation, they grew the practice from a business and litigation firm and added criminal, family, immigration, personal injury and social security law practices. They have since built a reputation such that other firms throughout Texas hire them as their trial attorneys.

Today, Modjarrad’s firm includes a team of 18 lawyers. Modjarrad refers to the firm as the “United Nations” of law firms, due to the fact that more than 10 languages are spoken by the attorneys and staff collectively.

Diversity and uniqueness are also exhibited by the many different religious backgrounds represented by firm employees. From Catholic to Jewish to Muslim, Modjarrad and his firm take pride in reflecting the diverse culture in which they live and practice.

This Texas firm makes community service a priority. As active members of the community, they sponsor political and other types of events, hold monthly free legal clinics to support various organizations in the community and represent several non-profit organizations for a minimal fee or pro bono.

Modjarrad is a founding board member of the Greater Dallas Iranian-American Chamber of Commerce and the Iranian-American Bar Association.

Modjarrad attributes his development as a lawyer to his education at Cumberland School of Law and Samford’s business school. “Cumberland professors taught me more than just theory; they taught me how to be an attorney. I am able to...
2011–12 Law Firms with 100% Alumni Participation

The following law firms achieved 100% alumni participation in the 2011–12 Cumberland School of Law Annual Fund Firm Competition. Thank you to each of the following firms and the designated individual who led the effort:

Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham and Montgomery (S. Allen Baker ’73 & Riley Roby ’00)
Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, & Miles PC (Tom Methvin ’88)
Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham Office (Victor Hayslip ’85)
Carr Allison, all offices (Thomas C. Logan ’90)
Cory Watson Crowder & DeGaris (Anneseley DeGaris ’88)
Farris, Riley & Pitt (Adam Clayton ’07)
Haskell Slaughter, Birmingham (Baird Beers ’08)
Heninger Garrison Davis LLC (Taylor Bartlett ’10)
Leitman, Siegal, Payne & Campbell PC (Phillip Stutts ’85)
Lightfoot, Franklin & White LLP (Ashby Pate ’07) Gifts made in memory of Jere White ’80
Maynard Cooper & Gale, Birmingham (Andrea Greene ’03)
McCalla Raymer, LLC; Birmingham & Atlanta (Jessica Rahm ’07)
McCallum, Methvin, & Terrell PC (Phillip McCallum ’87)
Norman, Wood, Kendrick & Turner (W.M. Bains Fleming, III ’07)
Ogletree Deakins, Birmingham (Lauren H. Shine ’05)
Simpson, McMahan, Glick, & Burford PLLC
Sirote & Permutt PC (Kelli Robinson ’06)
Starnes Davis Florie LLP (Todd Huntley ’00)
Waldrep, Stewart & Kendrick LLC (Wayne Morse ’76)
White Arnold & Dowd P.C. (Mark White ’74)

think through real problems and practice in a practical and procedural way,” said Modjarrad. Specifically, he believes his classes with Professors Ellison, Snoe, Young, Cole, Martin, Ross and Gov. Brewer prepared him to handle, analyze and decipher cases in ways that carried over to his current approach to practicing law.

Their recent sixth place spot on VerdictSearch’s ranking for the “Top 10 Texas Law Firms” for litigation verdicts in Texas is evidence of his firm’s success. Modjarrad concludes that Cumberland School of Law laid the foundation for his success and provided him the tools necessary for the formation of his deeply experienced firm while maintaining a reputation that mirrors hard work, diversity and dedication.

EAST: Merritt Island, Fla. (Brevard County): Carole Suzanne Bess ’89

Adding to the already troubled Florida housing market and increased rate of home foreclosures during the recent recession, more than 7,000 people lost their jobs when the NASA Shuttle Program ended in 2011. Brevard County, Fla., has one of the highest unemployment rates in the state and residents are facing foreclosure at an astonishing rate.

Having practiced consumer bankruptcy law for over 20 years, Carole Suzanne Bess ’89 and her partners, including another Cumberland School of Law graduate, Samuel Pennington ’79, have made a heroic effort to help people keep their homes. Under the leadership of fellow Cumberland School of Law alumna Laurie Weatherford ’86, the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee in the Orlando Division, the encouragement and assistance of U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Arthur Briskman ’72, and the assistance of Leanne Levett ’85 and others, Bess helped develop a mortgage modification mediation program that currently boasts a 76% success rate in the Middle District of Florida.
In fact, this mediation program and the representation provided by Bess, Blougouras, Freyberg & Pennington is getting national attention. On April 1, 2012, the television news program 60 Minutes aired an interview with Bess covering the hardship of Brevard County residents. A link to a video clip from this program can be found on the firm’s website, www.lawteam4u.com.

One example of this mediation program’s success, Bess mentions, is a residential case where she was able to reduce the mortgage balance from $426,000 to $164,000, and the payment from $3,200 per month to $1,300 per month. Because of Bess’ efforts, her client was able to stay in his home.

Bess’ knowledge and skills of consumer bankruptcy have led to many invitations to speak at state bar events and other legal associations, where she is often recognized for her work. Although, Bess’ consumer bankruptcy accomplishments are second to none, she is especially proud of receiving the Florida Bar Association’s Pro Bono Award for Outstanding Service both in 2004 and 2007.

It is no surprise that her passion remains in service to her community. Now that Bess, Blougouras, Freyberg & Pennington has six attorneys in three offices in central Florida (Merritt Island, Tavares and Orlando), Bess and the mortgage mediation program have the ability to reach a broader consumer pool and truly make a difference in the surrounding communities.

Azulay was born in Jerusalem and immigrated with his family to Canada before Israel’s war of independence in 1948. He grew up in Toronto, Canada, listening to his father tell stories about being deported from Palestine to Egypt in 1917 when the British were fighting the Turkish. The family moved from Toronto, Canada, to Buffalo, N.Y., and then to Miami, Fla. Azulay eventually found his way to Cumberland School of Law where he focused on patent law. After graduation, he landed a job at a patent law firm in Chicago, Ill.

In 1978, when a friend asked Azulay for help with immigration issues, he dove in and found the work to be more fulfilling than his normal work. For him, immigration work was “not in the clouds, but rather, reality.”

Azulay is passionate about freedoms that many of us take for granted and his firm regularly provides representation at a reduced fee or pro bono for people from the most disadvantaged parts of the world, those escaping persecution, or those seeking better opportunity. Azulay and his firm’s members believe it is their responsibility to give back to the communities where their clients live.

Currently, one of the best examples of this service is the work Immigration Attorneys LLP does with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). This program gives children under the age of 16 who were brought to the United States, have been here for at least five years, and attend school in the U.S., an opportunity to come out of the shadows and function like the contributing members of society that they are. The firm provides free seminars around the country to immigrant groups to help make sure they are familiar with dangers that could challenge them as well as benefits that are available to them.

New York City, N.Y.: Alumnus Robert Boland talks Sports in USA TODAY in the shadow of NFL Replacement Refs

In a recent USA TODAY Sports article, alumnus Robert Boland ’95 was quoted at length about sports commissioners. This article outlines the heat the NFL commissioner received from the usage of replacement referees in the 2012 NFL season.

Boland is a professor of sports business at New York University. He holds the academic chair of the Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism, and Sports Management at the New York University School of Continuing and Professional Studies.

NORTH: Chicago, Ill.: Y. Judd Azulay ’73

Over the last several years, especially in Arizona and Alabama, immigration law has been a controversial and “hot” topic. More lawyers have added immigration law to their menu of services than ever before, but Yahuda “Judd” Azulay ’73, founding partner of Immigration Attorneys LLP, has represented immigrants since 1978.

Azulay grew up in Jerusalem and immigrated with his family to Canada before Israel’s war of independence in 1948. He grew up in Toronto, Canada, listening to his father tell stories about being deported from Palestine to Egypt in 1917 when the British were fighting the Turkish. The family moved from Toronto, Canada, to Buffalo, N.Y., and then to Miami, Fla. Azulay eventually found his way to Cumberland School of Law where he focused on patent law. After graduation, he landed a job at a patent law firm in Chicago, Ill.

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Immigration Attorneys LLP is presently one of the largest immigration law firms in the U.S., having 16 attorneys and 16 paralegals. Together, they speak more than 40 languages including Chinese, Arabic and Tagalog. Most are native speakers. Azulay reasons, “We want our clients to feel at home.”

Another unique aspect of this firm is that its practice is not limited to just one or two areas of immigration law. They “do it all” according to Azulay, because “we might be able to find a solution that draws on what appears to be a different area, but provides the answer for that client.”

Also, being well versed in all areas of immigration law helps this firm ride out economic changes. He states that “when enforcement is up, petition based work is often down, and vice versa.” Further, being skilled “across the board” enables the firm to focus on its clients, maintain its commitment to community assistance, and further the attorneys’ beliefs in immigrant rights. Azulay believes that it is not the firm’s only job to apply existing law, but also to expand the opportunities for foreign nationals/immigrants.

