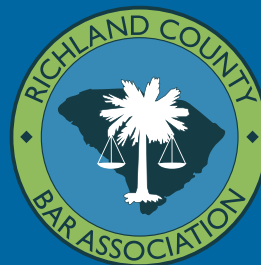


RICHBARNEWS

Newsletter of the Richland County Bar Association



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Judicial BBQ

Thursday, May 17
5:30 PM
University House

Family Night at the Zoo

Thursday, May 31
6:00 PM
Riverbanks Zoo

Memorial Service

Friday, June 8
12:00 PM
Judicial Center

SAVE THE DATE 2011

Judicial Reception

Thursday, August 23



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Koontz

Richard needed a job. He had done well at Duke, on a full scholarship no less, but now his studies were coming to a close and he had zero prospects. He had worked hard, but what next? Where was the work? While a self-made man, he wasn't a local; his roots were many hundreds of miles west. And in 1937, jobs were scarce indeed, even if he was third in his class.

One day he finally got a tip. There was job opening down in Greensboro, in a small firm with three lawyers including the Guilford County solicitor. Excited, Richard asked his landlady to press his best duds, fished a fresh celluloid collar out of the drawer in the chifforobe, suited up and went out to wait for the bus. It was a spring day in name only—it must have been 85 degrees. Richard's shirtfront soaked near clean through on the sweaty ride down tobacco road from Durham to Greensboro.

Richard tromped up the three flights of steps to the firm's offices in the Banner Building downtown. He introduced himself to the sole secretary for the trio of lawyers, and was ushered in to see the junior man, Mr. Merritt. At first, Merritt thought Richard was a new client, until the eager 3L began a long monologue about his years at Duke and his hopes for a job. After a bit, Merritt interrupted him: "I'm sorry, but we have no openings here."

It was too much. Richard, red-faced, sweating, embarrassed, lost his composure for a minute. "That's not what I heard!" Merritt was likewise steamed by young man's response, but he kept his head. He told Richard he could wait out front for Mr. Koontz, the firm's head man and the local solicitor.

Richard said he would stay, secretly grateful that he had not been thrown out for his breach of decorum. Both men began to cool down and resumed chatting. While the enormous fan in the corner oscillated their coloring back to normal, the two talked about Richard's path through undergraduate school, his scholarship at Duke, and his future.



...continued on page 3

- PAGE 1 -

FROM THE EDITOR, DAVE MAXFIELD



Do you have any recurring dreams? I have one and it's actually more of a nightmare. It's my 3rd Year at USC Law School. It's the last day of the last semester when I discover that I've forgotten to go to the required math class (I know — no math in law school, stay with me). This class has met every day. Now it's time for the final exam on "Advanced

Algetrigacalculcologicas." Fail it, and I don't graduate. The professor stalks around the room handing out test booklets the thickness of the Dallas phone book. I look at mine. It appears to be comprised of characters from an ancient Proto-Siniatic alphabet. Everyone else starts scribbling frantically. Uh-oh. At least in this recurring dream I'm wearing clothes to class. Usually.

In the real world, of course, law school was 20 years ago. There was, thank God, no math class. For the most part, the professors posed questions written in something that looked like English. I wore clothes to every class and they let me graduate. So, how can a decades-old experience still prompt the occasional subconscious nocturnal freak-out?

Maybe the answer is found in the personality of lawyers. There's a psychologist named Martin Seligman at the University of Pennsylvania who studies happiness. He's studied dozens of professions and found that optimists outperformed pessimists in every profession except one. Guess which one? Ours. Seligman theorized that lawyers are trained to constantly seek out "worst case scenarios." Thus, pessimistic lawyers outperform optimistic ones. Ouch.

Ok, so we worry a lot. But how much of what we worry about ever comes true? Well, psychologists have studied that too. In a now famous 1990 study, researchers Wells and Mathews at the University of Cincinnati discovered that 85% of what we worry about NEVER actually happens. The 15% of the time that something does happen, we handle it effectively 79% of the time. I'm no math whiz, but that would seem to

mean that of all the things we worry about, only about 3% of the time something bad happens that we don't handle well. So....maybe.... we shouldn't worry so much?

