

# RICHBARNEWS

Newsletter of the Richland County Bar Association



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Annual Meeting/ Holiday Party**

Columbia Museum of Art  
Thursday, December 15, 2011  
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### **Save The Date 2012**

Oyster Roast  
Thursday, February 16

Judicial BBQ  
Thursday, May 17

Family Night at Zoo  
Thursday, May 31

Memorial Service  
Friday, June 8

Judicial Reception  
Thursday, August 16



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is my last opportunity to draft the President's Remarks, which I am doing the first Monday after daylight savings time (DST)—the dreaded “fall back.” I am not a big fan of “fall back” DST, and I am not sure that I have ever met anyone who is. Add cold weather to DST and I tend to experience the professional equivalent of a sailor whose sloop crosses into the doldrums. Time simply slows, and it seems more difficult to get work done.

Notwithstanding the ever shorter days, I have greatly enjoyed serving as President of the RCBA, and I would like to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity. I am truly saddened that next year will be my last on the Executive Committee; however, I have been told that acting as Immediate Past President has distinct advantages. While the RCBA events have been wonderful, I only wish that we could have done more in certain substantive areas.

In years past, the RCBA Executive Committee has been active in promoting the idea of a new courthouse, even going so far as to fund a study to determine the scope and cost of the project. To a member, everyone that I have spoken with agrees that Richland County needs a new courthouse—patching up the existing building simply is not a feasible long term solution. However, in these times of tight budgets and an economy that seems to be stalled in the aforementioned doldrums, pushing the new courthouse did not seem plausible in 2011. Nevertheless, I am sure that once the economy improves, the members of the Executive Committee will once again lead the charge for a new center of justice for Richland County.

My hope is that future members of the Executive Committee also will actively support increasing the compensation for our judges throughout the state. Achieving an increase, which I know is a priority of the S.C. Bar, will do much to retain the judges currently sitting on the bench and will attract new and experienced jurists who might not otherwise choose this line of public work.

The need to increase the number of judges in this state must remain a top priority to ensure that those who must resort to the courts can enjoy timely adjudication of their cases. I personally have had to wait months to receive an order in circuit court following a hearing on a dispositive



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FROM THE EDITOR

In the late 1990s, former president of the Richland County Bar Reece Williams implemented a code of professionalism for members of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). ABOTA is a national organization composed of plaintiff and defense lawyers who have experience and ability trying jury trials. As part of its mission, ABOTA seeks to increase awareness of the importance of civility in the practice of law. With this in mind, Reece Williams drafted the code of professionalism which members of ABOTA pledge to follow.

The South Carolina Supreme Court implemented a code of professionalism for lawyers in South Carolina. Recently the Supreme Court of Florida issued an oath adopting a code of civility which is substantially modeled on South Carolina’s oath and Reece Williams’ work. It is an honor to have an entire state judicial system adopt work that was begun here in South Carolina by our former president as well as by our Supreme Court.

I thought members of the Richland County Bar would like to see the Florida Court’s order which directly cites the South Carolina practice implemented by our Supreme Court and Reece Williams’ Code of Professionalism drafted for ABOTA. Here it is:

SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA  
No. SC11-1702

In Re: Oath of Admission to the Florida Bar  
September 12, 2011

PER CURIAM:

Today we revise the Oath of Attorney administered to new members of The Florida Bar to recognize “[t]he necessity for civility in the inherently contentious setting of the adversary process.” In re Snyder, 472 U.S. 634, 647 (1985). See art. V, § 15, Fla. Const.

In recent years, concerns have grown about acts of incivility among members of the legal profession. Among others, the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) has sought to increase awareness of the importance of civility in the practice of law. The Code of Professionalism of ABOTA contains a pledge to “[b]e respectful in my conduct toward my adversaries.” ABOTA Code of Professionalism, <http://www.abota.org/index.cfm?pg=professionalism>.

Since 2003, the Lawyer’s Oath sworn by admittees of the South Carolina Bar has contained the following pledge: “To opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications.” S.C. App. Ct. R. 402(k)(3). We have also determined that a similar pledge should be added to Florida’s oath.

Recognizing the importance of respectful and civil conduct in the practice of law, we therefore revise the Oath of Admission to The Florida Bar as set forth below. New language is indicated by underscoring.

OATH OF ADMISSION

I do solemnly swear:

I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida;

I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;

I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceedings which shall appear to me to be unjust, nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;

I will employ, for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided in me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;

I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my clients, and will accept no compensation in connection with their business except from them or with their knowledge and approval;

To opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications;



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT: JUDGE CAROLINE W. STREATER

If you’ve ever sat through magistrate’s court, you know sometimes justice can be a bit too swift. Some defendants claim they left the courtroom with no idea what transpired, only to learn they pleaded guilty to a criminal charge.

