

RICHBARNEWS

Newsletter of the Richland County Bar Association



MIKE POLK
Treasurer

JODY BEDENBAUGH
President

DAVE MAXFIELD
President-Elect

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bigg Doggs

March 16 - Professor Colin Miller
(see pg. 15 for future dates)

Family Night at the Zoo

Thursday, April 28

Judicial BBQ

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Fireflies Night

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Memorial Service

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Judicial Reception

Thursday, August 18, 2016

William Witherspoon

Installation as SC Bar President

Annual Free Ethics CLE

Date TBD

Annual Meeting/Holiday Party

Thursday, December 8, 2016



From the President, Jody Bedenbaugh

"If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else." - Yogi Berra

I am excited to begin 2016 as the President of the RCBA and offer my first Newsletter. For those of you who were not at our Annual Meeting or I have not yet had the opportunity to meet, allow me to briefly introduce myself. I am a partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, which I joined after graduating from USC Law in 2003. My primary areas of practice are banking, creditor rights, and bankruptcy. I am married to the former Emily Brady of Columbia, and we have a five month old little girl, Eloise.



As the above quote indicates, recently I have been thinking about planning. A few days into my tenure, one of my fellow Executive Committee members asked me, "What is our strategic plan? What is our mission statement?" I must admit that my initial thoughts were, "These are good questions. I do not know the answers, but this sounds like a lot of work." Later, when the Executive Committee reviewed this issue during our January meeting, we all agreed that it would be helpful to have a dialogue about the strategic plan of the RCBA so that we can ensure it is meeting the needs of our members, and that, when faced with a question of how to use our limited resources, your Executive Committee is guided by long term goals and principles which reflect the varied interests and priorities of our membership. One of the main reasons that we wanted to start this discussion now is that it coincides with the beginning of Mandy Wren's tenure as our new Executive Director. We are excited to use Mandy's talents to start a dialogue on how the Association can continue to grow in numbers, participation, and in meeting the purposes of the Association, and we think this process will be a tremendous help to Mandy as she learns more and more about the Association.

Of course, the object of these planning discussions will not be to change something that isn't broken. Everyone seems to like the Association and, particularly, the events. Whether it is

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From the Editor, Dave Maxfield



"I don't see," purred Dr. Goebbels, "why you should have the slightest difficulty in adjusting the trend of what you write to the interests of the State...What is the use therefore of editorial skepticism? It only makes people uneasy." But, just to make sure, the new Nazi government enacted measures imposing the death penalty on those who published "treasonable articles."

Joseph Goebbels, Reich Minister of Propaganda, Nazi Party, introducing the National Press Law to journalists in 1933 as depicted in *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown.

H 4702 General Bill, By Rep. Mike Pitts (R) Laurens

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING CHAPTER 85 TO TITLE 40 TO ENACT THE "SOUTH CAROLINA RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM REGISTRY LAW" SO AS TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONS BEFORE WORKING AS A JOURNALIST FOR A MEDIA OUTLET AND FOR MEDIA OUTLETS BEFORE HIRING A JOURNALIST; TO REQUIRE THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM REGISTRY BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE; TO AUTHORIZE REGISTRY FEES; TO ESTABLISH FINES AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE CHAPTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

You've no doubt by now heard of Representative Mike Pitts' proposal for a "Responsible Journalism Registry" to ensure that only journalists deemed competent may publish, and to penalize them criminally when they step out of line. Pitts told the *Charleston Post and Courier* that his bill is meant to stimulate discussion over how he sees Second Amendment rights being treated by the press, adding that the bill is modeled directly after South Carolina's Concealed Weapons Permitting Registry. As Pitts said: "It strikes me as ironic that the first question is constitutionality from a press that has no problem demonizing firearms," Pitts said. "With this statement I'm talking primarily about printed press and TV. The TV stations, the six o'clock news and the printed press has no

qualms demonizing gun owners and gun ownership."

As one of South Carolina's many unlicensed journalists, and as a citizen of a country in which there is a mass shooting - i.e., four or more people shot in one incident, every single day (see *Shooting-Tracker.com*), I was all set to give Pitts both barrels (if you'll forgive the figure of speech). But as I dug in to research this article I discovered to my horror that, in part, I agreed with Pitts.

First, Pitts doesn't really want the bill to pass. He says his proposal was intended as a "constitutional experiment" to highlight what he perceives as "hypocrisy and bias of the media when it comes to...the Bill of Rights." (<http://www.fitsnews.com/2016/01/25/mike-pitts-a-constitutional-experiment>). Specifically, Pitts thinks the media loves the First Amendment but despises the Second. While I don't necessarily agree (see below), the point that the Bill of Rights is not an *a la carte menu* you get to pick and choose from is a valid one.

In making his modest proposal, Pitts understands that he's ripping a page from Goebbels' 1933 playbook. But since he's intentionally referencing that terrible time in history, let's digress on that for a moment.

Nazi Germany was the one of the best examples of how far from humanity a people can stray. It's a convenient time and place to reference when making comparisons even though, of course, not much can really compare. The real riddle of that time, though, is how did a majority of Germans come to accept it? How did they blow past every stop sign that should have halted them along the way?

There is a fascinating book by Sebastian Haffner called *Defying Hitler*. The manuscript for the book was discovered in an attic in 1999 by Haffner's son. Haffner, a 25 year old German law student, wrote it secretly in 1939, to chronicle how ordinary Germans permitted themselves to be transformed into the Nazi Reich. Haffner chronicles both the creeping erosion of civil liberties and

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From the Editor

(...continued from page 2)

increasing willingness to accept violence by the German people, whom he also described as lacking the backbone to resist.

You should read that book. While you're at it, check out the *Boys in the Boat*, which I quote at the beginning of this article. It's the story of the 1936 U.S. Olympic rowing team, crewed by the sons of fisherman and loggers, who won the gold medal at Hitler's Berlin Olympics. One thing I learned from *Boys* is that rowing shells lack keels. While keels keep a boat stable and right side up, they slow it down. The keel is the boat's backbone.

So, where's our keel? Where's our backbone? I would submit it's the Bill of Rights. So on point one -- all of the amendments are important -- Pitts is right. I may not love the Second Amendment. Pitts may or may not love the First. And the government sure doesn't love the Fourth. But it's a package deal. And if Pitts wants to stimulate a debate about that, I'm all for it.