There are many cases that Azulay
can recall where his firm's representation truly changed a client's life. He has represented young women escaping female genital mutilation, young men escaping forced conscription, people being physically abused and people escaping tyrannical governments to those seeking asylum in the U.S. One of Azulay's favorite stories is one where his firm represented a family with ten children living as model American citizens over a period of fifteen years. He was able to obtain legal status for all of them.

Today, Azulay is still passionate about his practice. “Maybe it’s the political, social or economic portions. More likely it’s the people. Every day we get to get up and help people find their path to their dreams. The American Dream is alive and well and we are reminded by every person we meet that people want to live here. What could be more fulfilling?” said Azulay.

Demopolis, Ala.: Alumnus William T. Coplin Receives One of 38 ABA's Board of Governors Appointments

On Aug. 6, 2012, William T. Coplin, Jr. ’77 of Demopolis, Ala., was appointed for a three-year term on the American Bar Association’s [ABA] Board of Governors. The ABA is the largest volunteer organization in the world. He represents District 5 covering the lawyers in Alabama, North Carolina and Kentucky.

The Board of Governors is composed of 38 lawyers throughout the country. They act and speak for the ABA. The board develops methods and plans for making the ABA’s activities useful to the members, administers the facilities and staff of the association, and formulates and administers the association’s budget and reimbursement policies.

This appointment follows a history of professional and personal service by Coplin. After graduation from Jacksonville State University, Coplin obtained his juris doctor from Cumberland School of Law in 1977. He then became a municipal judge for the City of Demopolis from 1978 to 79. He was president of the Demopolis Area Chamber of Commerce in 1982 and president of the Marengo County Historical Society in 1985.

From 1985 to 1997, Coplin served as trustee for Samford University; he served three terms as chairman of the Board of Deacons of First Baptist Church Demopolis; and for 15 years has taught a men’s Sunday school class. Later in 2010, the Alabama State Baptist Convention named him a trustee of the Alabama Baptist Foundation.

Since 1987, he has represented Alabama lawyers in the House of Delegates of the ABA. Coplin served as president, vice president and secretary of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Bar Association. He is a life sustaining member of the American Bar Foundation and a sustaining member of NOSSCR and the Alabama Association for Justice.

In 2003, he and his wife, Betsy, were awarded the Frances Strother Lyons Award by the Department of the Interior for their efforts in placing three buildings located in historic downtown Demopolis on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Currently, BAO is one of nine AIDS service organizations in the state of Alabama. Under Rygiel’s involvement and leadership, BAO has been deemed a model program for similar programs in Alabama and for others in the United States. The legal program receives the majority of its funding from AIDS United and has been granted additional funding by organizations including the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation, the UAB Benevolent Fund and the Young Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association. BAO houses the legal service program which is self-sustained through its own grant funding. This is not the norm, however; in fact, it is rare for an AIDS outreach program to house a full time legal service provider.

Rygiel has represented hundreds of HIV+ clients on a wide variety of legal matters. Some issues such as public benefits planning (disability cases), domestic relations, employment issues, civil rights issues are more frequently presented than other legal issues.

Rygiel’s program functions much like a full time general practice and he acknowledges with gratitude the widespread support of the local legal community. Often, he can refer cases involving bankruptcy issues, personal injuries and other rights violations to local attorneys.

“Nonprofit work, helping those who are most in need in the community, is difficult and the issues are complicated, but the satisfaction I get from providing pro bono legal services is extremely rewarding on a personal level,” said Rygiel. φ

SOUTH: Birmingham, Ala.: Stephen Rygiel ’09

At Cumberland School of Law, students are exposed to a significant number of public service opportunities. Stephen Rygiel ’09 was a member of the student community service organization during law school and his public service did not stop at graduation. Since 2010, Rygiel has served as the director of the Aiding Alabama Legal Program and is the legal counsel at Birmingham Aids Outreach (BAO), providing pro bono representation to individuals who are HIV+. 
Alumni Hold Leadership Roles as President of the Alabama State Bar

When it comes to Alabama State Bar leadership, Samford University’s Cumberland School of Law has seen its fair share over the years.

At this year’s Alabama State Bar meeting, Philip W. McCallum ’87 became president for the 2012–13 term. McCallum is a shareholder at McCallum, Methvin & Terrell PC and was a prosecutor in the Jefferson County, Ala., District Attorney’s Office. In addition, he served in two different roles for the Birmingham Bar Association. Among other notable achievements, he has been recognized by Super Lawyers since 2009.

Following McCallum, Anthony A. Joseph ’80, pictured below, was selected as president-elect for the 2013–14 term. Joseph is a shareholder at Maynard, Cooper & Gale. His past work experiences include assistant district attorney, special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and assistant United States attorney. Joseph was recognized in the 2013 edition of ‘The Best Lawyers in America’ for criminal defense in non-white-collar and white collar crimes. Among other notable achievements, Joseph was recognized on the Top 50 list in the 2012 edition of Alabama Super Lawyers.

The outgoing Alabama Bar President was James R. Pratt III ’78. Pratt is a trial attorney with Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton. Pratt was co-lead counsel in Burgess v. Ford, which was the first successful air bag case brought in the United States. Other notable cases include: Edwards v. General Motors, Marinelli v. Volkswagen, Byer v. Beech, and McDonald v. Luxaire. Pratt is a member of the exclusive Inner Circle of Advocates, which is limited to 100 attorneys nationwide. LawDragon selected Pratt as one of the top 500 plaintiffs’ lawyers in the United States. Among other notable achievements, he has been recognized by Best Lawyers in America® for 10 years.

Before Pratt, Thomas J. Methvin ’88 held the presidency for the 2009–10 term. Methvin is a managing shareholder at Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, PC. He has tried more than a dozen cases that have resulted in verdicts of more than one million dollars. In 2002, the National Law Journal listed Methvin as one of the Top 40 Litigators in the country under the age of 40. In 2007, Fortune magazine listed him as one of America’s Premier Lawyers. Among other notable achievements, The Trial Lawyer magazine listed him as a 2011 member of The Round Table: America’s 100 Most Influential Trial Lawyers.

Before Methvin, J. Mark White ’74 held the presidency for the 2008–09 term. White is a shareholder at White Arnold & Dowd PC. White has more than 35 years of experience as a trial litigator in matters that cover a wide range of civil and criminal practice. He has been lead counsel in a number of high profile trials, representing both plaintiffs and defendants. White has been called upon by several major corporations to conducted independent investigations. Among other notable achievements, White received the 2006 National Center for State Courts Distinguished Service Award, he has been recognized by Super Lawyers of Alabama since 2008, and he has been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America® since 1995.

Alva C. Caine ’69, attorney at Hare Wynn, was president of the Alabama State Bar from 1989–90.

Pictured above, from left, Philip W. McCallum, Samford University President Andrew Westmoreland, and Cumberland School of Law Dean John L. Carroll. McCallum was the fall 2012 keynote speaker at Cumberland School of Law’s Orientation Luncheon for first-year law students.
In December 2004, a rock climbing fall left Judge (ret.) J. Gary Pate ’76 with a broken back. As part of his recovery, he underwent rehabilitation at the Lakeshore Foundation in Birmingham, Ala. His experience at the rehabilitation center led to his unexpected involvement with the wheelchair rugby team that trains at the Lakeshore Foundation.

In 2005, Pate became the rugby team’s equipment man. In 2007, Pate received his certification as a wheelchair rugby referee. Then in 2009, Pate was elected President of the United States Quad Rugby Association.

In late 2009, there was a staff opening with USA’s National Wheelchair Rugby team. Pate was selected to fill this opening.

Over the years, in this staff position Pate has been happy to assist with any aspect of the team, including refereeing, equipment managing, personal care, errand running, picking players up when they have been knocked over, and keeping statistics, among others.

Since Pate’s involvement with the team he has traveled to the 2010 American Zonals in Buenos Aires, Argentina; the 2011 World Cup in Vancouver, Canada; and the 2012 Paralympics in London, England.

Prior to the 2012 London games, Team USA trained extensively for five months at the Lakeshore Foundation. They departed for London on Aug. 24.

Pate recalls his trip to London, “We stayed in the Paralympic Village, which is the same location where the previous summer Olympic athletes stayed. Some 6,500 people lived at the village. The rooms would remind you of nice college dorms. And it really is a village. There was a post office, UPS store, gift shops, barber shops and beauty salons, night clubs, a fitness center, chapels, and a monstrous food pavilion the size of several football fields. There were five food areas in the pavilion—the Americas, African-Caribbean, Asian-Indian, British and McDonald’s—and they were all free.”

