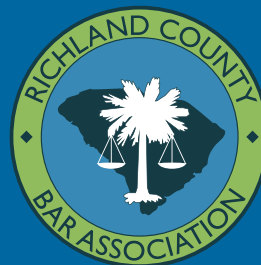


# RICHBARNEWS

Newsletter of the Richland County Bar Association



KRISTEN HORNE  
Treasurer

AMY HILL  
President

WARD BRADLEY  
President-Elect

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Annual Oyster Roast

Thursday, February 20  
University House  
5:30 PM

### SAVE THE DATE 2014

Judicial BBQ  
Thursday, May 15

Family Night at Zoo  
Thursday, May 22

Memorial Service  
Friday, June 13

Judicial Reception  
Thursday, August 21

Annual Ethics CLE  
Friday, November 7

Annual Meeting/Holiday Party  
Thursday, December 11



## From the President, Amy Hill

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that I look forward to serving as your Richland County Bar President in 2014. As I begin my tenure as President I must first acknowledge and thank Ian McVey for his leadership and commitment to the Bar over the last year. Our County Bar experienced growth and a renewed involvement in community projects during Ian's presidency and we are all grateful for his dedication and leadership. I look forward to building upon the foundations set by Ian and other previous leaders as we start this new year.



As we begin to work together I want to let you know a little about myself. I am not a Columbia native, but rather Columbia is the city I choose to call home. I grew up in Mount Pleasant near the ocean and the many offerings of Charleston. I then moved across the state to attend Clemson University and, after a brief time back in Charleston, I moved to Columbia to attend law school. Upon graduation from law school I accepted a job in Washington, D.C. to work at an accounting firm, and it did not occur to me that I would end up back in Columbia. About the time I realized that I was not an accountant, or a tax-lawyer working for an accounting firm, Cam Lewis offered me a job as a litigator at his firm and I quickly packed my bags. Today, I enjoy working with my partners at Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte and raising three boys along with my husband Matt Hill, an attorney at Adams and Reese.

My husband Matt and I are frequently asked by our friends and family back home why we have not moved to Charleston or Tampa (Matt's home) and our answer is always the same: the people. This city has amazing, talented and friendly people. While we have a diverse and exciting cultural scene, the state capital, a large university, a nationally ranked zoo, beautiful rivers and Congaree National Park, the real beauty of this city is its people, who are smart, kind, courteous, and some of the most hospitable you will find anywhere.

It is of no surprise that we find the same qualities among the members of the Richland County Bar. Our membership includes law school professors, Supreme Court Justices, legislators, administrators of our state bar, and practitioners from every legal field. As I said at the Annual Meeting, the Richland County Bar includes some of the most civil and respectful lawyers in this state.

So, as we begin our work for 2014 the question is what can we do to better our legal community? I intend to continue work that gets our lawyers out in the community to assist with pro bono efforts. We will further our discussions with the City of Columbia and Richland County to identify ways to better our

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- PAGE 1 -



The Final Rose

Florida State trails Auburn 31-27 in college football’s BCS Championship game. 13 seconds left on the clock. FSU’s Heisman-winning quarterback, Jameis Winston, has just engineered a six play, 78 yard drive to the Auburn two. Now he takes the snap. He drops back, whips around, leaps, and hits receiver Kelvin Benjamin in the end zone!

Touchdown!! Benjamin hangs on as the Auburn defense tries furiously to strip the ball from him, and FSU hangs on to win the last – and possibly the most thrilling – title game in BCS history.

Unfortunately, I’m blissfully unaware that this is occurring. I’ve forgotten the game was even on. Because (ashamed as I am to admit it) I’m watching *The Bachelor* on ABC.

For those of you who don’t know what *The Bachelor* is, here’s the premise: a single “bachelor” who (despite stunning good looks, great job, six pack abs, and the complete absence of any chest hair) somehow cannot find that “special someone” to complete his life. So ABC invites 25 women to the “Bachelor Mansion” in the California hills. Alone or in groups, the Bachelor takes the women out on “dates.” At the end of each episode there is a “Rose Ceremony” where the Bachelor hands out red roses to the ladies he wants to keep. Didn’t get a rose? Sorry. Pack your suitcase. Extra points for crying into the camera.