This was, ironically, my message to students at USC Law last week, some of whom were 3L's standing on the precipice of graduation in an abysmal job market. USC invited me to talk to about twelve students at a breakfast. Although I secretly feared it was a ruse designed to make me take the missing Algetrigacalculcologicas test, I went anyway. I'm really glad I did. The students were bright, positive, optimistic, and well-prepared for practice. Their suits were much nicer than mine. I have no doubt they will succeed fantastically.

This morning meeting is a regular thing set up by Jill Kunkle at the law school's Career Services office. I highly recommend that you call or e-mail Jill (777-6917; KunkleJ@law.sc.edu). And if you're on the fence about this, two (four?) words — "free Chick-Fil-A." If you can't make it to the law school, Jill can even send a student to your office to talk about your practice for a half an hour or so.

Think back to when you were a 3L facing the bar exam and an uncertain future. Then think of all things you worried about that never happened. Think of all the things that went right to get you where you are now. Be thankful for all of it. Then share those thoughts with students and younger lawyers. We were all there once.

Sleep well.

Dave Maxfield of Trotter & Maxfield is the editor of the Richbar News, and can be reached at dave@trotterandmaxfield.com.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

(...continued from page 1)

Finally, in came Mr. Koontz. His full name was Hercules Lee Koontz, but no one ever addressed him by his first name. Corday, his wife, called him Mr. Koontz--just like everyone else in town.

Richard stood, shook hands, and said he had heard Mr. Koontz needed a new lawyer. Koontz shook his head no. "I'm sorry, but somebody gave you the wrong information." Richard nodded, his shoulders drooping, as the three men chatted a while. As they wrapped up, Merritt gave Richard the advice one Jed Clampett would hear about thirty years later—that California is the place he ought to be.

Resigned, Richard took his leave of the men and duly headed west after graduation. My grandfather, Mr. Koontz, wished him well on his way out. And with his head held high, the young Mr. Nixon said thank you.

"Many of life's circumstances are created by three basic choices: the disciplines you choose to keep, the people you choose to be with; and, the laws you choose to obey." - Charles Millbuff



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT: JUDGE JAMES R. BARBER III

When you see Judge James R. Barber, III, at one of the many Richland County Bar Association’s social functions he attends, it’s obvious he enjoys the company of lawyers. His wry smile affirms his professed love of lawyers, who he describes as the most interesting and the most fun of all professionals.

The feeling is mutual, as the judge from Richland County has earned the respect of many lawyers during his fifteen years on the circuit court bench. He did not come from lawyers; his father was a chemical engineer with DuPont who eventually settled in Judge Barber’s beloved adopted hometown of Aiken. After graduating from USC School of Law in 1969, Judge Barber served his country during the Viet Nam war by working as an attorney for the Internal Security Division of the United States Department of Justice.

Living in Washington, D.C. from 1970 to 1972, Judge Barber experienced the incredibly tumultuous years of protest from a ring side seat. He helped with the prosecution of anti-war protestors after the May Day Demonstrations of 1971. Anti-war activists, utilizing more militant techniques, blocked major intersections and bridges in the capital. The Nixon administration responded forcefully with 10,000 federal troops. More than 12,000 people were arrested, so many they had to be housed at RFK stadium. The twenty-eight year old lawyer from Aiken got to meet anti-war activist Abbie Hoffman, who he described as a nice fellow. “Some of those people were not nice fellows but Abbie Hoffman was a nice fellow and dedicated to his anti war views.”

Judge Barber found Washington to be a “great city” but he decided to settle in Columbia in 1972. After he left, his boss at the Internal Security Division, Robert Mardian, became embroiled in the Watergate scandal and was indicted for campaign violations as a result.

When Judge Barber returned home, he engaged in the general practice of law, first with Henry H. Edens, and then with Walt Todd, his friend from law school. He also practiced there with Adjutant General T. Eston Marchant and Roy Bates.

Without hesitation, Judge Barber names General Marchant (1920 – 2006) as his most influential mentor. Serving as South Carolina’s Adjutant General for fourteen years, General Marchant was a much-admired WWII hero. He was “the finest person I’ve ever dealt with.” He was a serious military

man but also “one of the kindest, caring people I had ever known.” General Marchant, Judge Barber observed, helped many people without ever expecting anything in return.