Team USA was seeded number one. In the opening match, USA beat Great Britain in front of 12,000 people, 11,800 who were pulling for Great Britain. Team USA followed with wins against Japan and France, advancing to meet Canada in the quarterfinals. In a game that saw Team USA trail by as many as eight points, Canada won by a goal scored as time expired. Team USA again played Japan in the bronze medal match, pulling off the win.

Pate and his wife, Crystal, also had an opportunity to meet with two former Cumberland School of Law English exchange students, Antony “Ant” Greenwood and Stephanie Hawkins.

“Ant, my wife, and I had rock climbed regularly when he was a student at Cumberland. Ant lives an hour outside of London and took Crystal climbing, touring the countryside, and they did all the touristic stuff in London,” said Pate.

Stephanie Hawkins was able to meet the Pates to share a meal and a rugby match. The Pates also became friends with Hawkins through rock climbing while she attended Cumberland School of Law.

“There really is no legal component to my staff position. It really is just a volunteer slot which I have been blessed to do. It is life changing to be in a setting where no one asks the disabled athlete ‘What happened to you?’ Rather, the question is ‘What sport do you compete in?’ I was honored to spend the time with these world-class athletes, supreme competitors, and record holders. It was great to be along for that ride,” said Pate recalling some thoughts about his trip to the London games.

Pate is pictured standing with USA Wheelchair Rugby Paralympians, from left, Scott Hogsett, Chad Cohn, Joe Delagrave and Derrick Helton. They are waiting for the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace.
Your Cumberland Legacy

by Hon. Julian Mann III ’74
National Alumni Association President

Mann is pictured right as the keynote speaker at the 2011 First-year Law Student Orientation Luncheon

I quote from Dean Donald E. Corley (’69), writing in the Cumberland Law Review (vol. 11, 1980–81, at 251): “An article appearing in the February 1935 issue of Southern magazine that discussed legal education in the antebellum South, described Cumberland as the largest and most effective law school in the country.” Let me repeat this part: “…the most effective law school in the country.” This was not a self-serving statement made by a proud dean…but an observation, independently made, by a writer who had presumably researched the question as to which law school was the best at the time. Cumberland School of Law today stands as the 14th (founded 1847) oldest law school in the country. But you may be thinking that’s antebellum; certainly today, Cumberland School of Law cannot lay claim to the accolade, “the most effective law school,” in the country. Or dare we?

I quote again from Dean Corley’s law review article. Again, this is not the proud dean speaking from somewhere in outer space, but a Dean citing Case & Comment (July–Aug. 1972, at 27–28) for this assertion: “As of 1960s, Cumberland was tied with Yale and was second only to Harvard in the number of graduates who had become state supreme court justices.” Cumberland School of Law ranked second to Harvard and tied with Yale in this category. This category notes the rise to the top of lawyers who have achieved the pinnacle of their professional careers…few achieve such a rank…the competition is beyond rigorous. Is this accolade limited to Tennessee, Alabama, the South, Southeast, Northeast, Midwest or West? No, it’s the entire United States. True, we have moved up a bit in time from the antebellum years, but what relevancy does this hold for Cumberland School of Law today?

As well, Dean Corley mentions the 75 United States Congressmen who were Cumberland School of Law graduates. Since his article, I estimate about five more have been elected. Name another law school that has sent almost 80 of its graduates to the United States Congress?

Dean Corley’s article also recites the following: Cumberland School of Law has produced “11 United States Senators, 75 United States congressmen, 15 governors, two United States Supreme Court justices and Cordell Hull (1891)—judge, congressman, U.S. Senator, U.S. Secretary of State (under President Franklin D. Roosevelt 1933), father of the United Nations and Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1945.” This list is almost incomprehensible.

I observe that, in an ongoing basis, alumni hold positions as judges and justices, as governors, as local, state and federal attorneys; serve as state and local bar presidents, in state legislative positions, on the boards of numerous organizations; do volunteer and pro bono work. They do this believing that service is an important component of the legal profession.

Let’s consider Cordell Hull. Recently, I was cleaning out our home where my mother resided for most of her adult life which ended as she approached 102. I found the Nov. 23, 1944, edition of the Raleigh News and Observer. As I was about to discard it, I glanced at the front page. There was a photograph of Cordell Hull. He had resigned as Secretary of State the day before, due to a serious health issue. These are verbatim quotes that I now share with you from this article. The news correspondent reported: “Several Senators listed him with Jefferson, Jay, Madison, Webster and Root as among the great Secretaries of State in the nation’s history. Rep. Luther Johnson of Texas said his vision in preparing for the coming peace establishes him as one of the great statesmen of the world. The Earl of Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, describes him as, a great servant of his country and a great example to the statesmen of any country…universally respected, known and trusted. The official Nazi statement describes the future Nobel Prize Peace winner differently: [A]s the most furious of
Nominate a Distinguished Alumnus and Young Alumnus of the Year

This spring, Cumberland School of Law will announce our Distinguished Alumnus and Young Alumnus of the Year. These awards are bestowed on graduates of the law school who have distinguished themselves in the practice of law, service to the community, and leadership in the profession.

The law school is now accepting nominations for these prestigious awards. The Young Alumnus of the Year should be one who graduated within the last 15 years (1998). Please send your nominations to lawalum@samford.edu and include a short description of why you feel each of your nominees deserve these distinguished awards.

Thank you for helping us recognize those alumni that exemplify the values of a Cumberland Lawyer.
Class Notes

Collected January 2012 through September 2012

1967
Robert E. Moorere, from Birmingham, Ala., received the Retiring Commissioners’ award at the annual Alabama State Bar meeting.

1969
Roy B. Gonas, from Miami, Fla., received a Fulbright Specialist grant to conduct a certificate course on international commercial arbitration at the Odessa National University, Law Academy in Ukraine.

Edward P. Meyerson, with Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz PC, Birmingham, Ala., received the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Subcontractors Association of Alabama. He was also recognized in the 2012 edition of Chambers USA directory.

James J. Thompson Jr., with Hare Wynn Newell & Newton LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was selected as one of three lawyers in Alabama for inclusion in the Lawdragon’s “Leading Lawyers in America” for 2011.

Frank M. Young III, with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker LLC, Birmingham, Ala., was named to the board of directors of two nonprofit organizations: Alabama Appleseed (a nonpartisan legal advocacy organization working to identify root causes of injustice and inequality in Alabama, and to develop solutions) and Atlanta International Arbitration Society (an organization working to enhance Atlanta’s stature as a venue for resolution of international commercial and investment disputes, and to nurture growth of an international arbitration community in the Southeast).

1971
M. Clay Alspaugh was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. He is with Smith & Alspaugh PC, Birmingham, Ala.

T. Brad Bishop’s newest book, Municipal Courts 7th edition, was published. He is a professor of law at Cumberland School of Law and municipal court judge in Hoover, Ala.

1972
John P. Whittington, with HealthSouth Corporation, Birmingham, Ala., received an Outstanding Corporate Counsel Award from The Birmingham Business Journal on September 20th.

1973
Judson Freeman Jr. joined Bryant Miller Olive PA, Jacksonville, Fl.

1974
Charles H. Booth Jr., from Birmingham, Ala., was named 2011 Arbitrator of the Year by the Better Business Bureau of North Alabama.

Dean John L. Carroll was named chairman of the merit selection panel formed to collect applications and thereafter nominate people who sought to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul W. Greene ’81 from the Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham, Ala.

Orrin R. Ford, from Birmingham, Ala., was awarded the Excellence in Grassroots Leadership Award at the joint convention of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations of Washington, D.C., the Federation of Turkish American Associations of New York, and the Turkish American Community Center of Maryland.

David K. Howard, with Carr Allison, Birmingham, Ala., received the Retiring Commissioners’ award at the annual Alabama State Bar meeting.

Judge Julian Mann III, from Raleigh, N.C., was awarded the Trusts R. DeMoisey Professionalism Award by the National Association of Hearing Officials. The award recognizes the demonstration of ethical behavior and highest ideals of professionalism. Judge Mann is chief administrative law judge for the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings.

James L. Martin, from Eufaula, Ala., is a member of the 2011 Class of Fellows of the Alabama Law Foundation.

W. Lee Thuston was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. He is with Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

Andrew E. Zuckerman presented in a Feb. 2012 webcast titled “Understanding New IRS Rules in Filing Revised Form 5300,” which is part of The Knowledge Congress Live Webcast Series. He is director of the Employee Plans Rulings and Agreement with the Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D.C.

1975
John D. Coggins, retired circuit court judge, and Gina D. Coggins (’93), his daughter, announced the formation of The Coggins Firm LLC, with offices located in Gadsden and Centre, Ala.