Much of *The Bachelor* is horribly contrived. Back home, the “Bachelor” probably does not live in a mansion. His daily driver is not a Bentley Flying Spur convertible. His real life dates probably involve skydiving only sometimes. The 25 women living in the mansion probably don’t consume 8 liters of Carlo Rossi Paisano per day at home, or cry uncontrollably on the bathroom floor for four hours.

ABC’s formula is to pack a lot of people into the same place, make them all compete for the same thing, and add a lot of alcohol to fuel the fire. (You know – like law school). Then they cut and edit the whole mess to create heroes, villains, and storylines. (You know – like litigation).

The success rate of this formula in achieving the shows stated purpose? 17 seasons of *The Bachelor* have produced exactly one marriage. That’s less than a 6% success rate. How bad is that? You could join e-harmony, post a profile picture of yourself wearing an eyepatch and cape while holding a trident, use an email address ending in “correctional.gov,” and

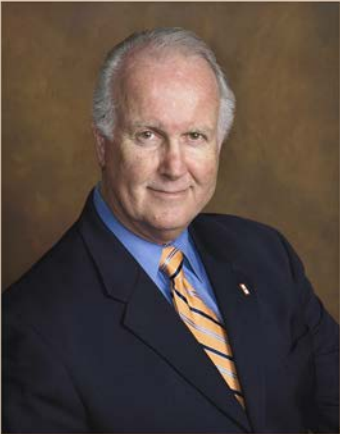
still have a better chance of success.

But still, it’s great television, and here’s why: *The Bachelor* never loses site of the three things that power human behavior: Hope, Change, and Fear.

Think of these three things as the “battery” that provides the motive energy for almost all of what we do. At the positive terminal is Hope; at the negative Fear. Change is the current that circulates between the two as, dozens of times each day, we take stock of the ever-changing flow of events to determine what they mean for our future. We hopefully embrace (and try to make) changes that will lead to a better life. Meanwhile our doubts and fear of sudden change (like something bad happening to a loved one) are broadcast on another, lower channel. Sometimes that low frequency channel gets a power boost at night, like an old AM radio station, and keeps us awake.

It’s just how we’re wired. It’s also why we love stories of transformation. Tragic downfalls, from Icarus and Oedipus to the E-True Hollywood

continued on page 3...



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From the Editor

(...continued from page 2)

Story. And we love stories of transcendence even more – from the FSU Seminoles to the girl who gets the “final rose” on *The Bachelor*.

But it’s exactly because we are so moved by Hope, Change and Fear, that others can use it to influence us. Have you noticed how many Weight Watchers ads run on television at New Year’s Resolution time? And how every chain store in America is running a sale on fitness equipment? What about politics? Has there ever been a more effective and simpler marketing message than Obama’s 2008 “Hope and Change” campaign? Even when America got a lot less “change” than advertised, there was enough juice left in that battery to power through another election.

So that’s the downside of our Hopes, Fears, and desire for Change. Because they’re subjective, they can be used as easily to manipulate as they can to entertain. With its 11% success rate, *The Bachelor* proves they’re a bad way to choose a spouse. Unfortunately, our track record of electing politicians in the age of marketing has been little better.

College football at least, realizes this. Next year, the subjective, voting-and-computer ranking BCS will be replaced by the “College Football Playoff.” Now, teams will play a bracket-style tournament to determine the true National Champion. It’s a change for the better that many feared would never come. That gives hope that one day we’ll start electing politicians based on what they’ve objectively accomplished, instead of how well they’re marketed (or maybe they can just face off in the Thunderdome).

Until then, happy new year, everyone. Hope it’s a great one.

Dave Maxfield can be reached at [dave@consumerlawsc.com](mailto:dave@consumerlawsc.com).

The editors welcome your inquiries, comments and contributions. Email feedback to [rcba@scbar.org](mailto:rcba@scbar.org).



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**Eugene Powell**, COL, JAGC is a retired SSA judge and a veteran of the Vietnam and Desert Shield/



Powell Dojaquez

Storm Eras and **Kenny Dojaquez**, MAJ, AR (US Army,

Retired) is an Iraq War veteran. Gene and Kenny represent disabled veterans at all levels of the VA administrative process. Our nation’s veterans fought for our country. Let BNTD fight for them! Call us at 877.524.4675 for a free consultation.