But in Judge Caroline W. Streater’s courtroom, that doesn’t happen. She explains in detail that they have a right to a jury trial and possibly, appointed counsel. Looking over her reading glasses, she politely and patiently tells criminal defendants about the dangers of proceeding without a lawyer. The sincere way in which she asks if they have questions encourages even the most timid to speak up. People in her court can’t say they didn’t know their rights.

Judge Streater is one of fifteen magistrates in Richland County. According to SC Court Administration, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, those magistrates, combined, handled almost 10,000 criminal cases, 900 DUIs, and 40,000 traffic cases. Magistrates generally have criminal trial jurisdiction over all offenses subject to a penalty of no greater than a \$500.00 fine or imprisonment not exceeding 30 days.

A graduate of the College of Charleston and USC School of Law, she was admitted to the Bar in 1989. Prior to being appointed magistrate in 2005, she served as the Child Abuse Prosecutor Specialist with the SC Commission on Prosecution Coordination and as staff counsel for the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Social Services.

The wife of investigator Cambo Streater of the Fifth Circuit Solicitor’s office, she is mother to three children and has volunteered as a Girl Scout leader and mentor at Forest Lake Elementary. Judge Streater uses her experience with her own children, as well as at-risk juveniles and abused children, to contribute actively towards improving children’s lives in South Carolina. She serves on the Children’s Justice Act Task Force. That committee is funded by a federal grant administered by the Department of Social Services through a contract with the USC Children’s Law Center. Its purpose is “the development and operation of programs designed to improve the handling of child abuse and neglect cases, the handling of suspected maltreatment related fatalities, and the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect.”

However, Judge Streater has a keen intellectual interest in other areas of the law as well. As a magistrate, she has taken it upon herself to become an expert in evidentiary issues, though she is too modest to describe herself as such. She teaches Bond Court and Evidence Law during the Summary Court Judges Orientation. She also teaches Judicial Processes and Criminal Law at Midlands Technical College.

Magistrates are responsible for setting bail, conducting preliminary hearings, and issuing arrest and search warrants. Regarding bail setting, Judge Streater notes the judges do not have the incident report when deciding how much bond to set. A supportive family and a lawyer can make a difference, but for a disorderly conduct, she will probably grant a PR bond anyway, even to football fans from the team opposing Carolina.

Since moving to the Waverly Magistrate Court this year, much of her workload comes from the civil cases, including landlord/tenant matters, Uniform Commercial Code matters, breach of contract, and mechanics’ liens. Magistrates have civil jurisdiction when the amount in controversy does not exceed \$7,500 and about 25,000 civil cases were filed in Richland County last fiscal year. With these cases, she has to conduct her own research without the assistance of a law clerk or the parties’ lawyers, since litigants often appear pro se. Fortunately, she loves figuring out the answers to problems and does so in an analytical and well-reasoned way. She also credits the excellent training provided by the SC Court Administration.

Members of the bar who appear before her express high regard for Judge Streater. Richland County bar member and criminal lawyer Randy Hough commented that “Judge Streater is a professional, courteous, and learned judge. What particularly strikes me about her is that she gives every defendant her attention, particularly pro se defendants, and makes sure they that they understand their rights. It’s pretty impressive the way she treats them with such dignity.”

*Written by Eleanor Duffy Cleary, a sole practitioner in Columbia. You can reach Ellen at [edcleary@att.net](mailto:edcleary@att.net).*





HEALTH & FITNESS: SWIMMING

Greetings Richland County! Now that the weather is cooling, we all must take caution to insulate ourselves with extra layers of clothing - not the extra insulating layer that can come with age, a sedentary lifestyle, and a “healthy” appetite. What’s the point in worrying about fitness when swimsuit season is far and away, sometime next year, you ask? The answer is obvious- because swimsuit season is NOW! Swimming is hands down one of the best means of maintaining health and fitness with a whole body work out in a low impact environment.

While swimming is a good fitness choice for just about everyone, it is especially so for those who may have musculo-skeletal, arthritic, and/or weight limitations, or for those who otherwise find other forms of exercise painful. There’s a reason that professional athletes use swimming when recuperating from injury. The buoyancy of water cushions stiff joints and protects those who might be adversely affected by the impact of land exercises. Consider that when you are immersed to the waist, your body bears just 50% of its weight; immersed to the chest, it’s just 25%-35%. Kick-board workouts, water aerobics, pool running, or a regular swimming regimen can all provide a great exercise session without your body weight impacting your every move. Pregnant women often find swimming to be an enjoyable and effective way to stay active. Water exercises also help those with exercise induced asthma, as the warm humid air causes less irritation to the airways.