Henry H. “Hank” Hutchinson III, with Capell & Howard PC, Montgomery, Ala., received the President’s Award at the annual Alabama State Bar meetings.

Rodney A. Max, Alabama charter member of National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, was recognized for excellence in the field of alternative dispute resolution. He is with Upchurch Watson White & Max, in Birmingham, Ala. and Daytona Beach, Fla.

Larry D. Nee, Campbellsville, KY, was awarded the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award by Campbellsville University.

Lydia M. Quarles received the 2012 Joan Fill Bishop Award from the American Society for Public Administration. The Award recognizes women who have increased women’s participation in the field, contributed to the public sector, and shown innovative leadership. She is with Mozingo Quarles PLLC, in Jackson and Starkville, Miss.

Michael V. Rasmussen, from Birmingham, Ala., was named the 2012 lawyer of the year by the Birmingham Legal Professionals Association for his dedication to the legal profession and the community. Rasmussen is an adjunct professor and trial coach at Cumberland School of Law.

1976
Walden M. “Walt” Buttram, with Buttram & Huffstutler LLC, Gadsden, Ala., received a merit award for outstanding success in criminal defense cases from the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Donald L. Colee Jr., from Birmingham, Ala., was named the 2012 recipient of the Roderick Beddow Award by the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. The award recognizes lifetime achievement and is named for Birmingham civil rights activist and attorney, Roderick Beddow.

J. Gary Pate spent 18 days in Sept. at the Paralympics in London. Judge Pate is on staff with USA Wheelchair Ruby, in addition to being president of the U.S. Quad Rugby Association. The USA team won bronze. Pate, from Homewood, Ala., is a retired domestic relations court judge and an adjunct professor at Cumberland School of Law.

S. Shay Samples was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. He is with Hare Wynn Newell & Newton LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

Leonard M. Schwartz and Karen S. McClure (’06), announced the formation of Schwartz & McClure in Birmingham, Ala.

1977
Michael B. Beers joined Butler Snow O’Mara Stevens & Cannada PLLC, Montgomery, Ala.

Lee R. Benton was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. He is with Benton & Centeno LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

William T. “Billy” Coplin Jr., Demopolis, Ala., was appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association [ABA]. He is one of 38 lawyers from throughout the country on the Board. The Board develops policies and plans for the ABA, which is the largest volunteer organization in the world.
Joseph A. Fawal, with Fawal and Spina, Birmingham, Ala., was elected the 2012 president of the Birmingham Bar Association.

Stephen D. Heninger was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. He is with Heniger Garrison Davis LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

George M. ‘Jack’ Neal Jr., with Sirote & Permutt PC, was named the 2011 Lawyer of the Year by the Birmingham Legal Professionals Association for his dedication to the legal profession and the community.

Carol Sue Nelson, with Maynard Cooper & Gale PC, Birmingham, Ala., was recognized in the 2012 edition of Chambers USA directory.

Sidney C. Summey Jr., with White Arnold & Dowd PC, Birmingham, Ala., was elected chairman of the probate section of the Birmingham Bar Association for 2012.

1978

G. Reginald Copeland Jr. joined The Gardner Firm PC, Mobile, Ala., as a partner.

Richard D. Greer, with Greer Law Firm PC, Birmingham, Ala., was appointed chair of the Birmingham Bar Association's fee arbitration committee and to a three-year term on the grievance committee.

Scott A. Powell, with Hare Wynn Newell & Newton LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was recognized as 2012 Alabama Litigator of the Year by Benchmark Litigation.

James R. Pratt III, with Hare Wynn Newell & Newton LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was selected and confirmed to the board of trustees for Auburn University. Pratt recently served as the 2011–12 president of the Alabama State Bar Association. He was also selected as one of three lawyers in Alabama for inclusion in the Lawdragon’s "Leading Lawyers in America" for 2011.

1979

Dennis R. Bailey, with Rushton Stakely, Montgomery, Ala., is a member of the 2011 Class of Fellows of the Alabama Law Foundation.

Bruce A. Gardner, from Huntsville, Ala., received a merit award for outstanding success in criminal defense cases from the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Dennis J. Knizley, from Mobile, Ala., received a merit award for outstanding success in criminal defense cases from the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

James W. Parkman III, with Parkman Adams & White LLC, Birmingham, Ala., received a merit award for outstanding success in criminal defense cases from the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

1980

Thomas M. Goggans, from Montgomery, Ala., received a merit award for outstanding success in criminal defense cases from the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Judge Ralph H. Gridr retirered as district judge in the Alabama 38th Circuit, on Dec. 30, 2011, after 25 years of service. He is now a municipal court judge in Scottsboro, Ala.

Anthony A. Joseph, with Maynard Cooper & Gale PC, Birmingham, Ala., became president-elect of the Alabama State Bar for the 2012–13 term, and will become president of the state bar in July 2013. Joseph was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class.

Frank W. Myers Sr. was the director of field coordination and support in the Interagency Rule of Law Office, U.S. Embassy, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Marda W. Sydnor was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. She is with Parsons Lee & Juliano PC, Birmingham, Ala.

1981

Judge Paul W. Greene retired Sept. 28, 2012, as chief U.S. magistrate judge for the Northern District of Ala., Birmingham, Ala. He served as a federal magistrate judge for nearly 25 years.

Elizabeth H. Hutchins, with Sirote & Permutt PC, Birmingham, Ala., was appointed the state chair-elect of Alabama for the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, a national organization that works to improve trust, estate and tax laws, procedures, and professional responsibility.

William G. Nolan, with Nolan Stewart PC, Birmingham, Ala., is now chairman of the board at Jefferson County Area Council of Aging.


William A. Ratliff, Alabama charter member of National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, was recognized for excellence in the field of alternative dispute resolution. He is with Wallace Jordan Ratliff & Brandt LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

W. Clark Watson, with Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham, Ala., is an inaugural member of Samford University’s Beeson Divinity School dean’s advisory board. Watson is a former chair of Samford’s board of trustees.

Capt. Bruce W. MacKenzie accepted an appointment as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration in Montgomery, Ala.

Howard W. Neiwender joined Sirote & Permutt PC, Birmingham, Ala., as a shareholder.

Carol H. Stewart, with Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was elected to the council of the Alabama Law Institute, the governing body of the Institute.

1983

C. Dale Allen joined Adams and Reese LLP, Nashville, Tenn., as a partner. He also holds the rank of Colonel in the Tennessee Army National Guard.

Wendy B. Crew, with Crew and Howell PC, Birmingham, Ala., served as a U.S. delegate to the European chapter meeting of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, England. She is on the board of managers of the organization’s U.S. chapter.

Judge Hub B. Harrington was awarded the Judge Drayton James award by the Young Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association. He serves on the 18th Judicial Circuit, Shelby County, Ala.

Kathryn Sumrall Harrington joined Heninger Garrison Davis LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Tobias M. Mendelson was appointed regional advanced markets director with MetLife’s southeast region. He holds a master of accounting degree from Kennesaw State University [KSU] and is an adjunct professor of accounting and business law at KSU. Mendelson was also a brief grader for the 2011–12 National Appellate Advocacy Competition sponsored by the ABA Law Student Competition Subcommittee.

Judge J. Steven Stafford, from Dyersburg, Tenn., was selected as a 2012 Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He serves on the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Western Section.

1984

LaBella S. Alvis, with Christian & Small LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was recommended as a candidate for fellowship in the International Academy of Trial Lawyers which represents more than 30 countries.

Jeffrey D. Deen, from Oviedo, Fla., was reappointed by Florida Governor Rick Scott as criminal conflict and civil regional counsel for the 5th District Court of Appeals.

Jeffrey E. Holmes is a shareholder with Gilpin Givhan PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Ferris S. Ritchey III was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. He is a partner with Gilpin Givhan PC, Montgomery, Ala.

Simeon F. Penton is a shareholder of Gilpin Givhan PC, Montgomery, Ala.
J. Allen Schreiber, Alabama charter member of National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, was recognized for excellence in the field of alternative dispute resolution. He joined Burke Harvey & Frankowski LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

1985
Leslie R. Barineau was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. She is with Barineau & Barineau, Birmingham, Ala.

Ted L. Mann announced the formation of Mann & Potter PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Judge Gregory Poole was elected to a seat as judge on the superior court for Cobb County, Ga.

Judge Donald Word, with the 38th Judicial Circuit, Scottsboro, Ala., received the Retiring Commissioners’ Award at the annual Alabama State Bar meetings. He was appointed to the bench by Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley.

1986
Aubrey J. “Jay” Holloway Jr. was nominated for membership in the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance, while with Christian & Small LLP, Birmingham, Ala. He is currently with Wade S. Anderson & Associates, Birmingham, Ala.

Melton H. Little received the 2012 Lawton Chiles Foundation business community award, honoring business practices that best exemplify the Democratic Party ideals. He is with Kallins Little Delgado & Opstal PA, Palmetto, Fla.