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ONLINE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

It is now possible to register for membership or renew your membership online by going to <http://richbar.org/MembershipRegistration.aspx>. You can make the \$100 payment online using Pay Pal. If you would prefer to register by mail, this is still an option too. The mail-in membership registration form can be found here: <http://richbar.org/Membership.aspx>.



The Lawyer’s Toolbox – Electronic Note Taking

by Bill Latham



If your practice is like mine, a good bit of note taking is involved. Often times, I find it difficult to actually listen and take copious notes at the same time. There are a number of PC programs and iPad applications that can be used to audio record voices and sounds while an attorney takes notes—synching the recording to the notes (handwritten or typed) for easy reference. These Apps can be extremely useful tools when conducting witness interviews, attending meetings and when conducting or defending depositions.

For example, suppose you are deposing the expert for an opposing party. The expert gives long detailed answers during the course of the deposition. If you have recorded the deposition with a program or app that synchs the recording with your notes, you simply highlight or click your handwritten or typed note entry on the particular part of the testimony in which you have interest, and that section of the deposition recording is played back for your review. You can then determine whether you are satisfied with the testimony or whether further examination is required. It’s like having real time court reporting without the expense.

There are several ways to do this. When using a PC, I am a big fan of MS OneNote for the Windows (see The Paperless Lawyer, <http://hytechlawyer.com/?p=95>). OneNote is part of the Microsoft Office suite of programs, so it is likely that you already have it. OneNote has many useful case management attributes. One of them is an audio recording feature that permits creating a recording that is correlated with the typewritten notes being taken. Access this functionality by clicking on the microphone on the tool bar. Video recording is also supported, but video files can take up a lot of memory.

On the iPad, there are a number of applications that provide this same functionality (audio only). My favorite is AudioNote (\$4.99 App Store <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/id369820957?mt=8>). AudioNote is unique because it records and synchs with handwritten notes, or typed notes, or both. As you play back the audio, your notes (handwritten and/or typed) are highlighted. If you want to hear the part of the recording that correlates with a particular section in your notes, just tap on the words and voila, the App advances or reverses to that section of the recording. I could really have used an App like AudioNote when I was a student back in the dark ages, i.e. the era of punch cards and Liquid Paper.



In preparation for a recent deposition, I preloaded my examination outline (cut and paste) into AudioNote on the iPad. I took notes for the deposition by hand and typing, while simultaneously also using the recording function of the App (after informing those present of my use of a recording device—see below). In my preloaded outline, I had a checklist for each of my “objectives” for the deposition. As that objective was addressed by witness testimony, I simply checked it off the list. On a break toward the end of the deposition, I then reviewed the key testimony by tapping my objective checkmarks on the outline. The App then played the correlated testimony. I found the quick review of testimony to be very useful.

One word of caution, you must be aware of the rules on attorney recording that may apply in the jurisdiction. For example, in South Carolina, the rule is that an attorney may not surreptitiously record anybody, i.e., everyone must be informed that recording is taking place (see <http://www.scbar.org/MemberResources/EthicsAdvisoryOpinions/OpinionView/ArticleId/764/Ethics-Advisory-Opinion-08-13.aspx>). Because my practice takes me all over the country, when recording, it is my practice to advise everyone in the room. I have not had any objections so far to the recording of deposition testimony. This is probably because the deposition is being recorded anyway by the Court Reporter (often with an audio recorder backup) and deponents expect to be recorded. In the case of investigations and meetings, you will need to assess whether the advantages of recording (completeness and accuracy) outweigh the potential disadvantage of chilling discussion or candid responses.

Bill Latham can be reached at [bill.latham@nelsonmullins.com](mailto:bill.latham@nelsonmullins.com)



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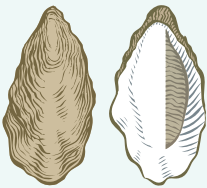
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Annual Oyster Roast



Richland County Bar members always look forward to the Annual Oyster Roast, a tradition of this organization for many decades. The function used to be held at the old Dixie Seafood Plant, which many of you may remember. Not only did we outgrow the facility, but it closed about 12 years ago. After trying a few places, we have settled on the University House, and that venue has been very popular.