More than almost any other form of exercise, swimming utilizes all the major muscle groups, including the arms, shoulders, back, abdominals, legs, and glutes. Water provides a natural resistance 12 times that of air for any movement in every direction, so building strength and endurance is simply a natural result of almost any aquatic activity. In addition to muscle toning and weight loss, swimming increases cardiovascular and pulmonary health. Swimming requires deep and steady breathing, which engages the heart and lungs, thereby promoting increased circulation and healthy blood pressure levels.

Because of the reduced stress, many people find that they are able to work out for longer in the water. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention instruct that such increased aerobic physical activity can decrease the risk of developing chronic illnesses commonly associated with age and a sedentary lifestyle. Even a leisurely swim requires exercise simply to stay afloat, and many people report mental health benefits associated with clearing the mind as they glide through the water, focusing solely

upon their strokes and breathing. Also, because you end up using muscle groups that are not otherwise typically engaged, swimming can help with posture and strengthening those muscles that assist in supporting your spine.

Alright, at this point, at least some of you are interested in, if not sold on, the benefits of water exercise, but “it’s freaking cold outside” or “I don’t have a pool,” you say. Fear not, Richland County offers many indoor swimming and exercise venues. In addition to the prototypical private gym, U.S.C., the YMCA and even the City of Columbia all offer opportunities for indoor swimming, and more than likely, these locations are close to where you work.

I’ll wager that a large percentage of you went to USC for either undergraduate or graduate studies. If so, and you are (or are willing to become) a member of the Alumni Association, then you may purchase a daily (\$5) or annual (\$300) membership to use the Blatt Phys. Ed. Center at 1300 Wheat Street. For more information and an application, go to <http://campusrec.sc.edu/pec>. Unfortunately, USC does not allow family members to join with you unless they, too, are members of the Alumni Association.

Most folks are likely familiar with the downtown YMCA on 1420 Sumter Street, which offers regular memberships for \$480 a year, club memberships for \$648 a year, and family memberships for \$912 a year, each with a one-time \$50 “joining fee.” See <http://columbiaymca.org/locations/downtown/membership>.

What may be less well known than the preceding two options is the fact that the City of Columbia has entered into a private-public partnership with Palmetto Health, the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, and the Department of Health and Environmental Control to create the Drew Wellness Center. This is a modern, 40,000 square foot, multi-million dollar facility located at the intersection of Calhoun Street and Harden Street. The Drew Wellness Center has a indoor pool and full accompaniment of exercise equipment, indoor track,



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HEALTH & FITNESS  
(...continued from page 4)

basketball courts, etc. It offers a range of rates depending upon varying factors. See <http://columbia.sc.gov/index.cfm/drew-wellness/membership>. We are currently in the process of working with the Drew Wellness Center to negotiate a special rate for Richland County Bar members. If anyone is interested in taking advantage of these potential savings please write to either me or to Coleman Chambliss.

“Health & Fitness” is written by Drayton Hastie, who can be reached at [dhastie@sc.rr.com](mailto:dhastie@sc.rr.com).

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FROM THE PRESIDENT(...continued from page 1)

motion. I know that this delay was due to a lack of judicial staff, which in turn is related to a lack of funding for the judicial branch.

I know that there are many important functions of government which are greatly affected by the lack of funding, but it seems to me that the administration of justice should be afforded top priority given its overall importance to ensuring order in society.

On a lighter note, I hope you will notice the new RCBA logo appearing in the upper right hand corner of this page. The logo was designed by one of our own members, Derek Shoemake, who came up with several versions for consideration by the Executive Committee. There was nothing wrong with the old logo, but we

thought the bare scales of justice did not really convey who we are as a bar.

The new logo still incorporates the scales of justice, but it does so using our state's most recognizable symbol, the much venerated palmetto tree. We thought it was appropriate that an image of the state, rather than the county, loomed in the background, given the diverse practices of our members who often work outside of the county. While I personally preferred the colors garnet and black for the logo, the Executive Committee thought it was more appropriate to stick with blue and the green, which shows no particular allegiance to our state's athletic teams.

I hope you enjoy the new logo, and I thank you again for the opportunity to serve as the President of the RCBA.

RCBA DUES NOTICE

The South Carolina Bar Fee Statements have been sent out with fees due by the end of December. The SC Bar collects dues for most of the county bars in this statement. Please look at the statement and check Richland County in the proper box and add \$100 to the total. This is the simplest way to pay your state and local dues and save the RCBA from billing you separately.

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2012 "COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE" AWARD RECEPTION

On Thursday, February 9, 2012, the Center for Heirs' Property Preservation (the Center) will host the "Commitment to Justice" Award Reception to honor Judge Alex Sanders for his exceptional humanitarianism and passionate pursuit of justice for all.