But while he's at it, he should stimulate a debate about gun violence. Guns, regrettably, are not like pens. You can't - thank God - walk into an elementary school in Connecticut with a ballpoint and shoot 20 six and seven year olds. You can't walk into a holiday party in San Bernardino and kill 14 people with a typewriter. We cannot accept that violence as simply the price we pay for that level of violence as we stand by numbly, watching the mass shooting of the day on the news. (You can see how that thing might color a reporter's point of view, can't you?)

I don't have the answer on how to fix this. But I didn't ask to be in the House of Representatives, either. So, Mr. Pitts, if you are going to discuss if you're going to preserve liberty, don't forget about life. Because half of keel will take a boat into strange waters, and half a backbone is no backbone at all.

Dave Maxfield can be reached at dave@consumerlawsc.com.

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The editors welcome your inquiries, comments and contributions. Email feedback to rcba@scbar.org.

Lawyer Mentoring: The Journey is a Two-Way Street

by Amanda E. Pittman

What is Mentoring?

"Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction." —John Crosby

Because mentoring has existed for over 2,500 years, this ancient concept is not simple to define. Generally speaking, mentoring is the pairing of a more skilled or experienced person with a lesser skilled or experienced one, with the agreed-upon goal of having the lesser skilled person grow and develop specific competencies. Margo Murry, *Beyond the Myths and Magic of Mentoring* xiv (1991). This characterization implies that mentoring only benefits one person in the relationship. This, however, is far from the reality.

Mentoring is a vital, interactive relationship which is constantly evolving through the unique circumstances surrounding mentors and mentees. Both parties benefit and grow. This is especially true for mentoring in the legal profession. As law school graduates step forward and begin their transition from students to lawyers, they are embarking on an unfamiliar journey. Sure, most of them can recite the elements of an intentional tort, but how much do they know about the intangibles—courtroom etiquette, professional courtesy, effective communication with clients? Ask any experienced lawyer. Knowing the law and practicing the law are two very different things; the latter being something that is learned on a day-to-day, issue-to-issue basis. Lawyer mentoring is the perfect medium for experienced attorneys to impart their wisdom of the law and "intangibles" to new lawyers. New lawyers, however, are not the sole beneficiary of this relationship. During this dynamic process, mentors also reap equally substantial benefits.

South Carolina's Lawyer Mentoring Program

"... the mentoring experience allows seasoned lawyers to reimagine the majesty of the law through the fresh idealism of our new admittees." —Chief Justice Jean Hoefer Toal

After two successful pilot programs, under the auspices of the

Chief Justice's Commission on the Profession (Commission), on April 1, 2012, the Supreme Court of South Carolina adopted the Lawyer Mentoring Program. The creation of this program was the brainchild of G. Dewey Oxner, Jr., former South Carolina Bar President and Chairman Emeritus of the Commission. Mr. Oxner was passionate about lawyer mentoring, and he championed this endeavor with unparalleled enthusiasm. By creating a mandatory program which provides newly admitted lawyers with access to personalized guidance on a variety of subjects, the Commission led the charge to promote professionalism among our South Carolina lawyers. South Carolina was one of the first states to institute a lawyer mentoring program and, because of the program's remarkable success, it is emulated by other states.

The Benefits of Mentoring

Without a doubt, mentoring is a mutually advantageous journey. In return for mentors' guidance, advice, and knowledge, mentees provide insight on new developments in the law while giving mentors a forum to reflect on their own practices, skills, and professionalism.

Mentors participating in the South Carolina Lawyer Mentoring Program have universally provided positive feedback about their mentoring experiences and the benefits they received from the relationship. Former South Carolina Bar President, Alice Paylor said, "[A]lthough I started out as a mentor with the idea that I was benefiting a new lawyer, I quickly learned that I was the real beneficiary. Working with the new lawyers and watching them gain confidence, find jobs and learn to be a part of our legal system is the most rewarding experience of being a senior lawyer." Ms. Paylor's experience is echoed by many other Bar members. One mentor nicely summed up the mutually beneficial nature of mentoring, "talking through issues of practice management, professionalism, and ethics with a new lawyer helped reinforce these concepts in my own practice while also helping to prepare a new lawyer to practice in South Carolina." A Bar member from the Lowcountry noted that the greatest benefit of mentoring was "learning as much from the person I am mentoring as he learned

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Lawyer Mentoring (...continued from page 4)

as he learned from me and having the opportunity to speak truth into the life of someone who is trying hard to be a good, honest lawyer.”

The benefits afforded to mentors also extend to a renewed zeal in their own practices. Upon completion of his mentorship, a Bar member commented that “the greatest benefit [of mentoring] was having the new lawyer’s enthusiasm for the practice of law rub off on me. After twelve years practicing law, it was refreshing to see that perspective again.” The fresh perspective of a young lawyer encouraged one Bar member to not “just accept to do things the way they have always been done in the past.”

New lawyers also laud the benefits of mentoring. One new lawyer opined that mentoring was an “invaluable experience” during which he learned real-life lessons on the importance of maintaining civility in the legal profession. One young lawyer praised the mentoring program because “it reminded [her] to ask questions, seek advice and remember that our profession is one where we are constantly learning from each other.” By listening to his mentor’s mistakes as a young lawyer, one mentee garnered invaluable insight on the common pitfalls of practicing law. This new lawyer said it best—“I not only gained a friend, but I gained a forever mentor.”

The common theme among mentors and new lawyers is their sincere appreciation of one another: their gratitude is a two-way street. New lawyers are grateful for their mentors’ guidance, patience, knowledge, and above all willingness to help them transition into law practice. Mentors take pride in passing on their wisdom and find gratification in guiding and developing a young lawyer’s career. Mentors take satisfaction in their mentees’ professional achievements while also enhancing their own professional development and providing a great service to the legal profession.

Become a Mentor in South Carolina’s Lawyer Mentoring Program

Our Lawyer Mentoring Program constantly needs a steady flow of volunteer mentors to keep up with the needs of newly admit-

ted lawyers. When the program was designed, it anticipated that the new lawyer would be mentored by an experienced lawyer in his or her office or firm. In the difficult legal job market of the 2000’s, many law school graduates struggle to find employment. Recently, up to 25% of new lawyers entering the Lawyer Mentoring Program were unemployed. Additionally, all too often, new lawyers who do not develop significant professional connections in law school, and after graduation, find themselves without an experienced lawyer who can mentor them. Because of our dedicated mentors, these new lawyers are given the opportunity to participate in the program and build a relationship with an experienced lawyer who will aid their professional development.