Judge Barber can seem a bit serious too. As one internet commentator wrote, “Judge Barber is one of the finest, most honest judges we have on the circuit court bench . . . Judge Barber is grumpy to all equally.” Not surprisingly, Judge Barber doesn’t read such commentary and does not know about his curmudgeonly reputation. On the bench, he has “certain expectations” and lawyers had better be prepared.

Richland County bar member Bob Brown comments that Judge Barber is a “no-nonsense and extremely efficient judge” who keeps cases moving. “He’s ready to go and he *will* go whenever anyone’s ready to try a case.”

Bar member Charles Henshaw adds that Judge Barber “is mostly serious on the bench, but he shows a lot of wit in chambers.” Lawyer Charlie Hill agrees that he has a good sense of humor and observes that he likes to “inject some levity every now and then to lighten up the proceedings.”

Before becoming a judge, Judge Barber served on Richland County council from 1977 to 1986. He ran for Council at the prompting of then neighbor Dick Harpootlian. Judge Barber served during a time when County Council gained a tremendous amount of responsibility after the implementation of home rule in 1975. During those years, he helped put into operation countywide zoning and fire service from scratch. In addition, he supported construction of the much needed Richland County Judicial Center in 1978.

“Every day was a story” on County Council. He admires those who serve in local government, noting the close proximity to one’s constituency makes the job challenging. “You get calls about a dead dog in the road or the cable not working, even though you have no control over those things whatsoever.”

As a judge, his favorite kinds of cases to try are “ones with good lawyers.” Medical malpractice cases tend to have the very good lawyers, he notes. And the best med mal lawyers think Judge Barber is an excellent judge for those cases. “Even in complex medical cases, he’s quick to understand the facts and the issues,” plaintiff’s lawyer Charles Henshaw comments.

JUDGE JAMES R. BARBER III (...continued from page 4)

Insurance defense lawyer Charlie Hill agrees that Judge Barber is a “quick study” and adds that he has all the qualities you want in a judge. “He is fair, impartial, intelligent, a good listener, and has a good judicial temperament.”

Over the years, Judge Barber has witnessed the increase in stature of women members of the Richland County Bar. That change has improved the bar, Judge Barber opines, noting that women are often better organized than men.

As for his pet peeves, he does not like lawyers to continue arguing after he has ruled. And it is “not cool” for opposing counsel to address each other directly in court. And you had better be on time.

Judge Barber states that he “can’t think of a better group

of people to be around” than lawyers. But he also has an obvious love for his nonagenarian mother, his six siblings, and most of all, his wife and three daughters, one of whom he lost to an automobile accident. When he’s not working, he enjoys yard work, walking, and foreign travel with his wife, Susan.

As Charlie Hill noted, even as he had freshly received an adverse ruling, “we are fortunate to have Judge Barber on the bench in the Fifth Circuit.”

Written by Eleanor Duffy Cleary, a sole practitioner in Columbia. You can reach Ellen at edcleary@att.net.



as seen at the ABA Tech Show...

The Richland County Bar Association Lunch and Learn Committee

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By Dave Maxfield
Wednesday, April 18th

2nd Floor Classroom of the Main SC Bar Building
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Reservations must be made by Monday April 16th by calling 803-771-9801 or by e-mailing rcba@scbar.org.

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JUDICIAL BBQ

It is that time of year again when we honor the local members of the judiciary with a fabulous BBQ. Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 17 at 5:30 PM. Mike Tighe, Reece Williams, and all the Callison Tighe chefs will spend all day cooking the pigs in the parking lot at University House. Everyone has come to appreciate their expertise in preparing a delicious feast for members and their guests. There will also be other wonderful food prepared by Seawell's that complements the BBQ. You are encouraged to go home and change into casual clothing.

We also encourage you to bring your family to the event. Children five to eight are included at half price and children under four are free. It is VERY IMPORTANT to let us know

in advance if you are coming. We do not like to run out of food. We have live music for your listening entertainment.

Be on the lookout for a postcard and website updates announcing all the particulars. The cost is \$15.00 per adult person and your check is your reservation.



SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS RULING IN FAVOR OF SCHOOL BOARD

After a long legal battle over plans to renovate and expand Chapin High School, the South Carolina Supreme Court has ruled in favor of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties. Plans to expand the school (where enrollment has doubled in the 40 years since it was built) were delayed by environmental groups seeking to narrow the scope of projects allowed in wetlands and streams. Together with these groups, the plaintiff, an individual member of the school board, challenged the issuance of a Water Quality Certification to the school district. Writing for a unanimous court, Justice Kaye Hearn wrote that "substantial evidence" supported the school district's assertion that functionality of the stream would not be impaired by plans for expansion.

The school district was represented by McNair Law Firm of Columbia. McNair shareholder Pam Baker, who served as lead attorney along with fellow McNair shareholder Liz Crum, said "We are pleased that the school district finally has a clear path for the much-needed expansion of Chapin High, and we are hopeful that this ruling will also serve as precedent in helping businesses in South Carolina that face similar situations."

The case is Kim Murphy v. School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.



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

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COMPUTER DICTATION SYSTEMS COME OF AGE

By Bill Latham

This is my first technology column for the RCBA newsletter. My goal for the column is to discuss practical technology that lawyers can readily put to use to enhance their law practice. This month’s topic is voice-type dictation, also known as computer dictation or speech recognition. In essence, the computer types what you dictate to it without a human transcriptionist.

There are many reasons to dictate to your computer. For example, with some practice, most users can dictate much faster than they can type. Also, many people find that when they dictate, their writing becomes more conversational and flows more naturally. Finally, there is a “cool factor” (my wife would say nerd factor) to controlling your computer by voice.

Over the years, I have experimented with all kinds of voice dictation software looking for a practical and accurate system to use in my legal practice. Fortunately today, such systems are readily available and are very inexpensive, if not free or included with software you already own. In fact, reasonably accurate speech recognition software comes bundled with Microsoft Windows 7 (and its much maligned predecessor Windows Vista).

To use the speech recognition functionality in Windows 7, the first thing you need is a good quality microphone—I cannot stress this enough. I recommend purchasing a USB microphone headset, which you can find for as little as \$25-30. I personally use a Plantronics USB Bluetooth microphone, because I like being wireless. However, this convenience will cost you \$60-100 over the price of the wired version.


Next, click on the Windows button in the left hand corner of your computer screen. Then select “control panel”, and then Speech Recognition. The program will walk you through setting your computer up for voice dictation. For the program to be accurate, you do have to spend some time reading text to the computer (training) so that it can learn the nuances of your voice and speech patterns. The more training you do, the greater the accuracy of the program. Once trained, the built in Windows program does a good job, and might be all you ever need.

However, if you want to take your computer dictation to the next level, the program Dragon Dictation 11 by Nuance is considered by many to be the best speech recognition software program available. I have used Dragon Dictation 11 (Appx. \$100) and a number of its predecessors for several years and it is extremely accurate—in the neighborhood of 95%. The Dragon product is available for PCs and there is also a Mac version. With Dragon Dictation you can also use a separate digital recorder for your dictation and then have the program transcribe it for you. This allows you to dictate on the go. For example, I have dictated a closing argument on my digital voice recorder while taking my morning walk—although admittedly, I did get some funny looks from passersby.

For those iPad users in the crowd, Nuance has two free dictation applications that work fairly well and are available at the Apple App store. The first is Dragon, which allows you to dictate notes and emails. The second is Paperport Notes, which is a more robust document preparation, note taking application. Both of these programs are powered by the Dragon Dictation speech recognition engine, only the software is resident on Nuances servers and your dictation is transmitted through the internet (so keep confidentiality requirements in mind). The dictation transcription for these applications is generally very accurate, but you cannot train the software to adopt to your personal speech patterns and proper names and unusual words are often mangled. Tip: most USB headsets can be used with the iPad in combination with the optional Apple USB camera adapter. This adapter can be purchased wherever iPad products are sold (appx. \$29). The advantage to using the headset is not having to hunch over to get close to the iPad’s built in microphone.

I hope that you have found this month’s topic of interest. We are always looking for technology subjects for future column. Email your ideas and comments to me at bill.latham@nelsonmullins.com.