Judge Sanders believes deeply in the work of the Center for Heirs' Property Preservation to resolve the complicated issues of heirs' property ownership and help prevent its further loss. "The Center for Heirs' Property is carrying on critically important work to remedy a heretofore intractable problem, especially prevalent in the Lowcountry of South Carolina."

The Center provides education and direct legal services to low-income owners of heirs' property to help them obtain clear title and keep their family land. Most heirs' property in the Lowcountry is rural land that was either purchased by or deeded to African Americans following Emancipation. Much of this land has been passed down for generations without a will so that the land is owned "in common" by all the heirs. This unstable form of ownership puts heirs' property at high risk for loss which has fragmented historic African American communities. The Center is helping families keep their ancestral land and acquire the tools and knowledge to become better stewards of their land.

Judge Sanders has been described as a poet, politician, college president, orator, teacher, writer, co-founder of the Charleston School of Law, legislator, attorney, scholar, judge, husband, humorist, civic leader, father and circus performer. He is a man who often swims against the popular current; speaks his mind openly, and champions equality and justice, regardless of the consequences.

John S. Nichols (Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson & Delgado, LLC), member of the Richland County Bar Association and an early sponsor of this event, once clerked for Judge Sanders. "Judge Sanders shared with me so much about the law and life in general. He was not afraid to look outside the normal boxes to find a way to reach the justice of each case. He is a true Renaissance man, as likely to quote from Blackstone's Commentaries as he is to The Boy Scout Manual. He taught me the value of making the law work for the people."

As past president of the College of Charleston, Chief Judge of the S.C. Court of Appeals, a former member of both the

S.C. House of Representatives and Senate, Adjunct faculty member at USC and Harvard Law School, professor at the College of Charleston and Co-Founder and President of the Charleston School of Law, Judge Sanders has devoted a lifetime to public service in South Carolina. "My mother taught me that the highest virtue in life is unselfishness."

When Judge Sanders began teaching at Harvard, journalist and author Joe Klein said of him, "He is a one-stop shopping center for information about Southern politics, issue politics, law and rhetoric. He is a dangerous man - he may lead the students to expect that politicians can be wise, honorable, spontaneous and drop-dead funny."

Individual tickets are \$100 with sponsorship opportunities to include: Presenting Sponsor (\$5,000); Event Sponsor (\$2,500); Supporting Sponsor (\$1,000) and Sponsors (\$750, \$500 and \$250). Sponsor names will appear on the invitation, souvenir program and on a sandwich board prominently displayed at the entrance to the event. Contact Tish Lynn at the Center: (843) 745-7055 to reserve your ticket(s) and to become a sponsor.



2012 "Commitment to Justice" Award Reception  
Full Bar, Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and a Stellar Program

WHO: Center for Heirs' Property Preservation  
WHAT: "Commitment to Justice" Award honoring Judge Alex Sanders  
WHERE: Charleston Marriott on 170 Lockwood Blvd. - Crystal Ballroom  
WHEN: Thursday, February 9, 2012 from 6:00-8:30 PM

**Host Committee:**  
Co-Chair - Edward Westbrook, Esq. Charles Patrick  
Co-Chair - Reverend Nelson Rivers III Abby Edward Saunders  
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FROM THE EDITOR

(...continued from page 2)

I will abstain from all offensive personality and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;

I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay anyone’s cause for lucre or malice. So help me God.

This oath shall be effective immediately, and no rehearing will be permitted in this case.

It is so ordered.

CANADY, C.J., and PARIENTE, LEWIS, QUINCE, POLSTON, LABARGA, and PERRY, JJ., concur.

ANNUAL MEETING & HOLIDAY PARTY

On Thursday, December 15th, the RCBA will host its Annual Meeting at the Columbia Museum of Art. The meeting will start at 5:30, and the party will go from 6:00-8:00. At the meeting, the new officers will be elected, announced and recognized. The RCBA will also present the John W. Williams Award, the Civic Star Award and the Matthew Perry Civility awards. It is one of the highlights of our Bar year to celebrate with the persons receiving these honors. Award recipients will be featured in our next issue.



Immediately following the meeting, the Bar will entertain the association members with a favorite party to celebrate the season. Each year, you are invited to this event to gather at the museum for wonderful food and good “cheer” catered by Aberdeen Catery of Camden.

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*All ads must be prepaid. Ads must be obtained by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month previous to publication in January, March, June, September and November.*



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# 2012 SOUTH CAROLINA BAR CONVENTION: THIS IS THE YEAR TO ATTEND

Over the last several years, the South Carolina Bar has done an excellent job of improving the quality of the annual state Bar Convention. This year is no exception. The 2012 South Carolina Bar Convention will be held in Columbia, January 19-22, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. This year's Convention will feature 21 CLE seminars, including the popular Law Office Technology Seminar, Criminal and Civil Law Updates and Breakfast Ethics. This year's line-up of special events, including annual favorites such as the president's welcome reception, plenary luncheon and wine tasting, in addition to a legislative reception, historical tour of Columbia and glass blowing class, truly offers something for everyone.