Conclusion

As we constantly strive to improve our profession, it is imperative that we embrace the time-honored concept of mentoring. Lawyer mentoring is a powerful tool to promote the cornerstone of the law—professionalism. It produces competent young lawyers who are well-equipped to provide effective and efficient legal services to the public. It also hones experienced lawyer skills and renews their sense of purpose. With a Bar consisting of proficient young lawyers and enthusiastic mentors committed to our program’s success, South Carolina will continue to be a national front-runner in lawyer mentoring. Please support this tremendous endeavor and join its journey today!

To volunteer or get more information about the Lawyer Mentoring Program, please contact Amanda E. Pittman at mentorsc@bell-south.net or at (803) 799-5578.



LHL provides confidential support and referrals for lawyers suffering from alcohol, substance abuse or depression. For assistance, advice, referral or kindness, freely given within the confidence of professional trust, the LHL’s resources are only a phone call away. Call (803) 799-6653, ext. 181 or our confidential, toll-free help line at 1-866-545-9590.

Noteworthy News & Announcements



Adams and Reese is pleased to announce that **William “Bill” P. McElveen, Jr.** has been elected to Chair the Executive Committee. McElveen will lead the firm with attorneys and advisors located in 16 offices across 15 markets throughout the southern United States and Washington, D.C. **Adams and Reese** attorneys and employees contributed directly and through their community service program, HUGS (Hope, Understanding, Giving and Support) to the United Way of the Midlands and Central SC Chapter of the American Red Cross during the area’s catastrophic flooding.

Blair Cato Pickren Casterline attorney **Cynthia Blair** has been sworn in as chair of the Agents and Abstractors Section of the American Land Title Association.

Bowman and Brooke LLP is pleased to announce that it has been named a 2015 “Product Liability Practice Group of the Year” and that Managing Partner **Joel Smith** has been named the 2015 Product Liability MVP by Law360.

Bowman and Brooke LLP is pleased to recognize Associate **Ashleigh Wilson** on receiving the ABA Young Lawyers Division “Star of the Quarter” award for her work in implementing the Disaster Legal Services Plan in South Carolina. It was her responsibility to implement FEMA’s disaster legal services plan following the state’s catastrophic flooding last fall. **Bowman and Brooke LLP** is also pleased to announce that **Paula Burlison** has been appointed to Senior Counsel in the firm’s Columbia office located at 1441 Main St., Ste. 1200, 29201. (803) 726-7420.

Bruner, Powell, Wall & Mullins, LLC is proud to announce the addition of **Bryan Triplett** as Associate Attorney in the firm located at 1735 St. Julian Place, Ste. 200, Columbia 29204. (803) 252-7693.

Callison Tighe member **Nekki Shutt** has received a South Carolina Leadership in Law Award from *South Carolina Lawyers Weekly*. The awards are given yearly to attorneys who contribute to society, achieve professional success and make an impact on

the legal industry. Shutt and Callison Tighe member **M. Malissa Burnette** were lead counsel in the litigation that cleared the way for same-sex marriage in SC. In addition, Shutt and Burnette were honored in *Columbia Business Monthly’s* Top 50 Most Influential of 2015.

Callison Tighe donated \$15,000 to Harvest Hope Food Bank in 2015, a year when the organization has seen unprecedented need. This will provide as many as 75,000 meals to families in the Midlands.

The marketing team of **Collins & Lacy, P.C.** received an Award of Excellence during the International Association of Business Communicators’ Annual Palmetto Awards ceremony. The award honored excellence in communications projects and campaigns, digital communications, social media work and other collateral material from organizations throughout South Carolina.

Collins & Lacy, P.C. is pleased to announce **Christian Stegmaier** has been chosen as a 2016 South Carolina Leadership in Law Award honoree. Stegmaier is a shareholder with the firm and a member of the firm’s Management Committee and chair of the Retail & Hospitality Practice Group. The firm is also proud to announce that **Ashley Kirkham** has been elected to serve on the Kids’ Chance of South Carolina Board of Directors.

Collins & Lacy, P.C. is proud to announce that shareholder **Andy Cole** has assumed the position of Chairman for the Building Industry Association of Central South Carolina Remodelers Council and that shareholder **Claude Prevost** has been elected president of the South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys’ Association’s Young Lawyers Division.

Duff, White & Turner, LLC announces that **David N. Lyon** has become an associate of the firm located at 3700 Forest Drive, Suite 404, Columbia 29204. Phone: (803) 790-0603.

John Fantry, Jr. is pleased to announce his withdrawal from general practice and litigation services. He is now serving as Of

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Noteworthy News & Announcements (...continued from page 6)

Counsel Attorney with The Shissias Law Firm, LLC 1422 Laurel Street, Columbia, 29201, Phone: (803) 712-0100.

Murphy & Grantland, P.A. is pleased to announce that **Rogers E. Harrell III** has joined the firm as an associate located at 4406 Forest Drive, Columbia 29206. (803) 782-4100.

Edward W. Mullins, Jr., of counsel with **Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP**, was honored by The Uniform Law Commission with a Blacksmith Award for his efforts to forge four enactments through the SC Legislature. The Uniform Law Commission studies and considers drafts of specific statutes in areas of the law where uniformity between the states is desirable. Mr. Mullins has served as a commissioner since 2011.

Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A. is pleased to announce that Columbia attorney **John E. Cuttino** has been selected as one of the honorees for the 2016 Leadership in the Law Awards by *South Carolina Lawyers Weekly*. Cuttino is one of only 30 South Carolina attorneys to receive the Leadership in Law recognition this year. In addition, **John E. Cuttino** has been named President-Elect of DRI-The Voice of the Defense Bar. DRI is the leading organization for lawyers and in-house counsel who defend businesses and individuals in civil litigation. **Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A.** is also pleased to announce that two attorneys in the Columbia office, **Janice Holmes** and **Grayson Smith**, have been elected partners by the firm's shareholders.

Hedrick Gardner Kincheloe & Garafalo LLP is pleased to announce that **Dewana Looper** has been promoted to Partner in the firm's Columbia office located at 1301 Gervais Street, Suite 1900, Columbia, 29201. (803) 727-1200.

Ilene Stacey King announces the opening of her new firm, **Law Office of Ilene Stacey King**, at 1803 Hampton Street, Columbia 29201. (803) 413-8163.

Inez Moore Tenenbaum, former head of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission and two-term South Carolina superintendent of education, announces the opening of **Inez Moore**

Tenenbaum, LLC, Attorney at Law located at 801 Gervais St., Columbia, 29201. (803) 466-3392. Tenenbaum has been named to the board of Safe Kids Worldwide, an international nonprofit working to prevent childhood injury, the number-one cause of death for children in the United States.