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ADVOCATES FOR THE NEEDY UNDAUNTED BY RECESSION

South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center has pursued economic, legal and social justice for the state’s low-income population through advocacy, education and litigation for more than a quarter century. Its work has helped many thousands of South Carolinians. But the past few years of economic strain have been tough on humanitarian causes, to put it mildly. Scarcity can have a deadening effect on our concern for others, and a common reaction is to draw the blinds and bar the doors.

The people hurt the most remain the same, the poor. Only now the poor are many more in number. The demand for critical human services keeps growing, as the resources and will to meet that demand diminish. Here in South Carolina, divisions along lines of race and socio-economic class unfortunately persist. While power centers in this state can be apathetic toward the less fortunate, advocates for the poor have remained steadfast, accustomed to long odds.

SC Appleseed trains 150 to 200 lawyers on poverty law issues each year. Participants include legal services attorneys, IOLTA grantee programs, as well as private practice attorneys who must take one *pro bono* case in exchange for the free or low cost Continuing Legal Education program. SC Appleseed trains thousands of community leaders, service providers and citizens each year on legal rights and services available to them or their clients.

In the courtroom, SC Appleseed pursues impact litigation, participating in select cases that directly or indirectly affect the poorest South Carolinians. In addition to directly representing clients, SC Appleseed provides support to private attorneys, through co-counseling, *Amicus* briefing or consultation.

For the past 33 years, I have looked in the mirror every morning and asked myself: ‘If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?’ And whenever the answer has been ‘No’ for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something. - Steve Jobs

SC Appleseed’s legislative strategy is to forge alliances through practiced but earnest appeals to decency. The organization has been called the “moral compass” of the South Carolina legislature. As decency knows no party affiliation, political scoreboard nor campaign ledger, the strategy has worked in a number of important instances. SC Appleseed’s advocates provided a voice for the poor in debates over bankruptcy exemptions, mortgage lending practices and immigration issues. Fostering positive change requires the willingness and ability to draw back the blinds so that those in power will see the problems their neighbors are facing.

There is plenty more work to be done. Please consider lending your support. Whether you want to contribute time, money or expertise we would love to hear from you. You can visit us online at <http://www.scjustice.org>.



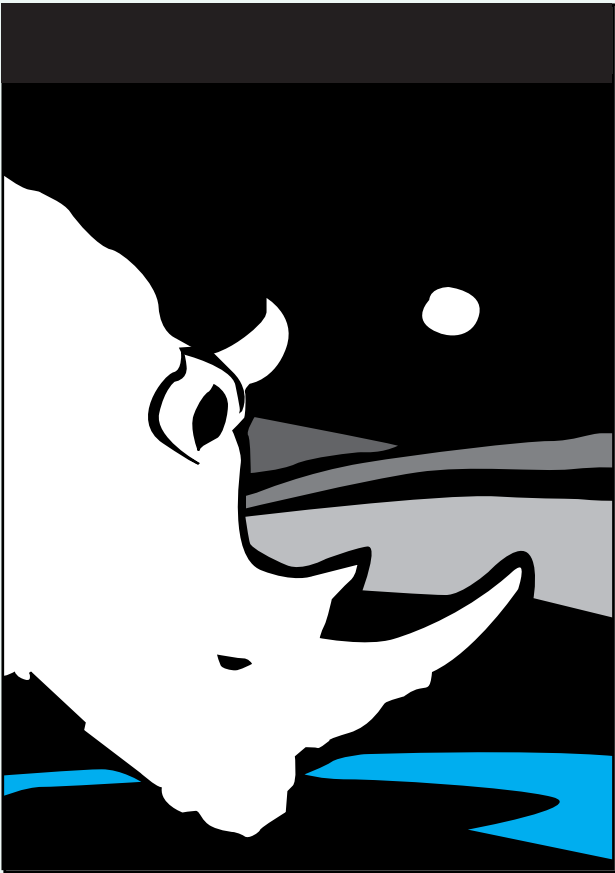
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FAMILY NIGHT AT THE ZOO

Richland County and Lexington County Bar members and their families are invited to get together for this enjoyable evening on Thursday, June 2nd at Riverbanks Zoo at 6 PM.



as many animals as possible outside for our viewing pleasure. There are many new animals residing at the zoo since last year that your family will enjoy seeing.