Regardless of location, the oysters have been consistently good every year. Every year we have a good caterer provide the oysters, food and drinks, and our members have been very pleased with the arrangements. There will be special food for non-oyster eaters and plenty of diversity to suit all appetites. We will entertain you with good LIVE music, good spirits, a roaring fire and lots of camaraderie. We will also have hot coffee.

The event will take place Thursday, February 20, from 5:30-8:00 PM at the University House on the corner of George Rogers Boulevard and Bluff Road (diagonally across from William Brice Stadium). We will brave the outdoor elements and hope for good weather and moderate temperatures. The site is covered and has a big fireplace and plenty of parking with easy access.

As in past years, we are inviting you to bring your spouse and your children if you wish. Children under five are free and children 6-10 will be \$6. All others will be \$20. To buy tickets online, go to <http://rcbaoysterroast.eventbrite.com>. If you would like to pay by check, please mail it to PO Box 7632, Columbia 29202 by February 18th. This way we will know how many oysters to purchase.

This is a very special event, and we hope for great attendance. Some years it has been bitterly cold and rainy, but oyster roast lovers are not deterred. Dress warmly and join us for another great Bar gathering!

THE RCBA IS ON FACEBOOK & LINKEDIN



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[linkedin.com/company/richland-county-bar-association](https://linkedin.com/company/richland-county-bar-association)

Stay “in the know” & follow us on both!



From the President

(...continued from page 1)

courthouse. We will offer excellent opportunities for continuing legal education and career development.

We will focus on membership and make sure that all young and new lawyers are aware of the benefits of membership and the resources available through the Richland County Bar. There is much work to be done and I look forward to working with the Executive Committee and you, our members, to maximize the potential possessed by this wonderful group of professionals in this wonderful city. Thanks and let's get to work!

Amy Hill can be reached at [ahill@sowellgray.com](mailto:ahill@sowellgray.com).

Collins & Lacy 2014 Denim Day Drive Campaign

Collins & Lacy, P.C. reached out to non-profit organizations in South Carolina to be considered for the firm's 2014 Denim Day Drive campaign. The year-long campaign is a way for the business defense firm to support charities statewide. In 2013, Collins & Lacy employees donated more than \$5,000 to a variety of organizations.

Two Fridays a month, employees are invited to "go casual for a cause" and wear jeans to work in exchange for donating five dollars to the designated monthly charity. The non-profits are chosen by firm employees, and then voted on through an internal survey.


"The Collins & Lacy family is dedicated to the communities in which we live and work," said Managing Partner Mike Pitts. "In addition to providing quality legal services, attorneys and staff at Collins & Lacy are committed to providing meaningful contributions to our communities."

Non-profits interested in participating in the 2014 Denim Day Drive can contact Marketing Director Stefanie Caraviello at [scaraviello@collinsand-lacy.com](mailto:scaraviello@collinsand-lacy.com) by January 10, 2014. All non-profits will be added to a firm database for consideration of future efforts as well.

HELPFUL INFORMATION		
<b>Legal Staff Professionals/ Midlands Meeting:</b> <b>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



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.




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Rates are as follows:

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**Quarter Page Ads - \$75.00**

**Half Page Ads - \$150.00**

**Business Cards - \$50.00**

*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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Noteworthy News & Announcements

Bowman and Brooke announces that **Angela G. Strickland** has been named a partner in the firm.

The Law Office of Kenneth E. Berger announces that **Heyward Harvin** has become an associate of the firm located at 5205 Forest Dr. #2, Columbia 29206. Phone: 790-2800.

**Moore Taylor & Thomas** announces that it is now **Moore Taylor Law Firm PA** upon the amicable departure of senior partner David L. Thomas.

Nelson Mullins announces that **Jay Thompson** has become a partner in the firm and **Erin Stuckey and Geordie Zug** have been promoted to of counsel. The firm also announces that **Matt Albee, Graham Mitchell and Everett McMillian** have become associates of the firm located at 1730 Main St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 799-2000.

Richardson Plowden announces **Franklin J. Smith** has been selected as Managing Shareholder. The firm also announces that **Jared H. Garraux** has been named a shareholder in the firm and that **Benjamin P. Carlton** has become an associate in the firm located at 1900 Barnwell St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 576-3737.