James W. Gilchrist, Jr. has joined the **Holler Garner Law Firm** located at 1777 Bull Street, Columbia 29201, (803) 765-2968.

Kenison Dudley & Crawford, LLC announces the opening of its Columbia office located at 1320 Main Street, Suite 300, Columbia 29201, (803) 605-5271. The Columbia office will be headed up by **Brian Autry** who is joining the firm as a partner.

Lawrence Flynn, an attorney with **Pope Flynn**, has been appointed to the Board of SC Thrive. SC Thrive is a non-profit that helps South Carolinians move from crisis to stability through providing access to a wide variety of services and programs.

LawyerLisa, LLC announces that **Fletcher Rinehart** has joined the firm as an associate located at 534 St. Andrews Rd., Columbia 29210. (803) 563-5165.

Marti Bluestein, founding partner of **Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson**, and Delgado (BNTD), has been appointed Board Chair of the South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center. For more than 30 years, the South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center has fought for low income South Carolinians, helping them overcome social, economic and legal injustice.

McKay, Cauthen, Settana & Stublely, P.A. is pleased to announce that attorneys **Brandon Jones** and **James "Eddie" Fickling** have completed the necessary courses to earn their CCP designation from the CLM Claims College. Jones and Fickling were a part of the first group of professionals to successfully complete all three levels to earn the designation. McKay, Cauthen, Settana & Stublely, P.A. is also pleased to announce the addition of **Erica Loudin** as the newest attorney to join the law firm located at 1301 Blanding Street, Columbia 29201. (803) 256-4645.

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Noteworthy News & Announcements (...continued from page 7)

McAngus Goudelock & Courie is pleased to announce the addition of **Ashley Wheeling-Goodson** to the firm's Columbia office located at 1320 Main St., #10. (803) 779-2300.

Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte, LLC is pleased to announce that attorney **Betsy Gray** is the 2016 recipient of the National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP) Fellows Award. The award recognizes the accomplishments of a past president of a bar association who has demonstrated a continuing commitment to leadership, service, the work of the organized bar and the purposes of the NCBP. In addition, Sowell Gray would like to announce that attorney **Eve Goodstein** has been named to the Board of Directors for Kids' Chance of South Carolina.

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP is pleased to announce the following attorneys have joined the Columbia office as associates: **Bradley D. Barringer, Joseph E. Fornadel III, Sean C. Hastings, Jennifer Jokerst, Lacy R. Lee, Evan T. Leadem, and Meredith Weinberg.**

Nexsen Pruet is pleased to announce that **Chris Hampton** and **John Wall** have joined the firm's Columbia office located at 1230 Main Street Columbia 29201. (803) 540-2053. In addition, the firm announces the selection of its 2015 NP Diversity Scholars. These law school scholarships were awarded to three minority students planning legal careers in North and South Carolina.

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP is pleased to announce the election of **Walt A. Cartin** and **Lawrence M. Hershon** as new partners in their Columbia office located at 1201 Main Street, Suite 450 Columbia 29201. (803) 255-8000.

Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A. is pleased to announce that attorney **C. Clifford Rollins** has been named a shareholder in the Firm, located at 1900 Barnwell Street, Columbia 29201. Phone: (803) 771-4400.

Rikard & Protopapas announces that **P. Jason Reynolds** has joined the firm, located at 1329 Blanding Street, Columbia 29201 (803) 978-6111.

Scott & Corley, PA announces that **Jessica Corley** and

James L. Williams have joined the firm located at 2712 Middleburg Dr., Ste. 200 Columbia 29204. (803) 252-3340.

The South Carolina Bar honored **John Nichols**, a founding member of **Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson, and Delgado** (BNTD) with its *Trial and Appellate Advocacy Award* during the Bar's annual convention. The award recognizes a lawyer who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to trial and appellate advocacy in the legal profession.

The South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys' Association held its 48th Annual meeting in November 2015 and inducted their new officers. **David A. Anderson** of **Richardson Plowden** will serve as President-Elect and **Anthony W. Livoti**, shareholder at **Murphy & Grantland**, will serve as Treasurer.

The S.C. Department of Education announces that **Scott Winburn** has joined the Office of General Counsel as deputy general counsel located at 1429 Senate St., Rutledge Bldg., Columbia 29201. (803) 734-0070.

The S.C. Department of Corrections announces that **Kensey Collins** and **William Curtis** have joined the **Office of General Counsel** as staff attorneys and that **Salley Elliot** has joined the Office of Legal and Compliance as the chief legal and compliance officer. (803) 896-8500.

The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control announces that **Dawn Miller** has joined the Office of General Counsel as assistant general counsel located at 2600 Bull St., Columbia 29201. (803) 898-3350.

Willson Jones Carter & Baxley, PA announces that **John Paul Simkovich** has joined the firm's Columbia office located at 4500 Ft. Jackson Blvd, #301 Columbia 29209. (803) 782-2520.



Noteworthy News & Announcements (...continued from page 8)

The S.C. Office of the Attorney General announces that **Chantelle Neese** and **Henry Gunter** have joined the agency as assistant attorney generals located at 1000 Assembly St., Rembert C. Dennis Bldg., Columbia 29201. (803) 734-3970.

The South Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Association is pleased to announce the newly elected 2016 officers. **Andrea C. Roche**, a partner with the firm of **Mickle and Bass, LLC** and former Commissioner of the SC Workers' Compensation Commission, will serve as President. **Lana H. Sims, Jr.**, a partner with **Adams and Reese**, will serve as Vice President and **A. Mundi George**, a member at **McAngus Goudelock & Courie**, will serve as Treasurer. **Mark Arden**, of **Chappell Smith & Arden, PA** was re-

elected to the Board for a second three year term.

Sweeny Wingate & Barrow, P.A. announces that **Brandon Gottschall** and **Emily McMillan** have joined the firm's Columbia office at 1515 Lady Street, (803) 256-2233.

Two third-year University of South Carolina School of Law students, **Alexa Kluska** and **LeAnna McMenamin**, have been honored with the **D. Reece Williams III Trial Advocacy Award** after winning the school's mock trial competition. The South Carolina Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, a by-invitation organization of which Williams has been a member since 1989, created the advocacy award in 2009.

2016 RCBA Executive Committee Members



Pictured from left to right: Charlie Moore, Mike Polk, Jody Bedenbaugh, Kristen Horne, Ward Bradley, and Jack McKenzie. Not Pictured - Dave Maxfield.