**Wednesday, January 18:** The Convention kicks off unofficially with the South Carolina Bar hosting a reception for members of the South Carolina General Assembly and SC Bar Members. This event is open to all members of the Bar, whether or not you are registered for the Bar Convention and will be hosted on the ground floor of the Capitol Center, directly across the street from the state capitol, from 5 – 7 p.m. This promises to be a fantastic event, as that is the evening of Governor Haley's State of the State Address.

Note that all other events require convention registration and some are ticketed events.

**Thursday, January 19:** Bar meetings will begin and an interesting array of CLE seminars will begin that afternoon. Memory Hold The Door will be held beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention and the President's Welcome Reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Columbia Museum of Art.

**Friday, January 20:** Along with a full day of spectacular CLE seminars, the Annual Plenary Luncheon will be held beginning at noon. Chief Justice Jean Hoefer Toal's State of the Judiciary address is always closely followed by the bench, the bar and the media, and this year will be no exception. The keynote speaker will be Furman University President Rodney A. Somolla. Additionally, Jim Sonefeld of Hootie and the Blowfish, will introduce the Benedict Choir and they will perform "Hold My Hand." For a preview of this marvelous performance, please see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDHcZcUx0Rs>. Friday will end with the Annual Judicial Reception.

**Saturday, January 21:** Following the morning CLEs, a very special luncheon with U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justices Stephen Breyer and Antonin Scalia will be held at the Convention Center. This promises to be a landmark event for the South Carolina Bar.

The weekend continues Saturday afternoon with a wine tasting at the McCutcheon House (USC Horseshoe), followed by the South Carolina Bar Foundation Gala which is always a fabulous event.

**Sunday, January 22:** The Bar Convention wraps up Sunday morning breakfast ethics seminar allowing everyone to get the two hours of ethics needed to satisfy their annual requirement.

**Register Now:** Please visit [www.SCBar.org/Convention](http://www.SCBar.org/Convention) to register online and get other information regarding this event. Note that for all of the events, except for the Legislative Reception, registration at the Bar Convention is required, some are ticketed events, and many events are likely to sell out early. Again, make your reservations early! See you in January!

*Contributed by J. Hagood Tighe of Fisher & Phillips LLP is the 2011-2012 Chairman of the South Carolina Bar Convention Committee. He can be reached at [htighe@laborlawyers.com](mailto:htighe@laborlawyers.com).*

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## TECH TALK

### Apps for Using Your iPad to Take Depositions

I'm not a Mac guy generally. I don't have a MacBook or an iMac. I don't have a little white Apple sticker on my car. I don't burn incense in front of a statue of Steve Jobs while sitting in the lotus position. But I have to say this: the iPad is the greatest invention since shatterproof vodka bottles.


As of June of 2011, Apple says that it has sold over 200 million iOS devices (iPhones, iPod Touches, and iPads). Of those devices, 25 million are iPads. According to a recent ABA technology survey, at least 130,000 of those iPads have been sold to lawyers. That means that roughly 13% of all lawyers are using iPads. And, according to that same survey, 31% of lawyers are using iPhones. Simply put, it is a game-changer.

Applications, or "Apps," are the programs that run on iOS. Apple says that as of June, users have downloaded Apps 14 billion times. Apple's online store now contains more than 400,000 different Apps available for download.

So, accepting that the iPad is a game-changer, and that you need one (and more importantly that you really, really WANT one), where do you start with Apps? To prevent complete information overload, let's limit our question to using your iPad to take depositions.

Here are a few that I have used and like. Which one you like, depends on your approach. If you are the kind of lawyer who works from a detailed list of questions, you will be best served by an outliner App or a list-making App. For a full-featured outliner, try OmniOutliner (\$19.99). An intriguing (and much cheaper) alternative is iClarify (\$1.99). There are dozens of others as well. As for listing apps, my favorite is ListMonger (\$2.99) which allows you to -- very quickly -- make "lists within lists" in a nested fashion. This approach allows you to progressively drill-down into a given topic over the course of the deposition.

If you like to make charts or diagrams for depositions, try iThoughts HD (\$9.99). iThoughts allows you to map out all of the topics of the deposition at once, giving you a road map for the entire testimony. A free alternative to iThoughts is the MindJet app, which syncs with MindJet's desktop application, MindManager.