Andrew H. McElroy III joined the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Complex Civil Control Bureau at the Florida Office of Attorney General, Tallahassee, Fla.

S. Davidson McKnight, with Baxley Dillard McKnight & James PC, Birmingham, Ala., received a merit award for outstanding success in criminal defense cases from the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Thomas B. Richardson, with BB&T Company, Florence, S.C., is chairman of the board of trustees for McLeod Health.

Allen R. Trippe Jr. joined Estes Sanders & Williams LLC, Vestavia, Ala.

1987
John A. Lentine was the 2012 recipient of the Lawrence B. Sheffield Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award from the Greater Birmingham Criminal Defense Lawyers Association for service and dedication to the practice of criminal defense. Lentine was one of the recipients of the Outstanding Professor of 2012 Awards from the Birmingham School of Law, where he teaches criminal law and death penalty. He is with Sheffield & Lentine PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Theodore J. Leopold, with Leopold Law PA, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., was unanimously nominated to the office of president-elect of Public Justice Foundation, headquartered in Washington, D.C. Leopold served on a panel at the 2012 American Bar Association Motor Vehicle Litigation CLE; and presented a lecture, “The Past, Present & Future of Seatbelt Litigation,” as part of the 2012 Florida Advanced Trial Skills Seminar.

Phillip W. McCallum, with McCallum Methvin & Terrell PC, Birmingham, Ala., was installed as the president of the Alabama State Bar for the 2012–13 term.

Desmond V. Tobias announces the formation of Tobias & Comer LLC, Mobile, Ala.

Thomas P. Willingham announced the formation of the Law Offices of Thomas P. Willingham PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Lois S. Woodward joined Maynard Cooper & Gale PC, Birmingham, Ala., as a shareholder.

1988
M. Dykes Barber Jr. joined the Law Offices of David M. Cowan LLC, Vestavia, Ala.

John M. Floyd was named chairperson of Samford University’s board of overseers. He is a senior attorney with Vulcan Materials Company, Birmingham, Ala.

1989
Stephen E. Bristow was appointed district judge for the 90th Judicial District, for Young and Stephens counties of Texas, by Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

Robert J. Hodge joined the Citrin Law Firm, Daphne, Ala.

William B. Herbert IV was named the Nashville, Tenn., metro government zoning administrator in the department of codes and building safety by the Nashville Mayor.

W. Daniel “Dee” Miles, with Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, & Miles PC, Montgomery, Ala., is the 2012 chairperson of the Cumberland School of Law dean’s advisory board.

1990
Edward E. Blair announces the formation of Blair Law Firm, Huntsville, Ala.

David M. Cowan announced the opening of Law Offices of David M. Cowan LCC, Vestavia, Ala.

Steve B. Burford announced the formation of Simpson McMahan Glick & Burford PLLC, Mountain Brook, Ala.

Patricia Jones Pritchett, with the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation, Birmingham, Ala., received an Outstanding Corporate Counsel Award from The Birmingham Business Journal.

1991
Julia A. Beasley, with Beasley Allen Crow Methvin Portis & Miles PC, Montgomery, Ala., is a member of the 2011 Class of Fellows of the Alabama Law Foundation.

David P. Dearing joined Beasley Allen Crow Methvin Portis & Miles PC, Montgomery, Ala.

Denise Hall Dickinson is the co-founder, vice president and secretary of See the Needs, Inc.–Change One Life at a Time, an international non-profit with administrative offices in Johns Creek, Ga.

G. Bartley Loftin III joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, Huntsville, Ala., as a partner.

1992
William C. “Beau” Byrd II, was named president of the Alabama Chapter of NAIOP, a commercial real estate development association. He is with Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

Thomas A. Davis, with Jackson Lewis LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was recognized in the 2012 edition of Chambers USA directory.

Leigh Anne Hodge joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, Birmingham, Ala., as a partner.

Kyle L. Kinney joined Miller Christie & Kinney PC, Vestavia, Ala., as a shareholder.

D. Todd McLeroy announced the opening of McLeroy Law Firm LLC, Cullman, Ala. He was elected chairman of the board of directors of Cullman Regional Medical Center.

1993
Gina D. Coggins and John D. Coggins (’75), her father, a retired circuit court judge, announced...
the formation of The Coggin Firm LLC, with offices located in Gadsden and Centre Point, Ala.

Kyla G. Kelim announced the opening of an elder law practice, Aging in Alabama, Fairhope, Ala.

Donald B. “Bo” Kirkpatrick, with Carr Allison, Birmingham Ala., was named president of the Vestavia Hills City Schools Foundation.

Leslie M. Kroeger, with Leopold Law PA, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., was elected to the board of directors and executive committee of the Florida Justice Association.

William K. “Chip” Bradford announced the opening of Bradford Ladner LLP, Mountain Brook, Ala.

W. Scott Simpson announced the formation of Simpson McMahan Glick & Burford PLLC, Mountain Brook, Ala.

1994
Clinton C. Carter announced the opening of Clinton C. Carter PC, Montgomery, Ala.

Teresa Ryder Mastando announced the opening of Mastando & Artrip LLC, Huntsville, Ala.

Jason A. Stuckey has joined Moses & Moses PC, Birmingham, Ala.

1995
Rebecca Garity DePalma, with White Arnold & Dowd PC, Birmingham, Ala., received the President’s Award at the annual Alabama State Bar meeting.

Anne Lamkin Durward was elected president of the Alabama chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, a national organization of 1,600 attorneys. Durward was inducted into the Birmingham Bar Foundation 2012 Inaugural Fellows Class. She is with Massey Stotser & Nichols PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Melinda Kinney Hart, from Lilburn, Ga., is an administrative law judge with the Social Security Administration’s Office of Disability Adjudication and Review.

Ian W. Jaquiss was a presenter at the Green Sports Alliance Summit 2012 in Seattle, Wash. He is director of community programs for the Portland Trail Blazers (NBA basketball team) and lives in Portland, Ore., with wife, M. Shawn Jaquiss (’95).

1996
Christopher S. Berdy, an attorney with Christian & Small, has been named membership chair for Alabama by the International Association of Defense Counsel. Berdy is responsible for identifying and nominating for membership the best defense attorneys in Alabama.

James M. McMullan announced the opening of Walker McMullan LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Michael A. Montgomery became a partner with Butler Pappas Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP, Mobile, Ala.

Chirayu M. Shah, with Christian & Small LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was selected as a 2012 CLD Fellow by the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, a national organization made up of the legal profession’s top general counsels and managing partners.

J. Robert Turnipseed joined Armbrrecht Jackson, Mobile, Ala., as a partner.

1997
Judge Elisabeth A. French, with the Alabama 10th Judicial Circuit, Civil Division, Birmingham, Ala., is a member of the Leadership Birmingham class of 2013.

Craig M. Stephens, with Sirote & Permutt PC, Birmingham, Ala., coauthored the fourth edition of J.K. Lasser’s New Rules for Estate & Tax Planning. Stephens is an adjunct faculty member at Cumberland School of Law.

1998
Hans Leo J. Cacdac is the administrator of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, Mandaluyong City, Republic of the Philippines.

Carl K. Dowdley III, with Carr Allison, Birmingham, Ala., is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve JAG Corps. He is currently assigned as staff judge advocate at the one-star Deployment Support Command, Birmingham, Ala.

Robert A. Hasty Jr. is assistant county attorney for Cumberland County in Fayetteville, N.C.

Jerry D. Redmond Jr. joined Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz PC, Houston, TX.

Kirkland E. Reid was elected to partnership with Jones Walker, Mobile, Ala.

1999
Daniel P. Avery was named a shareholder with Carr Allison, Birmingham, Ala.

Anna Funderburk Buckner, with Cabaniss, Johnston, Gardner, Duman & O’Neal LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was elected Chi Omega national vice president for the 2012–14 biennium. Chi Omega is the largest women’s fraternal organization in the world.

Sabrina L. Comer announced the opening of Comer & Gundlach PLLC, Montgomery, Ala.

Jon M. Hughes joined of counsel with McMickle, Kurey & Branch LLP, Alpharetta, Ga.

Michelle Obradovic Parry was recognized for excellence in the field of alternative dispute resolution. She is with Wise Resolution LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Kenneth E. Riley, with Farris Riley & Pitt LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was elected secretary of the Alabama Association for Justice.

Chad E. Stewart became a shareholder at Beasley Allen Crow Methvin Portis & Miles PC, Montgomery, Ala.

2000
Allison Lee Dearing is a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8. She is with the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Irondale, Ala.

John A. Howard Jr. is an associate with Gilpin Givhan PC, Montgomery, Ala.