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RICHBARNEWS

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RCBA Confers Awards at the 2015 Annual Meeting

2015 Distinguished Service Award Recipient: Beth E. Bernstein



The John W. Williams Distinguished Service Award, affectionately known as the “Tootie” Williams Award, is based upon distinguished and meritorious service to the legal profession or to the public in professional related activities. The Williams Distinguished Service Award is the highest recognition given by our association and it is determined by the Executive Committee based upon written nominations from members of our association. The Executive Committee is proud to announce Beth E. Bernstein as the winner of the John W. Williams Distinguished Service Award.

Beth was elected to the SC House of Representatives in 2012 because she cares about our community and wants to improve the quality of life for all citizens. She believes community stewardship involves preserving the opportunities we have inherited for future generations, and to this end, she is committed. She has worked tirelessly in sponsoring and supporting legislation pertaining to the improvement of education, public safety, healthcare, economic development and the environment. Some of the significant and noteworthy legislation Beth has championed includes the Cervical Cancer Prevention Act, the Domestic Violence Reform Act and the Background Check

Completion Act, that she has pre-filed as prompted by the tragedy at Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Her civic leadership includes service on numerous Boards and organizations, including the Palmetto Health Foundation Cancer Center Board, Columbia Jewish Federation Board, Beth Shalom Synagogue Board, the South Carolina Philharmonic Board and the Junior League of Columbia. Beth has worked to bring about lasting and meaningful change to improve the lives of those who live in South Carolina and is a most worthy recipient of this prestigious honor.

2015 Civic Star Award Recipient: Cliff Moore, III

The Executive Committee of the RCBA also selects an attorney to receive the Civic Star Award from among the nominees submitted by the membership. The Civic Star Award is based upon exceptional and meritorious service to the Richland County community by a member of the RCBA for activities outside of the legal profession. Community involvement has always been at the core of who Cliff Moore is. There is no stronger evidence than Cliff’s commitment to the Home Works organization. Home Works provides home repairs for elderly and disadvantaged homeowners through volunteers, donations and corporate sponsorships. Cliff’s efforts are varied in scope – it would not be unusual to find him re-plumbing a kitchen sink in the morning and cooking a fried chicken dinner in a church kitchen for volunteers in the evening. He also has organized and led trips to Peru over the last several years to build homes in impoverished communities. In addition, Cliff has also been involved in the SC Bar’s Ask-A-Lawyer program and the Columbia Kiwanis Club. He was recently recognized by the Law School with its Compleat Lawyer Award and is a past recipient of the State Bar’s Pro Bono Award. Free time is a precious resource in our profession and Cliff chooses to spend much of his waking up with the sun, working in the SC heat and sleeping on a gymnasium floor only to repeat the same schedule for a week. The Civic Star Award is for exceptional community service and Cliff Moore’s longstanding commitment to be engaged in our community has been nothing short of exceptional.



RCBA Confers Awards at the 2015 Annual Meeting

Matthew Perry Civility Award:

The Civility Award of the RCBA is named after the US District Judge Matthew J. Perry, Jr. It is awarded to the judge and to the lawyer who, best exemplify the word “civility.” The Executive Committee recognizes that it is a high honor to be nominated or selected for this recognition as attorneys perform their responsibilities in various capacities of the legal profession.

2015 Lawyer Recipient: Rick Mendoza

Nexsen Pruet attorney Rick Mendoza has been honored with the 2015 Matthew J. Perry, Jr. Civility Award. Rick is an example to all attorneys regarding the professional manner in which he interacts with judges, attorneys, staff and clients. He is a Certified Bankruptcy and Debtor-Creditor Law Specialist in the State of South Carolina and is chair of the Bankruptcy & Debtor-Creditor Law Specialization Advisory Board, appointed by the Supreme Court of South Carolina Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization. “No one exemplifies civility better than Rick,” said Nexsen Pruet Board Chairman, John Sowards. “Anyone who has met him can attest to that. We are honored to work alongside him.” Rick is most deserving of this recognition for the civility he demonstrates each day.



2015 Judge Recipient: The Honorable John E. Waites



During court, the Honorable John E. Waites always treats debtors and creditors as well as their counsel with courtesy, compassion and respect. He conducts a status hearing for every pro se debtor and patiently goes over deadlines and filing requirements and provides encouragement. He is also considerate and respectful of attorneys’ busy schedules and has developed numerous procedures to reduce wait times for attorneys, allow appearances by telephone/video and avoid unnecessary hearings. Off the bench, he has demonstrated tireless dedication to assisting poor and underserved segments of our state’s population through his development of the C.A.R.E. (Credit Abuse Resistance Education) initiative, the Bankruptcy Ask-A-Lawyer Program, Monthly Free Bankruptcy Clinics and the Pro Se Debtor Assistance Program, which helps match pro se debtors in his cases with lawyers, who often accept the case for a reduced fee and greatly improve their success in obtaining bankruptcy relief. Judge Waites serves as a model of civility and professionalism for lawyers in South Carolina and is most deserving of this award. Sarah Kistler accepted the award on his behalf.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Legal Staff Professionals/ Midlands Meeting: 2nd Tuesday 1:00 Call Laura Foster at 803-799-9800 ext 338 or e-mail lfoster@mcnair.net	Palmetto Paralegal Association Contact Kelli Spinks at 803-790-8838 or kspinks@glelawfirm.com	S.C. Women Lawyers Association Call Angel Warren at 803-788-4114
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Richland County Common Pleas Jury Verdicts

14-CP-40-4234

L. Endara v. AVSX Tech, LLC, et al
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: M. Saulter
Defendant: T. Ellis
Cause of Action: Contract/Breach
Verdict: For Defendant

12-CP-40-06665

Robert L. Kirton v. Richland County School District One, et al
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: Lewis Cromer, James Porter, Chelsea Rikard
Defendant: Charles Boykin, Deidre Laws, John Reagle, Vernie Williams
Cause of Action: Breach of Contract
Verdict: For Plaintiff
Actual Damages: \$96,759.55

13-CP-40-5840

Freddie Davis v. James Coleman
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: C. Peake, A. Russo
Defendant: A. Hood
Cause of Action: Automobile/personal injury
Verdict: For Plaintiff
Actual Damages: \$1,213,969.10

14-CP-40-05824

Charles Carter v. Wilhelmenia Judd
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: Stanley L. Myers
Defendant: Patrick D. Quinn
Cause of Action: Automobile/personal injury
Verdict: For Plaintiff
Actual Damages: \$26,000