The menu will include hamburgers and hotdogs and all the trimmings. This event has been a lot of fun and many families have really enjoyed sharing the evening. Encourage your colleagues to participate and we will continue to make this an annual event. Reservations will be REQUIRED in order to prepare the right amount of food. The Zoo charges us ½ price for children 4-8 years. Children under 4 are free, therefore we need know how many children are in the 4-8 bracket you are bringing.

You will receive a postcard in May with further details.



NOTEWORTHY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Rogers Townsend & Thomas announces that **Sam C. Waters** has been reappointed chair of the SC Legislative Committee of the Mortgage Bankers Association of the Carolinas. **T. Roy Shelley III** has been selected as a member of the editorial board of the *Environmental Claims Journal*. **Teri K. Stomski** has been names an adjunct professor at the USC School of Law. **Rex Casterline, Lisa M. Hostetler and Harriet P. Wallace** have been chosen for Leadership Lexington County's Class of 2012.

Kaymani D. “Kay” West has left her 10-year position as partner in Nelson Mullins to join the bench as Federal Magistrate Judge for the US District Court for the District of South Carolina, Florence Division.

Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte has been named **Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year** by the South Carolina Bar.

The USC School of Law has announces the following recipients of the Compleat Lawyer Award. Platinum Award: **Kermit S. King**; Gold Award: **Debbie B. Barbier** and **Marti M Bluestein**; Silver Award: **Kathleen M. McDaniel**.

Collins & Lacy announces that the firm has a statewide leadership presence in legal associations for 2012 with 6 paralegals being honored with in leadership roles within their respective professional associations.

Lewis Babcock & Griffin announces that **A. Camden Lewis** and **Keith M. Babcock** have been named to the 2012 list of South Carolina Super Lawyers.

Crawford & von Keller announces that Sara **C. Hutchins** has become a partner in the firm and **Adam Schanz** has become a associate of the firm located at 1640 St Julian Place, 29204. Phone: 790-2626.

S.C. Lawyers Weekly has selected the following 2012 Leadership in Law Award recipients: **Joel W. Collins, Jr., Liz Crum, Rusty Goudelock, S. Keith Hutto, Mike Kelly, Stanford E. Lacy, Eugene H. Matthews and Hagood Tighe**.

McKay Cauthen Settana & Stubley announces that **Erin Farrell Farthing** has been selected by the SC Bar as one of the 11 attorneys that will take part in the 2012 SC Bar Leadership Academy.

McAngus Goudelock and Courie announces that the membership of the South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys Association voted **Sterling G. Davies** to serve as the organization’s president-elect for 2012.

Gignilliat Savitz & Bettis announces that **Michael Greene** has become an associate of the firm located at 900 Elmwood Ave. #100, 29201. Phone: 799-9311.

SC Bar announces that House of Delegates newest members elected from RCBA are Treasurer, **J. Calhoun Watson**; Chair of the House of Delegates, **William K. Witherspoon**;

J. Ward Bradley for a Board seat and **Rosalyn B. Frierson** as ABA State Bar Delegate. Automatically succeeding to the office of President will be **Angus H. Macaulay**.

David A. Fedor has been named South Carolina Trial lawyer of the Year by the SC Chapter of ABOTA.

Fisher & Phillips announces the relocation of its Columbia office to 1320 Main St. #750, 29201. Phone: 255-0000.

Nelson Mullins announces that **Jim Irvin** has been elected to the advisory board for City Year Columbia.

Ellis Lawhorne announces that **Kirby Shealy** has joined the firm as a shareholder and that **Jonathan P. Lee** has been certified as a specialist in estate planning and probate law by the SC Supreme Court.

Nexsen Pruet announces that **Angus Macaulay** has been recertified as a specialist in employment and labor law by the SC Supreme Court and **Suzi Grigg** has received the William E. S. Robinson Public Service Award from the SC Bankruptcy Law Association. April Lucas has been elected as President of the Midlands International Trade Association.

Collins & Lacy announces that Rebecca **Halberg** has been elected president of Kids’ Chance of South Carolina.

continued on page 13...



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

Judith M. Davis of Blue Cross Blue Shield has received the 2011 Vision Award from EngenuitySC.

Davidson & Lindemann announces that **Justin T. Bagwell** has become an associate of the firm located at 1611 Devonshire Dr. Second Floor, 29204. Phone: 806-8222.