Candace B. Peeples, with Shaw Anderson & Peeples LLC, Birmingham, Ala., was recognized as a Rising Star by B-Metro magazine.

2001
Meredith M. Aldridge is executive counsel for Attorney General Jim Hood in Jackson, Miss. Also, Ms. Aldridge is the Cumberland Club leader for Jackson.

Michael J. Douglas, with Friedman Leak Dazzio Zulanas & Bowling PC, Birmingham, Ala., was recognized as a Rising Star by B-Metro magazine.

Kelly Thrasher Fox was named a member of Hand Arendall LLC, Birmingham, Ala. Also, Ms. Fox was named the 2012 secretary of the Alabama Women in Business.

Bradley L. Hendrix was appointed associate counsel for management at CBL & Associates Properties Inc., Chattanooga, Tenn.

Jeffrey G. Miller is an associate counsel at the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, Montgomery, Ala.

Robert L. Sands is associate general counsel for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Bentonville, Ark.

K. Tess Stromberg, from Gonzales, La., was appointed judicial hearing officer and court administrator for the 23rd Judicial District of Louisiana, which includes the Ascension, Assumption and St. James Parishes.

Melissa N. Tapp is an associate at Morgan & Weisbrod LLP, Dallas, TX.

Judge Jason B. Thompson, from Fayetteville, Ga., was elected Fayette County magistrate court judge on July 31, 2012. He is filling an unexpired term and starts his own term on Jan. 1, 2013.

Latanishia D. Watters, with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker LLC, was named the 2012 Young Alumna of the Year by Cumberland School of Law, during the 50th Anniversary at
Samford University celebration.

2002
James R. Garts III joined Guttman Griffiths PC, Littleton, Colo., as an associate.

Robin Beardsley Mark joined the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham, Ala.

Ché C. Padrón, from Miami, Fla., is an assistant state attorney at the Miami-Dade State Attorney’s Office, 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida.

Catherine A. Palmore announced the opening of Palmore Hatley Law PLLC, Houston, TX.

John H. Roth is counsel and chief compliance officer for Venor Capital Management LP, New York, N.Y.

J. Vincent Swiney II joined Townes Woods & Roberts, Gardendale, Ala.


M. Brandon Walker announces the formation of Walker McMullen LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

2003
M. Jeremy Dotson is an associate at Estes Sanders & Williams PC, Vestavia, Ala.

Kenny W. Keith is a shareholder with Gilpin Givhan PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Katherine M. Klos was named partner at Akridge & Balch PC, Auburn, Ala.

Morris H. Lilienthal has joined Martinson & Beason PC, in Huntsville, Ala., as a shareholder.

Tracy Tuggle Miller is an associate at Estes Sanders & Williams LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Jessica L. Ventiere is a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8. She is with the 37th Judicial Circuit district attorney's office, Opelika, Ala.

Jamie A. T. Wilson is a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8. She is with Benton & Centeno LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

2004
Jeffrey F. Cowley is a senior trust adviser for PNC Wealth Management in Tampa, Fla.

Shelly D. Lewis is a partner with Gaines Gault Hendrix & Bishop PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Clint L. Maze is a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8. He is with Burke Beuoy & Maze PC, Arab, Ala.

Kelly F. Pate is a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8. He is with Balch & Bingham LLP, Montgomery, Ala.

Hendrik S. Snow started a solo practice, Snow Law Firm PC, Mobile, Ala.

John Isaac Southerland was named partner with Huie Fernambuq & Stewart LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

D. Trice Stabler joined of counsel with Maynard Cooper & Gale PC, Mobile, Ala.

Timothy P. Wasylyuka Jr. was selected as a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8. He is with the U.S. Army Aviation & Missile Command, Madison, Ala.

Lance J. Wilkerson joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, Birmingham, Ala., as a partner.

2005
Micah S. Adkins joined Burke Harvey & Frankowski LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Joseph W. Carlisle is an associate with Gilpin Givhan PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Bryan G. Hale is a partner at Starnes Davis Florie LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

Judge Sarah E. Lawson was appointed municipal judge for Mountain City, Tenn. She began her term as judge on April 3, 2012.

Travis G. McKay, Jr. is a partner Gaines Gault Hendrix & Bishop PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Rodney E. Miller became a shareholder at McCallum Methvin & Terrell PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Alejandro V. “Andy” Pascual IV is a first lieutenant, judge advocate for the Georgia National Guard.

Erin Mitchell Pope became an assistant general counsel for Golden Living, Dallas, TX.

Lauren Holt Shine started a solo practice, Shine Law, Vestavia, Ala.

J. Allen Sullivan, Jr. is an associate with Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

2006
Clinton D. Graves is an associate with Gilpin Givhan PC, Montgomery, Ala.

Joseph L. Hubbard, Jr. is a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8. He is with Hubbard Coleman PC, Montgomery, Ala., and is a member of the Alabama House of Representatives.

Lindsay P. Hembree is an associate at Simpson, McMahen, Glick & Burford PLLC, Birmingham, Ala.

W. Jordan Knight was named a partner with McRae Stegall Peek Harman Smith & Manning LLP, Rome, Ga.

Carolyn N. Lam was appointed to the Alabama State Bar’s diversity committee for 2012–13. She is a member of the 2012 Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum Class 8.

Karen S. McClure and Leonard M. Schwartz (’76) announced the formation of Schwartz & McClure in Birmingham, Ala.

R. Cade Parian, with Smith Conerly LLP, Carrollton, Ga., was named by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents to the presidential search committee for the University of West Georgia.

Christy L. Sherbrook, from Trussville, Ala., was recently congratulated by Senator Richard Shelby for being selected a 2012 Angel of Adoption™ for her outstanding advocacy of foster care and adoption issues.

2007
Angela Baker Evans, an associate at Westervelt Johnson Nicoll & Keller LLC, Peoria, Ill., received a Young Lawyer of the Year award from the Illinois State Bar Association.

Mary Blanch N. Hankey is a legislative counsel in the office of Alabama’s Senator Jeff Sessions, Washington, D.C.

Mary Leah Miller is an associate at the Law Offices of Thomas P. Willingham PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Kimberly M. Perkins, with K. Perkins Law Firm LLC, Birmingham, Ala., was recognized as a Rising Star by B-Metro magazine.

Tanya K. Shunnara, with Sirote & Permutt PC, Birmingham, Ala., became a board member of the Girl Scouts of North Central Alabama.

E. Glenn Smith Jr., with Carr Allison, Daphne, Ala., was recently selected to the Greater Mobile MS Leadership Class of 2012. Smith’s selection is in conjunction with the Alabama-Mississippi Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Katherine L. Taylor joined Butler Snow O’Mara Stevens & Cannada PLLC, Birmingham, Ala. She was recognized as a Rising Star by B-Metro magazine.

2008
Benjamin H. Barron is an associate with Lee & McNish PC, Dothan, Ala.

M. Baird Beers, Jr., with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker L.L.C., Birmingham, Ala., was recognized as a Rising Star by B-Metro magazine.

Travis I. Keith is an associate with Gaines Gault Hendrix & Bishop PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Robert E. LeMoine is an associate Carr...
Allison, Birmingham, Ala.

R. Rhett Owens, with Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham, Ala., was recognized as a Rising Star by B-Metro magazine.

A. Christian Wilson became a partner at Simpson Uchitel & Wilson, Atlanta, Ga.

Kristi W. Wilson became an assistant district attorney for the Douglas County District Attorney’s Office, Douglasville, Ga.

Charlotte S. Wolfe is an associate at Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart PC, Nashville, Tenn.

2009

L. Michael Carr is an associate at O’Bannon & O’Bannon LLC, Florence, Ala.

Timothy P. Cook is a compliance officer at Pinnacle Bank, Jasper, Ala.

Jonathan B. Friedlander, from Mobile, Ala., was elected to the executive board of the Mobile Criminal Defense Lawyers Association as treasurer and secretary for 2012.

Jordan B. Gaston is a real estate investment analyst with Founders Investment Properties, Birmingham, Ala.

Andrew C. Knowlton is an associate at Hand Arendall LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Jessica Thomas Patrick, with Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart PC, Nashville, Tenn., was honored by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Middle Tennessee Chapter during Nashville's fourth annual Top 30 Under 30 dinner.

C. Michael Renta III is an associate at Carr Allison, Vestavia Hills, Ala.

Hunter C. Sartin is an associate at Simpson McMahan Glick & Burford PLLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Christina M. Saunders is an associate at Simpson McMahan Glick & Burford PLLC, Birmingham, Ala.

W. Hunter Walton relocated to North Carolina, and served as the director of Coalitions for Veterans and Sportsmen for Romney's presidential campaign. Previously, he was at the Alabama Hospital Association as senior vice president for federal affairs and general counsel.