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[dick.whiting@whitinglawsc.com](mailto:dick.whiting@whitinglawsc.com)

Regardless of the approach you choose, you will need a good PDF Reader. This will let you put all of the exhibits on your iPad with your annotations, so you can refer to them during the deposition. You can switch back and forth between your list, outline, or mapping App and the PDF reader simply by double-tapping the iPad's main button. Having done this in several depositions, I can absolutely state that it is much more efficient than paper. My favorite PDF Reader is iAnnotate (\$9.99). GoodReader (\$4.99) is also very effective.

Whichever you choose, you won't be disappointed. Maybe you'll even put a little Apple sticker on your car.

*Contributed by Dave Maxfield of Trotter & Maxfield. Dave can be reached at [dave@trotterandmaxfield.com](mailto:dave@trotterandmaxfield.com).*





NOTEWORTHY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Turner Padget announces that **Shannon Furr Bobertz** has been approved for membership by the National Board of Directors of the American Board of Trial Advocates.The firm also announces that **Ashley Kirkham** has recently been certified by the International Commission on Health Care Certification as a (MSCC) Medicare Set-aside Consultant Certified.

Gallivan White & Boyd announces that **James H. Burns** has joined the firm located at 1201 Main St. #110, 29201. Phone: 779-1833.

Rogers Townsend Thomas announces that **Teri K. Stomski**, special counsel with the firm has been honored by two organizations in recognition of her service to the community. The Rotary Club of Five Points presented her with “The Charles C. Foster Rotarian of the Year Award” in recognition and appreciation of distinguished service, loyalty and devotion to the ideas of Rotary. She was also recognized as a Healthy Learners Ambassador, serving on the Board and other positions of the organization which is devoted to removing children’s barriers to learning.

McCarthy Law Firm announces its relocation to 1517 Laurel St., 29201. Phone: 771-8836.

The Law Office of Daryl Hawkins announces that **Daryl G. Hawkins** has been selected and in included in *South Carolina Super Lawyers 2011*

Barbara George Barton announces that she has been chosen by the American Registry as one of America’s Most Honored Professionals which is a group

consisting of 5% of the most recognized professionals in all fields.

Nexsen Pruet named one of the “Best Companies in the Midlands for Working Moms” by the *Columbia Business Monthly* and The March of Dimes.

McKay Cauthen Settana & Stubbley announces that **Kelli Sullivan** has joined the firm located at 1303 Blanding, 29201. Phone: 256-4645. The firm also announces that **Marcy J. Lamar** has been selected for inclusion in *Best Lanyers in America 2012*.

Nelson Mullins announces that *Greater Columbia Business Monthly* has selected **Sue Erwin Harper, Frank B. B. Knowlton, Betsy Johnson Burn, George B. Cauthen, Stacy K. Taylor and Karen Aldridge Crawford** to its 2011 list of Legal Elite.

Collins & Lacy announce that **Joel W. Collins** has been selected (twice) as *Greater Columbia Business Monthly’s* Legal Elite.

McAngus Goudelock & Courie announces that **Weston Adams III, Tommy Lydon, C. Edward Rawl, Jr and David A. Ross** have been selected by *Greater Columbia Business Monthly* as Legal Elite.

Rogers Townsend & Thomas announces that **Sam C. Waters, Reginald P. Corley, Ellie C. Floyd, Cynthia Durham Blair, Rex Casterline, Lisa M. Hostetler, Robert P. Wood, Stuart Lee, T. McRoy Shelley III, Kristine L. Cato and Angela Kirby** have been selected by *Greater Columbia Business Monthly* as Legal Elite.

Richardson Plowden announces that **Frederick A. Crawford** was recognized by *Greater Columbia Business Monthly* magazine as Legal Elite.

Barnes Alford Stork & Johnson announces that **Alan Reyner** has been selected by *Greater Columbia Business Monthly* as Legal Elite.

Nexsen Pruet announces that **Ed Menzie, John Sowards, Rick Mendoza and Tommy Lavender** have been selected by *Greater Columbia Business Monthly* as Legal Elite.

Lewis Babcock LLP and Griffin LLC announce the formation of **Lewis Babcock & Griffin LLP** located at 1513 Hampton St., 29201. Phone: 771-8000.

Callison Tighe announces that **M. Malissa Burnette** has been named “Lawyer of the Year” in the area of employment labor law by *The Best Lawyers in America*.

Nelson Mullins announces that **Miles Coleman, Susan H. Nelson and Tara C. Sullivan** have become associates of the firm located at 1320 Main St., 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, 29201. Phone: 799-2000.

Nexsen Pruet announces that **Brian A. Autry** has rejoined the firm, as Special Counsel, located at 1230 Main St., Suite 700, 29201. Phone: 771-8900.

Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte announces that **Amy L. B. Hill** has been appointed to head the SC Bar’s Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee.

Nelson Mullins Marketing Department received the 2011 Award of Excellence in Media Relations from The International Association of Business Communicators Southern Region during its annual conference in New Orleans.