13-CP-40-03038

William Thompson v. SC Department of

Probation & Parole Services
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: pro se
Defendant: Pete Balthazor
Cause of Action: Libel and Slander, defamation
Verdict: directed for Defendant

14-CP-40-1886

David & Karen Longstreet, et al and Kenneth Sinchak v. Rabbit, LLC d/b/a The Loose Caboose and Kelly Whitlock
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: James Fayssoux, Paul Landis, Bill Stewart, Butch Bowers
Defendant: Andrew Watson, Scott Frank
Verdict: For Plaintiff
Actual Damages: \$3,850,000.00

14-CP-40-02774

Jean Hopkins v. Christopher Lykes
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: Luther Battiste
Defendant: John Hood
Cause of Action: Automobile/personal injury and property damage
Verdict: For Defendant

14-CP-40-04608

Sheila Joann Young v. Julio Aguila Ruiz
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: Barry B. George
Defendant: Trevor Penrose Eddy
Cause of Action: Automobile
Verdict: For Plaintiff
Actual Damages: \$8,000
Punitive Damages: \$2,000

14-CP-40-776

Tony Leon Rowell v. Pedro Ortiz
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: Anthony Russo

Defendant: Trevor Eddy
Cause of Action: Automobile/personal injury
Verdict: For Plaintiff
Actual Damages: \$15,316.80
Punitive Damages: \$2,200.00

14-CP-40-06080

Gregory McCrae v. Ned Marshall
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: R.T. Vriesinga
Defendant: Peter Farr
Cause of Action: Automobile
Verdict: For Defendant

15-CP-40-4186

Thomas A. Broughton, MD, FACS & TAB Partners, LLC v. The University of South Carolina
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: Edward D. Sullivan
Defendant: Will Davidson
Cause for Action:
Verdict: For Defendant

14-CP-40-05983

Charles Brown v. Sharon Moore
Attorneys:
Plaintiff: Everett Garner
Defendant: Jake Moore
Cause of Action: Automobile/combination
Verdict: For Defendant

continued on page 15...



Richland County Common Pleas Jury Verdicts

14-CP-40-5467

Jami Allison Owens v. James A. Bouleware

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Virginia Williams, David Williams

Defendant: Bradley Lewis Lanford

Cause of Action: Automobile

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$89,000.00

Punitive Damages: \$1,000,001.00

14-CP-40-6228

Joseph C. Rivett v. William J. Jackson et al

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Tucker Player

Defendant: M. Barrow, J. Cavanaugh

Cause of Action: Automobile/personal injury

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$300,000

14-CP-40-04945

Michelle McMorris v. Lyson Soram and

Dawn Clark as Administrators of Estate of

Miranda Sears

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Jennifer Purdy

Defendant: James Brogdon, John Delaney

Cause of Action: Automobile/personal injury

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$45,000.00

Punitive Damages: \$4,500.00 & \$500.00

14-CP-40-003334

Ashley Watson v. Jermaine Besvine, West

River Taxi, LLC

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Stevens Elliott and Anthony

Livoti

Defendant: Gerald Reardon and Dallas Ball

Cause of Action: Automobile/Combination

Verdict: For Defendant

10-CP-40-07404

Reginald Young v. Eric Powell

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Barry George

Defendant: Stevens Elliott

Cause of Action: Automobile

Verdict: For Defendant

14-CP-40-6297

D.Y. Kim v. Richland County, et al

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Robert Dodson

Defendant: Robert Garfield

Cause of Action: Automobile/personal injury

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$1,500

14-CP-40-4728

A.S. Hartzog v. Miyos at Sandhills, LLC

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Stephen H. Brown

Defendant: John E. Schmidt, III

Cause of Action: Contract/payroll

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$564.89 with add'l \$1,129.78

The Bigg Doggs are Back!

Remember when the Richland County Bar had the Bigg Doggs program? Well, we are bringing it back, and it's going to be better than ever. (We can't remember the reason for the double g's, but we are bringing those back as well.) What is Bigg Doggs, you ask? It's a unique opportunity for our members to interact with legal leaders in a more intimate setting than some of our other events. Every few months, we will plan either a breakfast, lunch, or happy hour (just to mix it up) with a law-related guest. Spots will be limited to the first 10-12 people who sign up.

Our first meeting was on March 16th at noon at Nelson Mullins. Our special guest was Professor Colin Miller from the USC School of Law. Professor Miller is the creator and Blog Editor of EvidenceProf Blog and has written and hosted "Undisclosed," a podcast which analyzes the *State v. Adnan Syed* criminal case, which was also the focus of the widely-acclaimed "Serial" podcast.

We have high hopes for the revival of Bigg Doggs, so if you have any questions or suggestions about the program, please contact Alexis Lindsay at alindsay@sowellgray.com. The dates for Bigg Doggs events are as follows: March 16 - Professor Colin Miller, May 18 - Chief Justice Pleicones, July 20 - Judge Joe Anderson.

Health & Fitness: Fwumping the Front Range

by John Hearn



I've taken up a new sport. It's called "Hurl Yourself Into The Machine-Groomed Icepack and Make Parts of You Turn Purple," or simply "hurling," for short. Wow! I've never experienced anything quite like it.

So here's how it works. You first get on a plane that sits on a tarmac for a long long time. Eventually the Bojangles truck leaves and the plane driver eats his Egg Bo-Biscuit (extra cheese) while finishing up the paperwork on his four Italian arena football fantasy leagues for the morning. He yawns, stretches and presses the button that soon deposits you on the front range of the Rocky Mountains.

As you head up the pass, you marvel at the scenery, assuming that you like big rocks. There are lots of them. Up! up! up! you go, toward the snowpack. You stop at a scenic overlook to take it all in. You exit the vehicle and immediately your toes freeze solid. They will remain so for the duration of your trip.

Still, wow, what a [pant pant] view! It's so [gasp] pretty! [wheeze] Why can't...I...breathe? {sitting heavily on one of the rocks.} Guess what's frozen now? You scurry back to the car, all hypoxia headache and toesicles. You press on, soon arriving at the Hurdome, a big big rock covered with

continued on page 17...

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Health & Fitness (...continued from page 16)

what looks like snow. You go see the nice man—Kurt—at the hurl shop who gives you some comfy boots, sort of Ugg-like. Things are looking up. Kurt then gives you a hurlboard and shows you how the boots get strapped in. You look scared. Kurt says “don’t be scared. You’ll do fine.” He then gives a spot-on repeat of Nicholson’s “here’s JOHNNY” from *The Shining* as you walk out the door.