Nexsen Pruet announces **Scott Hultstrand and Mark C. Moore** have joined the firm located at 1230 Main St. #700, Columbia 29201. Phone: 771-8900. The firm also announces that **Tushar Chikhliker** has been appointed to SC Independent Colleges and Universities Board. **John Bruton, Dennis Gregory Placone** and **Jennifer Routh** have become associates of the firm located at 1230 Main St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 771-8900.

Pennington Law Firm announces that **Lisa Smith, Nicholas Steinhaus and Chris Olds**

have become members of the firm.

**Jon Ozmint** announces the opening of **The Ozmint Firm LLC** located at 4406 B. Forest Dr., Columbia 29206. Phone: 782-0042.

**David C. Sojourner Jr., Rita B. Caughman, Karen H. Thomas and J.P. Lee** announce the formation of **Sojourner, Caughman & Thomas LLC**. The firm also announces that **Jennifer R. MacLeod** has become an associate of the firm located at 1301 Gervais St. #1920, Columbia 29201. Phone: 978-5500.

Gallivan White & Boyd announces that **Curtis L. Ott** was sworn in as President of South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys Association (SCDTAA).

**Ed Mullins** has been named the recipient of the 2013 John H. Pickering award by the National Center for State Courts, recognizing him as a member who has contributed professionally and personally in a significant way.

Rogers Townsend & Thomas announces that **Lucy Dinkins** and **Jordan T. Stallings** have become associates of the firm located at 220 Executive Center Dr., Columbia 29210. Phone: 771-7900.

Sowell Gray announces that **Rob Tyson** has been elected to the board of directors of the SC Defense Trial Lawyers Association.

**D. Reece Williams III** of Callison Tighe, has been elected president of the University of South Carolina Ex Libris Society, a service organization that supports the libraries of the University of South Carolina through its 250 members and more than 90 endowments that help acquire and preserve vital works.

**J. Lewis Cromer** has been elected vice chair of the Humanities Advancement Board at Clemson University.

**Eric Fosmire** announces the opening of **The Fosmire Law Firm** located at 914 Richland St. #B201, Columbia 29201. Phone: 764-4405.

Gaffney Lewis & Edwards announces that **John H. Strom** has become an associate of the firm located at 4406B Forest Dr., Columbia 29206. Phone: 790-8838.

Collins & Lacy announces that **Christian Boesl** and **Chris Adams** have been elected as voting shareholders in the firm, and **Claude Prevost** has been named a shareholder. The firm also announces that **Blakely Molitor** has become an associate in the firm located at 1330 Lady St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 256-2660.

Seaton Hall University Law School has awarded **Jennifer Mallory**, partner with Nelson Mullins, a Graduate Certificate in Clinical Research and the Law.

**Michelle Parsons Kelley**, of Richardson Plowden, was recently appointed by Governor Nikki Haley to serve on the State Workforce Investment Board.

**Evans Taylor Barnette** and **Pope D. Johnson III** announce the closing of **Johnson and Barnette LLP**. Mr Johnson continues to practice law as Pope D. Johnson III, Attorney at Law located at 1230 Richland St., Columbia 29201, Phone: 799-9791. Mr. Barnette retired from private practice in December.

Callison Tighe donated \$10,000.00 to Harvest Hope Food Bank as well as hands-on labor as part of its holiday giving.

**J. Hagood Tighe** has received the Carolyn Holderman Vision Award from the Central Carolina Community Foundation.

Duff White & Turner announces that **Joseph P. Bias** has become an associate of the firm located at 3700 Forest Dr., Columbia 29204. Phone: 790-0603.

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

Pope Zeigler announces that **Gary Pope Jr.** has been selected for Leadership Columbia for 2014.

**Ronald B. Diegel** has been certified as a circuit court mediator by the SC Board of Arbitrator and Mediator Certification.

Simmons Law Firm announces that **Derek A. Shoemake** has joined the firm located at 1711 Pickens St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 779-4600.

**Fisher & Phillips** received a first place award from the southeastern chapter of the Legal Marketing Association for its FMLA Leave Calculator app.