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NOTEWORTHY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (...continued from page 12)

Howser Newman & Besley announces that **Kyliene L. Keesley** is now a Certified Mediator, **Michael S. Traynham** has become an associate of the firm located at 1508 Washington St. 29201. Phone: 758-6000. **Justin P. Novak** is now an associate in the Charleston office. The firm also announces that its Charleston office is relocating to 215 East Bay St. #303, Charleston, SC 29041.

Nelson Mullins announces that **John F. Kuppens** has been elected to a three-year term as a National Director for DRI-The Voice of the Defense Bar.

Collins & Lacy announces that founding partner **Stan Lacy** has been named Lawyer of the Year by *Best Lawyers in America*, and Mr. Lacy has been selected for the **South Carolina Workers’ Compensation Educational Association’s** Lifetime Achievement Award.

The law firm of **Gaffney Lewis & Edwards** has been presented with an award for excellence in diversity at Wal-Mart’s Outside Counsel Superconference in Bentonville, AK, one of only 5 recipients so recognized out of the many hundreds who represent Wal-Mart across the country.

Roslyn Frierson, Director of South Carolina Court Administration, has been named vice-chair of the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts and has been elected president of the Conference of State Court Administrators, a national organization.

Pope Zeigler announces that **Lawrence Flynn** has been selected for the 2011-2012 class of Leadership Columbia.

Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte announces that **Alexis K. Lindsay** has become

an associate of the firm located at 1310 Gadsden St., 29201. Phone: 929-1400.

Kenneth Suggs has been named Columbia’s “Trial Lawyer of the Year” in products liability by *Best Lanyers in America Magazine*.

Lewis Babcock announces that **A. Camden Lewis and Keith M. Babcock** were named in *Best Lanyers in America for 2012*.

Nexsen Pruet announces that five of its attorneys in the Columbia office have been selected by *Best Lanyers in America for its 2012 Lanyers of the Year: Henry W. Brown, Mark Knight, Susi McWilliams, Edward G. Menzie and Rick Mendoza*.

Richardson Plowden & Robinson announces that **Leslie A. Cotter and Franklin J. Smith** were selected by *Best Lanyers in America for its Lanyer of the Year for 2012*.

Nelson Mullins announces that ten of its Columbia attorneys have been selected by *Best Lanyers in America for 2012: George S. Bailey, C. Mitchell Brown, Karen A. Crawford, Dwight F. Drake, David E. Dukes, Robert W. Foster Jr., P. Mason Hogue Jr., John T. Moore, David G. Traylor Jr., and Daniel J. Westbrook*.

Finkel Law Firm announces that **Harry L. Goldberg** has been selected for inclusion in the 2012 edition of *Best Lanyers in America*. He has also been named by the same publication as Columbia, SC Best Lawyers Mediation Lawyer of the Year for 2012. **Gerald M. Finkel** was also selected for inclusion in the 2012 edition of Best Lawyers of the Year.

Moses & Brackett announces that **William Bert Brannon** has been selected for

inclusion in the 2012 edition of the *Best Lanyers in America*.

Benchmark: *Litigation* has named **Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte** one of the top litigation law firms in South Carolina, also highlighting three members of the firm: **Thornwell Sowell, Elizabeth Van Doren Gray and Robert Stepp** as local litigation stars.

Milling Law Firm announces that **Cydney M. Milling** has joined the firm located at 1614 Taylor St. Suite C, 29201. Phone: 451-7700.

Barnes Alford Stork & Johnson has been accepted into the International Society of Primerus Law Firms, a society of independent boutique law firms which was created to uphold the highest ideals of the legal profession.

Rogers Townsend & Thomas announces that **Samuel C. Waters** has been honored as an Associate/Affiliate of the year by the Mortgage Bankers Association of the Carolinas.

*US News and World Report* ranks Columbia firms in top tier metropolitan law firms in the new edition of Best Law Firms: **Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte, Callison Tighe & Robinson, Turner Padget Graham & Laney, Collins & Lacy, McNair Law Firm, Nexsen Pruet, McAngus Goudelock & Courie and Richardson Plowden & Robinson**

Gignilliat Savitz and Bettis announces that **Michael Greene** has become an associate of the firm located at 900 Elmwood Ave. #100, 29201. Phone: 254-6951.