Out you go to the bunny hill. The grade is such that a lazy marble would take ten seconds to roll three feet—in other words, terrifying. You try to get a high five out of the four-year-old gliding his hurlboard past you. He sneers and flips you off.

You shake hands with your instructor, Burt, who teaches you how to stand up on the hurlboard. This takes about three hours. When finished, your hurlbib and hurlshirt are soaked through with sweat. Your quadriceps are reduced to the consistency of artisanally-shredded corned beef.

And then you ride the magic carpet. Up! up!, up! you go!—a full thirty yards, one leg strapped in, the other free. You arrive at the summit and step off, trying desperately not to fall. And then—the magic happens. Your first fwump.

The first one is not so bad. After all, you had to sit down anyway to strap in that free foot and stand up. This takes another 45 minutes and four more fwumps. Burt then leads you down the thirty yards over the next hour. You learn the front fwumps first, since you want to break your wrists early.

You repeat, learning the back fwumps. Wow! One second you are up, the next you are flat on your back, having successfully hurled your back body and skull into the ice pretending to be snow. These are great for cracking one or two of those pesky ribs of yours. You successfully reach the end of the thirty yards. Then forty. Then forty-three. Then the snow fence, which is nice. It’s the least painful fwump of the day.

Burt congratulates you and hands you your scorecard. He gave you credit for the safety lecture and some great notes: “Work on standing up.” “Stop fwumping.” “Consider a sled.”

I can’t wait to try again. Up! Up! Up!

John is an aspiring fwump instructor. His gofundme Early Retirement Fwump Fund (ERFF) page is not getting a lot of traction, so you can probably still reach him at john.hearn@rtt-law.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The RCBA posts legal-related employment opportunities on our website. Visit <http://richbar.org/employment-listings> to view all of them.




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From the President (...continued from page 1)

planning events which promote fellowship among our members, honoring our members who are elected to the judiciary, publishing this newsletter, undertaking pro bono service such as Project H.E.L.P., our annual CLE, or giving back to our community with such projects as fundraisers by the Young Lawyers event or the Habitat Buildable Hours project, the RCBA has a number of traditional events and activities which will continue for many years.

Also, as it turns out, someone already had the forethought to include many of our guiding principles on our (newly redesigned!) website, www.richbar.org. Our website concisely states the RCBA's mission as follows, "The Richland County Bar works to enhance the overall experience of practicing law in Richland County through its numerous social events, professional networking opportunities, community outreach programs, and more." Moreover, the purposes of the RCBA from our Bylaws are quoted on the website as follows:

The purposes of the Association shall be to promote the common business and professional interests of lawyers

practicing or residing in Richland County in the State of South Carolina and to promote and achieve the following objectives and purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of South Carolina;

- To advance the science of jurisprudence;
- To facilitate the administration of justice;
- To preserve the high standards of integrity and honor in the legal profession;
- To apply its knowledge and experience in the field of law to the promotion of the public good;
- To establish a closer relationship and cooperation with the South Carolina Bar and through it with the American Bar Association;
- To encourage cordial intercourse among its members;
- To coordinate the efforts of the Bar with those of the judiciary for the purpose of facilitating matters of common interest; and
- To promote such activities as are within these objectives and purposes

in the interest of the legal profession and of the public good.

We will have the above principles in mind as we discuss how best to meet the current and future needs of the Association. The first step in this exercise is to hear from our membership. Mandy will be emailing a short survey to the membership which will take less than 30 seconds to complete – it will be designed to get your input on the "big picture" – what are your favorite aspects of the RCBA, which of our objectives should have first priority, and what part of our mission could be better served – as well as a question or two on more practical items like party venues or how you prefer to receive communications. In addition, Kristen Horne will lead a small, ad hoc planning committee which will begin this important dialogue.

I look forward to these discussions and hearing from you on how the Bar can best serve its members, our community, and the purposes set forth in our Bylaws. If you would like to participate in these discussions or have any ideas, please reach out to Mandy, Kristen, or me.



Past President Ward Bradley passes gavel to new President Jody Bedenbaugh.

New President, Jody Bedenbaugh

Jody A. Bedenbaugh is a partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP in Columbia. His practice focuses in the areas of banking, creditors' rights, and bankruptcy. He graduated from the Honors College at the University of South Carolina in 1999 and then went on to graduate magna cum laude from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 2003.

Since becoming an attorney, Jody has published several legal articles on bankruptcy and related topics. He is certified as a Specialist in Bankruptcy and Debtor-Creditor Law By the South Carolina Supreme Court. He has also completed the Leadership Columbia

New President (...continued from page 18)

program in 2007 and Leadership South Carolina in 2010. His professional associations and memberships include the South Carolina Bar, American Bar Association, American Bankruptcy Institute, and Richland County Bar Association, where he served as Treasurer prior to being elected to the Executive Committee. He currently serves on the Board of the Richland Library Foundation. In 2014, Jody was named by *The State* newspaper as one of its "20 Under 40," which recognized leaders under 40 who are "piecing together a brighter future for the Midlands of South Carolina."

Jody and his wife, Emily, have a daughter, Eloise. In his free time, he enjoys sports, reading, and travel.



New President-Elect, Dave Maxfield

Dave Maxfield practices Consumer Protection Law as a solo in Columbia. Dave is the three-time Chairman of the Consumer Law section of the South Carolina Bar and a member of the National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA) and Public Investors Arbitration Bar Association (PIABA). For the last few years, Dave has been the editor of the Richland County Bar Newsletter. He is astonished to find that he's now President Elect.

Apart from being a consumer protection lawyer (which he thinks is the coolest job ever) Dave enjoys speaking and writing about consumer and technology issues. He's taught more than 50 continuing legal education programs, and articles by and about him have appeared in *South Carolina Lawyer Magazine*, *ABA Magazine*, and *Lawyer's Weekly* newspaper.

Dave first met his wife, Kristen as a freshman at Furman. Although he was entranced, it would be years before she considered him worthy to date. They have now been married for more than 20 years, and have three children, Grayson (16), Alex (14) and Juliette (11). Dave loves to travel and doesn't mind hours on airplanes if they land someplace warm, tropical, and politically stable. In his spare time, Dave likes to play soccer and watch soccer. An ardent Liverpool FC supporter, his first planned official act as President will be to outlaw the words "Manchester United" and "Chelsea."