Clawson & Staubes announces that **Robert L. Brown** has joined the Columbia office located at 1612 Marion St. #200, Columbia 29201. Phone: 800-774-8242.

**Gallivan White & Boyd** announces that in December the [ABA Journal](#) selected the firm's product liability blog, *Abnormal Use: An Unreasonably Dangerous Products Liability Blog*, as one of the ABA Journal's Blawg 100, the year's "100 best legal blogs" for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row.

**Wesley D. Few** announces the opening of **Wesley D. Few LLC** located at 1527 Blanding St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 667-0744.

Gignilliat Savitz & Betis announces that **R. Hayne Hodges III** has become special counsel to the firm located at 900 Elmwood Ave. #100, Columbia 29201. Phone: 799-9311.

**Lawrence Flynn** has been appointed to the board of directors of the Columbia Parks and Recreation foundation.

Goodwyn Law Firm announces that **Rachel G. Peavy** has joined the firm as special counsel located at 2519 Devine St. #A, Columbia

29205. Phone: 251-4517.

McKay Cauthen Settana & Stubleby announces that **Meghan Hazelwood Hall** and **Richard E. "Rich" Marsh** have become associates of the firm located at 1303 Blanding St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 256-4645.

Moses and Brackett announces that **Anne Marie Crosswell** has become an associate of the firm located at 1333 Main St. #260, Columbia 29201. Phone: 461-2300.

**Fred Kingsmore Jr.** has been recertified as a specialist in estate planning and probate law by the SC Supreme Court.

Collins & Lacy announces that **Andrew N. Cole** has been certified as Circuit Court Mediator by the SC Supreme Court.

Rogers Lewis Jackson Mann & Quinn announces that **Jessica Clancy Crowson, L. Cody Smith and Drew B. Walker** have joined the firm as members located at 1330 Lady St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 256-1268.

**McAngus Goudelock & Courie** has been ranked 8<sup>th</sup> among South Carolina's Best Places to Work by SCBiz.

Bowman and Brook announces that **Angela G. Strickland** has become a partner with the firm.

**Marvin Quattlebaum Jr.** has become a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

**Stacy Thompson**, partner of Bluestein Nichols, Thomson and Delgado has been honored with the Mullis Award of Excellence from the President's Council from the South Carolina Association for Justice.

The American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers announces that **James T. McLaren** has been named president-elect of the

organization.

**Andrew Kunz** has been appointed to the board of directors of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Columbia.

Turner Padget announces that 8 of the firm's lawyers have been included in the seventh edition of *Euromoney's Benchmark Litigation 2014*: **R. Wayne Byrd, J. Kenneth Carter, Jr., Edward W. Laney, IV, Steven W. Ouzts, Thomas C. Salane, W. Duvall Spruill, John S. Wilkerson and D. Andrew Williams.**

The Law Office of Shannon K. Burnett announces that **David S. Jones** has become an associate of the firm located at 109 Main St., Blythewood, SC 29016. Phone: 786-1758.

**Tommy Preston** has been elected chair of the University of South Carolina Board of Visitors.

Callison Tighe announces that **W. Taylor Stanley** has become an associate of the firm located at 1812 Lincoln St., Columbia 29201. Phone: 256-2371.

**Robert Lewis** has been elected to the board of trustees of the Historic Columbia Foundation.

Finkel Law Firm announces that **Anthony J. Charles** has joined the firm as an associate located at 1201 Main St. #1800, Columbia 29201. Phone: 765-2935.

McWhirter Bellinger & Associates announces that **Kevin R. Horton** has become an associate of the firm located at 1807 Hampton St, Columbia 29201. Phone: 227-4098.

Pope Zeigler announces that **C.D. Rhodes** has become an associate of the firm located at 1411 Gervais St. #300. Phone: 354-4900.

Adams and Reese donated \$2000.00 as part of its annual holiday giving to Harvest Hope Food Bank.



The RCBA Public Service Committee would like to thank all of the many attorneys and law students who volunteered more than 200 pro bono hours at the Project HELP homeless legal clinic in 2013.