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RICHLAND COUNTY COMMON PLEAS JURY VERDICTS

<b>2010-CP-40-7652</b> Shameka Lsysath vs. KL Auto Sales et al Attorneys: Plaintiff: Pro se Defendant: Pro se/Robert Stokes Cause of action: Contract/Breach Verdict: For Defendant	Attorneys: Plaintiff: David E. Taylor Defendant: William H. Davidson II Cause of Action: Auto/Death Verdict for Defendant RCSD Verdict for Plaintiff: \$500,000.00 v. Defendant James	Attorneys: Plaintiff: J. Dennis Bolt Defendant: Robert David Garfield Cause of Action: Personal Injury Verdict: For Defendant
<b>2010-CP-40-7402</b> Y. Remson vs. N. J. Bonyata Attorneys: Plaintiff: B. George Defendant: E.D. Lang Cause of action: Auto/Personal injury Verdict: For Defendant	<b>2010-CP-40-6977</b> Jeri Lee vs. Steven Spencer Powers Attorneys: Plaintiff: Barry B. George Defendant: James B. Lybrand Cause of Action: Auto/Personal Injury Verdict: Plaintiff Actual Damages: \$1505.00	<b>2010-CP-40-5625R</b> Silvia M. Bailey vs. Thomas Cody Attorneys: Plaintiff: W. H. McAngus Jr. Defendant: Eric Fosmire Cause of Action: Auto/Personal Injury Verdict: For Plaintiff Actual Damages: \$215,000.00
<b>2009-CP-40-8703</b> Beverly Atkinson, et al vs. Richland County Sheriff's Dep't et al.	<b>2010-CP-40-5264</b> Ronald W. Colley vs. Leon Lott	



2011 – A CANCER JOURNEY  
by Alice Price Adams



In early March, 2011, I had just settled into the hotel for the evening. I reviewed my notes from the day's meetings, luxuriated in a long, hot shower and was propped up in my bed preparing to watch a movie when I felt it. "It" turned out to be Invasive Ductal Carcinoma, specifically triple negative, meaning it is not responsive to hormone targeted therapies. The best way to beat this cancer is with surgery and chemotherapy. Things moved fast after that diagnosis. I had a mastectomy in March followed by chemotherapy all through the spring and summer. Yes, I lost all my hair, even my eyelashes, which my five-year-old daughter took great pride and pleasure in counting as they grew back.

I received many comments during the course of treatment that people were impressed with my attitude and the fact that I continued to work throughout the entire ordeal. I do recognize that I have control over my attitude, and a positive attitude is so very important. However, the basis of my attitude is my faith that my God is in control of my life, no matter what, and especially during this cancer journey. I have been supported by family and friends, including fellow friends in the bar. It can be easy to get caught up in the day to day business of practicing law. Yes, it is an adversarial system, but it is filled with mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers, and I have felt compassion and caring from

fellow members. Thank you.

I am blessed and fortunate to work in a firm surrounded by fellow believers and supporters. In fact, one of my co-workers, Helene Sessler, formed a Team Alice to participate in the Palmetto Health Foundation's annual **Walk For Life/5K Race for Life** fundraising event to raise funds to support breast cancer research. I was overwhelmed by the response of my co-workers and friends when nearly fifty people showed up bright and early on Saturday morning, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Team Alice turned out to be a top fundraiser, raising more than \$4,000, our part in an overall total of \$512,000 (and counting)! All funds from this event will stay right here in Columbia at Palmetto Health Breast Center and help our neighbors, family and friends - should they ever need it.



I have been saddened by the many women, and men too, who have been affected by this disease. It is my hope that all women do regular self-examinations and are diligent in routine mammograms. This is our best defense to fight this disease, and let me be a reminder to you to do both! Early detection is so very important. Let's continue to fight for a cure, and in the words of an old cheer, "Go! Fight! (and yes) Win!"

HELPFUL INFORMATION		
<b>Legal Staff Professionals/ Midlands Meeting: 2nd Tuesday 1:00</b> Call Laura Foster at 803-799-9800 ext 338 or e-mail <a href="mailto:lfoster@mcnair.net">lfoster@mcnair.net</a>	<b>Palmetto Paralegal Association</b> Call Adrith D. Schrauger at 803-217-7557	<b>S.C. Women Lawyers Association</b> Call Angel Warren at 803-788-4114



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**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT:** On Calhoun St., 2nd floor office, small library, conference room and full bathroom, with shared kitchen downstairs; off-street parking, one block from U.S. District Courthouse. \$550 plus 1/3 utilities per month. CALL: 256-7777.



**LAW OFFICE FOR LEASE:** Across from Richland County Courthouse-First Floor, Marlboro Building, 1116 Blanding Street, 2400 square ft, \$2200 per month, includes phone system, conference room table and chairs, kitchen, refrig, dishwasher, two bathrooms. Call Owner, Jim Griffin 803 771 8000.

The editors welcome your inquiries, comments and contributions. Please send them to RCBA, P.O. Box 7632, Columbia, SC 29202 or [rcba@scbar.org](mailto:rcba@scbar.org).



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Ph: 803-731-0030

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[www.griercarrandcanshaw.com](http://www.griercarrandcanshaw.com)

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