J. Matthew Wilson started his own boutique practice in Birmingham, Ala., focusing on small business clients and is affiliated with the Alabama Small Business Development Center Network.

2010

Madeline Krontiras Bader is an associate at McCalla Raymer LLC, Atlanta, Ga.

Mallory N. Beaton is an associate at The Rose Law Firm LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Todd L. Frederick and J. Lawrence Smith Jr. ('11) opened Frederick & Smith LLC, Gadsden, Ala.

Bailey B. Gladden is a deputy district attorney at the Jefferson County district attorney's office, Birmingham, Ala. Previously, Ms. Gladden was an assistant prosecutor at the Walker County district attorney's office, Jasper, Ala.

Phillip S. Godwin Jr. has joined Gewin Tucker & Associates, an electrical manufacturers' agency, Birmingham, Ala.

Lauren J. Hartin started a solo practice, Lauren J. Hartin Attorney at Law, Birmingham, Ala.

James A. "Jay" Hartin is a staff member, with responsibilities in both public services and computer/media, in the Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library, Cumberland School of Law. He recently completed an LL.M. in taxation at the University of Alabama.

Whitney C. Henry is an associate at Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

Lauren K. McCulloch is an associate at Crim & Bassler LLP, Atlanta, Ga.

Ashley Reitz Peinhardt was elected to the Birmingham Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section Executive Committee. Peinhardt was recognized as a Rising Star by B-Metro magazine. She is with Hare Wynn Newell & Newton LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

Christina Lorino Schutt is a judicial law clerk for the Judge William M. Acker, Jr., U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama, Birmingham, Ala.

Tanya P. Solomon is an international corporate attorney at Bloomin' Brands Inc., Tampa, Fla.

2011

Noel R. Bagwell III stated a solo practice, Law Office of Noel Bagwell, Clarksville, Tenn.

Kyle A. Beckman is an assistant attorney general for the Alabama Attorney General’s Office, Montgomery, Ala.

Jessica L. Champion is an associate with Wayne L. Williams & Associates LLC, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Kisha L. Cheeks is an associate at Chambliss Bahner & Stophel PC, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Christopher H. Daniel is an associate at Bailey, Crim & Forman LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

J. Lawrence "Lance" Smith and Todd L. Frederick ('10) opened Frederick & Smith LLC, Gadsden, Ala.

Martin H. Drake is an associate at Fischer Scott LLC, Columbus, Ga.

Walter Hill "Trey" Levie III is an associate at McKeon Meunier Carlin & Curfman LLC, Atlanta, Ga.

Kristin M. Lough is a disability attorney and financial case manager for Caring Voice Coalition, Mechanicsville, Va.

Jonathan S. Mann is an associate at Pittman Dutton & Hellums PC, Birmingham, Ala.

J. Ross Massey, with Turner and Webb PC, Tuscaloosa, Ala., received a merit award for outstanding success in criminal defense cases from the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Alexander E. Munderloh now serves as an associate board member at Junior Achievement of Middle Tennessee. He is an assistant general counsel for the Tennessee Department of Health in Nashville, Tenn.

Leslie A. Palmer opened a small practice, Palmer Legal Services, in Kimberly, Ala.

Brandon C. Prince is an associate attorney at Waldrep Stewart & Kendrick LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Alyson Hood Rains is an associate at Crew & Howell PC, Birmingham, Ala.

Joshua F. Reif is an associate at Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz PC, Birmingham, Ala.

J. Lawrence "Lance" Smith and Todd L. Frederick ('10) opened Frederick & Smith LLC, Gadsden, Ala.

T. Daniel Martin is an associate at Carr Allison, Vestavia Hills, Ala.

J. Patrick Warfield is an associate at Stites & Harbison PLLC, Nashville, Tenn.

Christopher C. Yearout is an associate at The Rose Lightfoot Franklin White LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Brandon M. Zimmerman is in-house counsel at CONTEC Construction LLC, Smyrna, Tenn.

2012

Sloan L. Abernathy is a judicial law clerk for Judge Brian S. Miller, chief judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Little Rock, Ark.

G. Caleb Bowman accepted a seat in the Georgetown University LL.M. taxation program.

J. Winston Busby accepted a seat in the New York University LL.M. taxation program.

Evan L. Clark is a judicial law clerk for Judge
Thomas W. Brothers, Sixth Circuit Court, 20th Judicial District of Tennessee, Nashville and Davidson County, Tenn.

William B. Cotney III is general counsel for Cotney Properties, Helena, Ala.

Laura M. Cunliffe is a presidential management fellow for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Brandon J. Demyan is a judicial law clerk for Judge Michael G. Graffeo, 10th Judicial Circuit, Civil Division of Alabama, Birmingham, Ala.

D. Tatum Davis is a judicial law clerk for Judge J. Thomas King, Jr. (’76), 10th Judicial Circuit, Civil Division of Alabama, Birmingham, Ala.

Matthew D. Evans is an associate at Gibbons Graham LLC, Birmingham, Ala.

Setara C. Foster is an associate at Ferguson Frost & Dodson LLP, Birmingham, Ala.

Katherine M. Garrety is a judicial law clerk for Judge R. David Proctor, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ala., Birmingham, Ala.

W. Wesley Hill accepted a seat in the LL.M. program at Norwich School of Law, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England.

Stephen K. Hudgens is working as a project and community coordinator at the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program, Birmingham, Ala.

Tina Lam accepted a seat in the LL.M. program at Norwich School of Law, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England.

Dylan S. Mack is a captain with the U.S. Army JAG Corps. He is continuing his training at the U.S. Army Legal Center and School in Virginia prior to being stationed in Kansas.

Ritesch Patel accepted a seat in the University of Florida LL.M. taxation program.

Gerri L. Plain is an associate at Harrison, Gammons & Rawlinson PC, Huntsville, Ala.

Patrick C. Pope accepted a seat in the LL.M. program at the Norwich School of Law, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England.

John P. "J.P." Policastro is a captain with the U.S. Army JAG Corps. He is continuing his training at the U.S. Army Legal Center and School in Virginia prior to being stationed in Kansas.

Matthew R. Potter is legislative counsel for Alabama’s Senator Jeff Sessions on the U.S. Judiciary Committee, Washington, D.C.

R. Sims Rhyne accepted a seat in the New York University LL.M. taxation program.

Ryan J. Richardson is an attorney in the FDIC Honors Attorney Program, Washington, D.C.

Jeremy W. Richter is an associate at Webster Henry Lyons White Bradwell & Black PC, Birmingham, Ala.

John W. Robbins is a judicial law clerk for the Cherokee Judicial Circuit, Cartersville, Ga.

Daniel J. Ruth accepted a seat in the University of Florida LL.M. taxation program.

William J. Schuffman accepted a seat in the Boston University LL.M. taxation program.

Courtney C. Snelling accepted a seat in the Georgetown University LL.M. taxation program.

Freddie D. Stokes joined Teach for America for a two-year commitment to teach secondary education in Huntsville, Ala.

Robert J. “Bo” Stone III is a judicial law clerk for Judge W. H. Drake, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of Georgia, Newnan, Ga.

Marriages

Andrew Boulter (’12) and Margaret “Meg” Franklin were married on Sept. 15, 2012, in Maine. They live in Birmingham, Ala.

Matthew S. Brown (’11) and Sarah Lobato were married on May 12, 2012. They live in Fairhope, Ala.

Matthew D. Conn (’09) and Sarah Ellen Reynolds were married on June 2, 2012. They live in Birmingham, Ala.

Tina Coker (’03) and Darren Hammond were married on April 2, 2011. They live in Montgomery, Ala.

Matthew Couch (’11) and Mary Ann Lane were married on March 31, 2012. They live in Birmingham, Ala.

Finhold “Finn” Cox (’10) and Tjadem O’Dowd were married on Sept. 8, 2012. They live in Mobile, Ala.

Caroline Wangui Douglas (’11) and Dr. Kemada Jackson were married on May 19, 2012. They live in Birmingham, Ala.

Jennifer L. Gladden (’11) and Ashley Bowers were married on June 9, 2012. They live in Auburn, Ala.

Lindsay K. Haynes (’07) and Stephen Knox Sisco were married on Oct. 15, 2011 in Nashville, Tenn.

Meagan Hunt (’12) and Kevin Yarbrough were married on Sept. 9, 2012. They live in Madison, Ala.

Justin L. Jones (’09) and Margaret “Megan” Head (’09) were married on May 5, 2012. They live in Birmingham, Ala.

Sarah Lawson (’05) and Russell Minatel were married on Oct. 21, 2011. They live in Mountain City, Tenn.

Lisha X. Li (’09) and Henry Vance Graham II were married on June 2, 2012. They live in Birmingham, Ala.

Ryan Letson (’12) and Jamie Coppens were married on Aug. 25, 2012. They live in Huntsville, Ala.