McNair Law Firm announces that **Liz Crum** has been appointed to the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control’s Certificate of Need Review Panel.

McAngus Goudelock and Courie announces that **Jay Courie** has been appointed to the Defense Research Institute’s Insurance Roundtable Steering Committee.

AgFirst Farm Credit Bank announces that **Wes Sutton** has been named assistant general counsel of the bank located at 1401 Hampton St., 29201. Phone: 753-2274.

Ellis Lawhorne announces that **Tom**

Runge Jr. has been recognized by the SC Bar as a 2011 Pro Bono Award recipient for his work on behalf of housing for the poor and disadvantaged.

McAngus Goudelock & Courie announces that the firm’s charitable giving efforts in 2012 will focus on helping the Wounded Warrior Project.

Grier Cox & Cranshaw announces that **J. Rhodes Bailey** has joined the firm located at 2999 Sunset Blvd. #200, W. Columbia, 29169. Phone: 731-0030. Mullis Law Firm announces **Pamela R. Mullis** has been elected Secretary of the Southern Trial Lawyers Association.

Baker Ravenel & Bender announces that **Patrick D. Quinn** has become an associate of the firm located at 3710 Landmark Dr., #400, 29204. Phone: 799-9091.

Childs & Halligan announces that **Kimberly Kelley Blackburn** has become a shareholder in the firm.

Angela Kirby announces the opening oh her new office, Kirby Law LLC, located at 1531 Laurel St., 29201. Phone: 256-6401. She also has offices in Camden and Charleston.

Turner Padgett Graham & Laney, announces its recognition by Benchmark Litigation as South Carolina Firm of the Year. The honor was presented at Benchmark’s inaugural awards ceremony on March 8, 2012 in Atlanta.

George Johnson of Johnson, Toal & Battiste in Columbia has been appointed to an at-large position on the Board of Governors for a two-year term beginning May 3, 2012.

John C. Bruton, Jr., and Roopal R. Samuels, both Shareholders of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., in the firm’s Columbia office, are now Certified SC Circuit Court Mediators. Bruton can be reached via email at jbruton@hsblawfirm.com, or 803.540.7861.

Employment Opportunities on www.richbar.org

The RCBA is now posting legal-related employment opportunities on our website, www.richbar.org. Additionally, we will post the listings on the RCBA Facebook page. To submit a listing, please e-mail it to rcba@richbar.org.



CINDERELLA PROJECTS MAKES TEENAGE DREAMS A REALITY

Clothing initiative gives away 471 prom dresses to underprivileged teens

COLUMBIA, S.C., March 13, 2012 - Just about every teenage girl dreams of going to prom and dressing like a princess for a night. But for some South Carolina teens, this dream is hindered by financial burdens. Because of initiatives like the Cinderella Project, hosted by the South Carolina Bar and the Upsilon Omega Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, socially and economically disadvantaged high school girls’ dreams of going to prom can still come true.

The 2012 Project set new records. The South Carolina Bar and AKA Sorority sisters called for members of the community to donate gently used formal gowns and dresses, jewelry, shoes, and purses to its annual Cinderella Project. Thanks to so many generous hearts within the community, this year more than 470 teenage girls received dresses, of which, 107 got shoes, 169 received jewelry, and 75 got purses. With thousands of dresses to choose from, girls of all shapes and sizes found the prom dress of their dreams.


When asked what she enjoys most about the Cinderella Project, Kelley says it’s the feeling she gets when she sees a girl find her dress. “Seeing the smiles on the girls faces when they find their dream dress reassures us that this project is important and worthwhile.”

The official “shopping” day for high school students of the Midlands was held on Saturday, March 3 at the USC School of Law Auditorium from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

UPDATES FROM THE RICHLAND COUNTY CLERK OF COURT

As of the first Monday in May 2012, the Clerk of Court for Richland County will begin to schedule a back up non-jury trial roster to the jury trial roster. Non-jury trials will be held if the jury trial roster fails to provide a case for trial. As many cases settle or are otherwise unavailable to go to trial, this back up docket will effectively make use of court resources and expedite outstanding matters.