Special thanks go out to the following individuals and firms for contributing a significant number of volunteer hours and other resources to the clinic:

**Individuals:** George Cauthen, Sue Berkowitz, Katherine Daniels, Ed-  
die Weinberg, Kathleen McDaniel, Susan Firimonte, Paulette Edwards,  
Tommy Evans, Brian Sopp, Ashley Adams (USC School of Law, Class of  
'15), and Emily McMillan (USC School of Law, Class of '15)

**Firms:** Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP, South Carolina Legal Services, Boykin & Davis, LLC, Callison Tighe & Robinson, LLC

To learn more about the HELP Clinic and access the online volunteer sign-up calendar, visit the clinic webpage (<http://www.richbar.org/ProjectHELP.aspx>) or contact Ashley Story ([astory@jlewisrcromerlaw.com](mailto:astory@jlewisrcromerlaw.com)).

*"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite. Even in the grimmest times in prison, when my comrades and I were pushed to our limits, I would see a glimmer of humanity in one of the guards, perhaps just for a second, but it was enough to reassure me and keep me going. Man's goodness is a flame that can be hidden, but never extinguished." - Nelson Mandela*

John Hearn's "Health and Fitness" article will return next time. For now, he wants you to keep your hands out of the cookie jar and your rear ends at the gym. He also recommends eating Oreos with skim milk after your workout.

If you have specific questions for the health and fitness guru himself, please contact him at [john.hearn@rtt-law.com](mailto:john.hearn@rtt-law.com).

*Mike Riling, Partner in Riling, Burkhead & Nitcher  
Lawrence, Kansas*

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George DuRant, CPA/ABV, ASA, CFF, recently served as Examiner in the Harold H. Pavlack and Congaree Triton Acquisitions, LLC bankruptcies. Over the past 30 years, he has served as accountant for the trustee in hundreds of Chapter 7 bankruptcies requiring investigation of debtors' pre-petition transactions.



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*References from leading members of the bar available upon request.*



## New President of the RCBA, Amy Hill

Amy Hill is a partner at the law firm of Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte. She practices in the area of commercial litigation. Born in Asheville, North Carolina, Amy spent most of her childhood in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

After graduating from Wando High School in Mount Pleasant, she received a degree from Clemson University in accounting. Amy graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 2000. For a short time, Amy practiced tax law before realizing that litigation was her true calling. She worked at Lewis Babcock & Hawkins before joining Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte in 2003. Amy enjoys the challenge of litigation as well as the many people that she has been able to meet through her practice.

While attending law school, Amy met her husband Matt Hill, a transactional attorney at Adams and Reese. When not practicing law, Amy and Matt are busy with their three boys Burns, Grant and Barrett. They all enjoy outdoor activities, sports and spending time with their beautiful twelve-year-old Boykin Spaniel, Jenny.



## New President-Elect of the RCBA, Ward Bradley



James Edward (Ward) Bradley is married to Elizabeth Holderman Bradley. Betsy and Ward have three wonderful boys, James Marshall, Christopher, and Davidson who are 10, 8, and 8. Betsy is a corporate lawyer for Palmetto Health. Ward is a trial lawyer at the Moore Taylor Law Firm.

Ward grew up in Columbia. He attended Irmo High School and then graduated from Davidson College. He received his law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law. He then clerked for State Circuit Court Judge Don S. Rushing and Federal District Judge G. Ross Anderson. After completing his clerkships, Ward worked for two years in the litigation section of the McNair Law Firm. He then went to work at Moore Taylor where he is a partner practicing business and personal injury litigation for plaintiffs and defendants.

Ward has been active in the State Bar where he has served as chair of the judicial qualifications committee. He has served as the president of the USC School of Law Alumni Association. He is currently on the Board of Governors for the South Carolina Bar. He has served the Richland County Bar for many years by helping with

social events, serving on the memorials committee and editing the Richland County Bar Newsletter. Ward enjoys spending time with his family, playing guitar, and exercising.

## New Executive Committee Member, Dave Maxfield

Dave Maxfield, the newest member of the Executive Council, practices consumer protection law in Columbia. Dave is the two-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). Apart from being a consumer protection lawyer (which he thinks is about the coolest job ever) Dave enjoys speaking and writing about consumer and technology issues. He's taught more than 25 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 currently serves as the Editor of the Richland County Bar Newsletter. He and his wife, Kristen have been married for 18 years and have three kids. He loves Liverpool Soccer (and hates Manchester United).