Lisa A. Lenzi (’12) and Dr. James Alan Hale were married on May 19, 2012. They live in Mountain Brook, Ala.

K. Beth Luna (’98) and Steve White were married on April 21, 2012. They live in Reno, Nev.

Matthew “Matt” Moore II (’12) and Erin Saway were married on Aug. 25, 2012. They live in Alabama.

Ashley Fallon Ragsdale (’06) and David Fredricks Santos (’06) were married on May 5, 2012. They live in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Courtney Saad (’09) and Jack Adams were married on Sept. 9, 2012. They live in Birmingham, Ala.

Bradfield “Brad” Scarbrough (’00) and Kate Summers were married on Sept. 22, 2012. They live in Brentwood, Tenn.

Robert “Bo” Stone III (’12) and Elizabeth Hard were married on Aug. 25, 2012. They live in Newnan, Ga.

Ryals D. Stone (’09) and Lauren Muller were married on May 19, 2012. They live in Atlanta, Ga.

Danielle Touart (’10) and Carter Vaden were married on Aug. 25, 2012. They live in Durango, Colo.

Rachel VanNortwick (’03) and Kevin Barbotta were married on Sept. 8, 2012. They live in Mountain Brook, Ala.

Summer L. McWhorter (’09) and Josh Summerford were married on June 2, 2012. They live in Centre, Ala.

Taylor-Lee Wickersham (’11) and Jonathan Stokes (’11) were married on Dec. 31, 2011. They live in Richmond, Va.
Births
Jennifer Leigh Allen Argo ('05) and husband, Jake Argo, announce the birth of a daughter, Jillian Argo, on April 13, 2012.

Damon Boiles III ('06) and wife, Anne Louise Boiles, announce the birth of twin sons, Damon Jay Boiles IV and Charles Thomas Thornton Boiles, on Oct. 17, 2011; they are grandchildren to Overby Stanley Thornton ('72).

John Bowles ('07) and wife, Crystal Bowles, announce the birth of a son, Benjamin Richard Bowles, on March 14, 2012.

Christopher “Chris” Burge ('09) and Kristen Burge ('10) announce the birth of a son, Grayson Michael Burge.

Casey (Tidwell) Barron ('07) and husband, Michael Barron, announce the birth of a daughter, Lily Catherine Barron, on March 28, 2012.

M. Baird Beers, Jr. ('08) and his wife, Mary Colleen Beers, announce the birth of a son, Michael Baird Beers III, on June 25, 2012.

Haley Cox ('06) and Todd Cox ('06) announce the birth of a son, Andrew Wyatt Cox, on Jan. 6, 2012.

William Andrew Ellis ('09) and wife, Shannon Ellis, announce the birth of a daughter, Mary Carter Ellis, on April 17, 2012.

Leigh Anne Fleming ('03) and husband, Charles Fleming, announce the birth of a son, Charles Jackson Fleming III, on Sept. 14, 2012.

Carrie Fowler ('04) and husband, Berratt Fowler, announce the birth of a son, Ethan Rex Fowler, on Jan. 23, 2012.

Emily Bass Franke ('09) and husband, Travis Franke, announce the birth of a daughter, Stella Louise Franke, on July 11, 2012.

Ryan E. Gaylord ('06) and P. Brooks (Segars) Gaylord ('05) announce the birth of twin daughters, Patricia Elizabeth Gaylord and Sarah Brooks Gaylord, on Feb. 8, 2012.

Katherine Loper ('02) and husband, Todd Loper, announce the birth of a daughter, McKenna Loper, on April 13, 2012.

Susan Nettles Han ('06) and husband, Michael Han, announce the birth of a daughter, Sophie Anne Han, on March 2, 2012.

Woodrow Neal Hartzog ('02) and wife, Jennifer Hartzog, announce the birth of a daughter, Romy Victoria Hartzog, on Feb. 16, 2012.

Joseph D. Jackson, Jr. ('03) and his wife, Twilla Susanne Pugh Jackson, announce the birth of a daughter, Reece Monroe Jackson, on May 16, 2012.

Celeste Poteat Larson ('98) and husband, Brad Larson, announce the birth of a son, Levi Cavinness Larson, on Aug. 9, 2012.

Heath Loftin ('07) and Jada Price Loftin ('06) announce the birth of a son, Phillip Alexander “Alec” Loftin, on July 9, 2012.

Allison Reid Lumbatis ('06) and husband, Nathan Lumbatis, announce the birth of a daughter, Lily Allison Lumbatis, on Feb. 7, 2012.

Brooke G. Malcom ('08) and Brian J. Malcom ('08) announce the birth of a son, Henry Garner Malcom, on March 28, 2012.

Michelle Ortiz ('12) and husband, Brad Larson, announce the birth of a son, Leonardo Ortiz, on June 13, 2012.

R. Ashby Pate ('07) and wife, Christine Caiola Pate, announce the birth of a daughter, Oa Lilian Pate on April 17, 2012.

Keith Pollette ('04) and wife, Brandy Long Pollette, announce the birth of a daughter, Julia Grace Pollette, on Sept. 14, 2012.

Jessica Rahm ('07) and husband, Donald Rahm, Jr., announce the birth of a daughter, Brayden Charles Rahm, on Sept. 23, 2011.

Kristen Sims ('11) and husband, Jake Sims, announce the birth of a daughter, Rosemary Grace Sims, on April 17, 2012.

Matthew "Matt" Simpson ('05) and wife, Marine Morris Simpson, announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Clara Simpson, on Sept. 14, 2012.

Stephen Sauer ('91) and wife, Melissa Sauer, announce the birth of a daughter, Miriam Presley Sauer, on Oct. 6, 2011.

Andrew Stanley ('08) and wife, Sarah Stanley, announce the birth of a daughter, Louise Moore Stanley, on Feb. 27, 2012.

Tess Stromberg ('01) and husband, Lee Stromberg, announce the birth of a daughter, Rowan Carter Stromberg, on Dec. 29, 2011.

Shane Taylor ('94) and wife, Jaque Taylor, announce the birth of a daughter, Arya Abney Taylor, on May 25, 2012.

Sidney Summers Welch ('95) and husband, Doug Welch, announce the birth of twin sons, McLain Newton and Bennett Lanier, on Aug. 4, 2011.

Charlotte S. Wolfe ('08) and husband, Jeff Wolfe, announce the birth of a daughter, Sally Paciencia Wolfe, on October 31, 2011.

R. Jordan Wood ('09) and Krista DeWitt Wood ('08) announce the birth of a daughter, Tessa Francis Wood, on Dec. 6, 2011.

Robert M. Fassler ('53), of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, died on Dec. 16, 2011.


Timothy R. Fielder ('00), of Deland, Fla., died on Jan. 30, 2012. Timothy was the husband of “Meg” Williams Fiedler ('00).


Randall O. Gladden ('78), of Huntsville, Ala., died on Feb. 9, 2012.

Larry Lee Guthrie, Jr. ('97), of Birmingham, Ala., died on April 8, 2012.

B. Hicks Harwell, Jr. ('60), of Florence, S.C., died on Sept. 9, 2012.


Ernest W. King, Sr. ('83), of Hattiesburg, Miss., died on Jan. 28, 2012.

Zachary K. La Fleur ('11), of Franklin, Tenn., died on March 3, 2012. Zachary was the husband of Rachael D. La Fleur ('09).


Jane Cagle Little ('78), of Mountain Brook, Ala., died on June 29, 2012.


Joseph A. Lughes ('54), of Pinehurst, N.C., died on May 14, 2012.

Jack F. Peace ('51), of Marietta, Ga., died on Dec. 16, 2011.


W. Malcom Midyette ('76), of Lakeland, Fla., died on June 11, 2012.


Robert Griffin Robison ('67), of Dothan, Ala., died on July 26, 2012.


Stanley V. Susina ('71), of Vestavia, Ala., died on Sept. 9, 2012.


REUNION WEEKEND
APRIL 12–13, 2013
Reuniting the Classes of:
2008 • 2003 • 1998 • 1993
1988 • 1983 • 1978 • 1973

Friday, April 12: 6:30–8:30 p.m.: Reception at the Tutwiler Hotel

Saturday, April 13: 9–11 a.m.: CLE programs at the law school *(Two hours of ethics credits available)*
• U.S. Magistrate **Judge John Ott ’81** on ethics and social media
• A panel presentation by the American College of Trial Lawyers.

11–2 p.m.: Open-house at the law school, open to all

Evening:
• Individual class reunion parties
• Third Annual Minority Alumni Reunion party

If you would like more information, please contact Anne Marovich, director of alumni relations, by email at amarovic@samford.edu or by telephone at 1-800-726-2444. There will be discounted rooms available at the Tutwiler Hotel. Details to come at a later date.