New Executive Committee Member, Charlie Moore

Charles Fawcett ("Charlie") Moore is married to Mahalie Davies Moore. They have three wonderful children, Mahalie Stuart (8), Clara Milam (6), and Augustus Fawcett ("Gus") (3). Mahalie works in the development office at Hammond School and Charlie is a trial lawyer at Turner Padgett Graham & Laney, PA.

Charlie grew up in Columbia and attended Lower Richland High School. He graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1992. He went on to work for BB&T as a commercial lender for three years before he returned to Columbia to attend law school. He graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1999 and has been with Turner Padgett ever since. He practices primarily in litigation.

Charlie is active with his church, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, and recently served as the chair of the Trinity Learning Center Daycare Board of Advisors. He has served for more than three years on the City of Columbia Tree and Appearance Commission where he is active in the push to underground utilities in the Columbia. He is also a former co-chair of the Richland County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. When Charlie is not chasing his three children, he is an avid outdoor cook and attempts to be an avid outdoorsman.

Tech Talk: Using the GIANT iPad Pro for Lawyer Work by Bill Latham



Many lawyers have included the iPad in their legal tool kit. The newest addition to the iPad family, the iPad Pro, is one giant of a tablet dwarfing its predecessor the iPad Air 2 in size, power and yes, price. As of this writing, I have been using the iPad Pro in my law practice for a little over two months and I am generally impressed.

The Technical Data

The screen size is a huge 12.9 inches as compared to 9.7 inches for the iPad Air 2. This is a BIG difference. The iPad Pro weighs in at 1.57 pounds and is 6.9mm thick. The brain of the tablet is Apple's A9X third generation chip with 64-bit desktop-class architecture. Apple claims the A9X delivers up to 1.8 times the CPU performance and double the graphics performance of iPad Air 2. Unfortunately, as with previous iterations of the iPad, no USB port is provided. Adding a USB port would allow for external memory and physical data transfers, and would consequentially make the iPad much more lawyer friendly- maybe next time.

The Options

The iPad Pro comes in three colors: silver, gold and space gray. There are two memory levels 32 GB and 128 GB. I recommend passing on the woefully inadequate 32 GB model; akin to having a 5 gallon gas tank in a high-performance race car. You do have a real choice between the Wi-Fi only (\$949) or Wi-Fi plus cellular model (\$1079). Optional accessories include the Smart Cover (\$59), the Smart Pencil (\$99), and the Smart Keyboard (\$169). Bottom-line: this tablet dressed up is pricey. For perspective, a loaded iPad Pro with a few accessories costs as much or more than a well equipped 13 inch MacBook Air (the popular and very thin

Apple laptop computer).

The Experience

If you already use an iPad Air in your practice, the experience with the iPad Pro will be similar, only bigger, bolder, sharper, and noticeably heavier. Sound quality is much improved, with four built-in speakers; one on each corner for a true quadraphonic effect. You can also have two apps opened on your screen at the same time, which you can also do with the iPad Air 2, only now you have enough screen real estate to make the feature useful. The electronic Apple pencil is also a big improvement over capacitive styluses. If you prefer taking handwritten notes, marking up documents by hand, or drawing diagrams, you will love the pencil.

While bigger is not always better; in the case of the iPad Pro it generally is. Not only is it a wonderful media consumption device, the iPad Pro's large screen better accommodates the stubby fingers and aging eyes common in lawyers of a certain vintage. It is a great platform for reading documents because pages are displayed at full size or larger; great when doing markups with the Apple pencil. On the downside, the iPad Pro is just a little too large and too heavy to use comfortably on a treadmill, exercise bike, or hold up while reading in bed.

Accessories

I bought the Apple Smart Cover, but realized it offered little accidental drop protection. After looking at a variety of cases, I selected the leather Targus "VersaVu Rotating Case" designed for the iPad Pro (\$69.00). I chose not to purchase an external keyboard, because

continued on page 21...

RCBA Night with the Columbia Fireflies....

The RCBA will have a night with Columbia's new minor league baseball team, the Fireflies. on Thursday, June 9th at the Palmetto Pavilion. We will have an all-you-can eat picnic buffet starting at 6:05, and the game begins at 7:05. Stay tuned for more details in your inbox and on our website!

Tech Talk (...continued from page 20)

I already have two that are compatible (Bluetooth) and the iPad Pro on screen virtual keyboard is large enough to be very usable. For those desiring an external keyboard, I am not enamored of the Apple Smart Keyboard with its membrane keys. Instead, I recommend the slightly cheaper Logitech Create (\$149) keyboard for the iPad Pro. This keyboard has real free moving keys and is backlit. Additionally, the Logitech keyboard was designed in cooperation with Apple and uses the same iPad Pro smart connector mechanism as does the Apple proprietary keyboard.

The Verdict

I really enjoy using my iPad Pro. However, it is essentially a really big iPad Air with a few added bells and whistles that come at a hefty price premium over the iPad Air 2. For many lawyers, the iPad Pro is all the mobile computer they really need. With the Microsoft Office suite now available for the iPad, most of the bases are covered, i.e., email, word processing, calendar, spread sheets and task reminders, not to mention a vast library of

available apps, many well suited to legal work. See e.g., http://hytechlawyer.com/?page_id=2532. Of course, the same is true of the much cheaper iPad Air 2. Where the iPad Pro truly outshines its predecessors is as a media consumption device. If you already own an iPad Air, the iPad Pro is an unnecessary, but much appreciated luxury.

Next up, I am currently putting the Microsoft Surface Pro 4 to the test and will bring you my report next time.

Bill Latham can be reached at bill.latham@nelsonmullins.com.

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[Full bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres and a stellar program]

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Award Presenter: Former Mayor Joseph P. Riley

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Photos from the 2015 Annual Meeting and Holiday Party

Below are photo from the 2015 Annual Meeting and Holiday Party. To see the complete gallery, visit <http://richbar.org/event-photos> or go to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/richlandcountybar>. Photos were taken by Ashby Howard.



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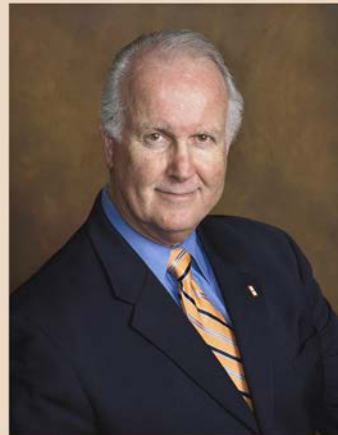
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