## 2014 Annual Meeting & Holiday Party

All photos below were taken by Stuart Morgan ([www.morganphotography.ws](http://www.morganphotography.ws)). To see all the photos, please go to the phot gallery on our website at <http://richbar.org/EventPhotos.aspx>.





# RCBA Confers Awards at the 2013 Annual Meeting

## “Tootie” Williams Award

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.

David Dukes is the 2014 winner of John W. Williams Distinguished Service Award. David is a partner in Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough’s Columbia office, where he practices in the areas of pharmaceutical and medical device litigation, business litigation, patent litigation, and coordination of national litigation. He has served as National Trial Counsel for companies in the pharmaceutical, computer and consumer industries. He served as managing partner in his firm for 10 years, and during his tenure the firm was awarded the ABA John Minor Wisdom Award for Public Service and professionalism. He was past president of DRI-Voice of Defense Bar, chair of Drug and Device Committee and SC State Chairman.

David served as Board Chairman and President for Lawyers for Civil Justice. He is a permanent member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Clemson University, his alma mater. He serves on the Board of SC Governors School for the Arts Foundation and is past trustee of business Partnership Foundation for Moore School of Business USC. Over the years, he has won many awards for his outstanding leadership abilities.



## Civic Star Award

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. This award was presented to Hagood Tighe of Fisher & Phillips Law Firm.

Mr. Tighe, a partner with Fisher & Phillips Law Firm, practices exclusively in the area of Labor and Employment Law. He regularly provides training for supervisors and managers on harassment, EEO compliance, Family and Medical Leave Act and other topics. He has written a number of articles in the area of employment law and lectures regularly at seminars.

While he has won many legal related awards over the years he has always been involved with his community his community service has been notable. This year Hagood won the Carolyn Holderman Vision Award of the Central Carolina Community Foundation for his leadership as chairman.

He serves as an officer in his church and is very involved in its community missions. He is Chairman Emeritus of the Cultural Counsel of Richland and Lexington Counties and a former board member for the Advocates for the Historic Columbia Foundation. He served on the USC Partnership Board of the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management and has for years been active in many other charitable organizations.

# RCBA Confers Awards at the 2013 Annual Meeting

## Matthew J. Perry, Jr. 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 exemplifies 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. This award is given to both an attorney and a member of the Judiciary. Both of our winners have a sterling reputation of civility among their peers.



## Attorney Recipient

Leslie A. Cotter, Jr., is a shareholder of Richardson Plowden. He focuses his practice on professional malpractice defense, insurance defense litigation, mediation/arbitration, employment and civil rights litigation, products liability and personal injury defense, and governmental liability defense. Mr. Cotter tries jury and non-jury cases in each division of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina and in state court proceedings throughout South Carolina.

He is an active member of his church, where he served as an officer also been active in numerous civic and community groups. He is a past board member of Hammond School and the Palmetto Baseball League. He has coached numerous children’s AAU baseball and basketball teams. Mr. Cotter is a member of several conservation organizations, such as the Congaree Land Trust, SC Coastal Conservation League, SC Historical Society and Coastal Conservation Association. He is a committee member of the Central Carolina Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Quality Deer Management Association.

## Judicial Recipient

Honorable Margaret B. Seymour became a US District Court judge in 1998 and has been serving in that court ever since, becoming chief judge in 2012. Prior to that she was a US Magistrate Judge serving from 1996-1998. She served as Equal opportunity specialist for the US Department of Health, Education and Welfare, an Equal opportunity specialist on the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, an attorney in the Office of Civil Rights, US Department of Education, an Assistant U.S. attorney for the District of South Carolina. She was in private practice for several years.

## 2014 RCBA Executive Committee Members



*Pictured from left to right: Kristen Horne, Ron Stanley, Amy Hill, Ward Bradley, Ian McVey, Jody Bedenbaugh, and Dave Maxfield.*



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The RCBA posts legal-related employment opportunities on our website. Visit <http://richbar.org/EmploymentListings.aspx>.

Additionally, we post the listings on the RCBA Facebook and LinkedIn pages. To submit a listing, please email it to [rcba@richbar.org](mailto:rcba@richbar.org).