Additionally, on a test basis, beginning in June 2012, motions will not be scheduled on the Fridays of non-jury motion term so the non-jury judge can hear motions more quickly than through the normal scheduling process. Attorneys who wish to have motions heard more quickly than the regular scheduling process allows may contact Mr. Paul Gunter with the Clerk’s Office to schedule motions for that Friday of the non-jury term. If the notice time is less than ten days, the consent of all of all attorneys will be needed.



**RICHARD G.
WHITING**

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FAMILY COURT
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ARBITRATION**

Law Offices of Richard G. Whiting
1515 Lady Street (29201)
Post Office Box 7877
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 256-9067
dick.whiting@whitinglawsc.com

RICHLAND COUNTY COMMON PLEAS JURY VERDICTS

10-CP-40-6087 (R)

Marjorie Y. Cleveland vs. Burlington Coat Factory

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Robert Ransom, Luther Battiste

Defendant: John Florence, R. Shealy

Cause of Action: Personal Injury/FALSE Imprisonment/
Malicious Prosecution

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$2500.00

Punitive Damages: \$2500.00

11-CP-40-0478

U. Davis vs. C. Croff

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Barry George

Defendant: Rita Metts

Cause of Action: Auto/Personal Injury

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$8,351.20

11-CP-40-360

Audrey Augustus vs. Nyah McDaniels

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Barry George

Defendant: Rita Metts

Cause of Action: Auto/Personal Injury

Verdict: For Plaintiff

10-CP-40-6555

Troy A. Reason Sr. vs. Spring Valley Air Conditioning,
Inc.

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: John W. Wells

Defendant: John Lay, Breon Walker

Cause of Action: Auto/Personal Injury

Verdict: For Defendant

10-CP-40-8778

P. M. Guinyard vs. Defendant: SC Dep’t of Education

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: B.D. Woren

Defendant: K. K. Blackburn, Dwayne Mazyck

Cause of Action: Negligence

Verdict: For Defendant

10-CP-40-3877

Dora Satterfield, Craig Giesking, Karen Giesecking vs. G
& I VI St.Andrews Commons, Midlands Homebuyers
LLC

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Paul D. de Holczer

Defendant: James Cox III, Danielle Payne, John Thomas
Falls, Jr.

Cause of Action: Property Damage

Verdict: For Defendant

10-CP-40-7526

Gino McCoy vs. Mazzie Madden, Wolf Co. Inc.

Attorneys:

Plaintiff: Toyya Brawley Gray

Christina Baker

Defendant: A. Johnston Cox

Thomas F. Dougall

Cause of Action: Personal Injury/Slip and Fall

Verdict: For Defendant

09-CP-40-1308

Courtney Walker vs. S.C. Resort Properties, LLC, et.al.

Cause of Action: Unfair Trade Practices

Verdict: For Plaintiff

Actual Damages: \$10.00

Punitive Damages: \$ 250.00



MEMORIAL PROCEEDING SET FOR JUNE

The Richland County Bar Memorial Service will be held on Friday, June 8 at 12:00 PM on the second floor of the Judicial Center. The Honorable James R. Barber will be the presiding judge.

Ward Bradley, chair of the RCBA Memorial Committee, will organize and plan the ceremony. It is traditionally held in June of each year. This program is mandated by the court for the association. All business in the other courtrooms ceases for that hour in honor of those being memorialized. The ceremony is dedicated to the memory of recently deceased members of the association and allows friends and family members to remember them as members of our collegium.

It is equally important that we honor their service to the Bar and that we uphold the dignity of our great profession. The committee encourages you to participate by attending this special event and honoring our past members.

The ceremony will begin promptly at noon and last for one hour. You are urged to arrive on time so as not to interrupt the proceeding. Please remember that parking spaces are limited and allow time to walk. The service will be followed by a

reception with refreshments that will be served in the lobby, where you will have an opportunity to speak with the families and friends of those remembered. No reservations are necessary.

The editors welcome your inquiries, comments and contributions: RCBA, P.O. Box 7632, Columbia, SC 29202 or rcba@scbar.org.

Those being remembered this year who died in 2011 are: James N. Caldwell, Lewis M. Henderson, N. Welch Morrisette, Jr., The Honorable Matthew J. Perry, Jr. and Thomas B. Pollard, Jr.