

# Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum 2009



## Class 5

*"Leadership can be thought of as a capacity to define oneself to others in a way that clarifies and expands a vision of the future."*

~Edwin H. Friedman

**Join the ranks of Leadership Forum graduates on a quest to lead the Alabama legal community ethically, professionally and charitably.**



### ***Our Mission:***

- Build a core of practicing lawyers to become leaders with respect to ethics and professionalism, resulting in raising the overall ethical and professional standards of lawyers in the community;
- Raise the level of awareness of lawyers as to the purpose, operations and benefits of the Alabama State Bar; and
- Form a pool of lawyers upon which the Alabama State Bar, state and local government entities, local bar associations and community organizations can draw for leadership and service.

To accomplish this, we have gathered prominent professionals who will share their insights and will serve as mentors during the forum. The diversity, quality and national fame of our speakers makes this Leadership Forum unique.

### ***Time Commitment:***

- The Leadership Forum spans five months (January through May), with one session per month. The initial session is a two-day retreat in January and includes an alumni dinner. Sessions between February and May run from 9:00 am through 4:30 pm and include lunch. On the evening of the last session, there is a graduation dinner.

### ***Key Benefits:***

- Value skills and perspectives beyond your areas of expertise;
- Sharpen your critical thinking and communication effectiveness;
- Expand perspectives in increasingly global business and/or legal representative environments;

### ***Forum Chair***

Keith Jackson – Member of Class 2 (2006)  
Selection Committee Chair 2007; Program Committee Chair, 2008  
Riley & Jackson, P.C., Birmingham, AL

### ***Co-Chairs***

Kimberly Till Powell – Member of Class 3 (2007)  
Selection Committee Chair 2008; Program Committee Chair, 2009  
Balch & Bingham, LLP, Birmingham, AL

Samuel David Knight – Member of Class 4 (2008)  
Selection Committee Chair 2009  
Gordon, Dana, Still, Knight & Gilmore, L.L.C., Birmingham, AL

### ***Selection Committee***

Margaret Holladay Alves	Elizabeth Anne Sikes Hornsby
Anna Kelly Brennan	James Fletcher Hughey, III
Russell Crandle Buffkin	James David Martin
Valerie Kisor Chittom	James Michael Terrell
Anne Lamkin Durward	Richard J. R. Raleigh, Jr
John Henry England, III	
Bar Staff Liaison: Edward M. Patterson, Assistant Executive Director	

### ***Programs Committee***

Mark Hampton Baxley	Jonathan Blake Lowe
Jequette Harris Clancy	James Bruce Perrine
Bradley Williams Cornett	Cynthia Ransburg-Brown
Jonathan Samuel Cross	Clayton Michael Ryan
Sandra Eubank Gregory	Christopher Nathan Smith
Erik Stephen Heninger	Ashley Elizabeth Swink
Pamela Robinson Higgins	Reed Thomas Warburton
Dana Bolden Hill	John Cox Webb, V
Adrian Daniel Johnson	Tari DeVon Williams
Robert Carter Lockwood	
Bar Staff Liaison: Edward M. Patterson, Assistant Executive Director	

## *Are you ready to rise to the challenge?*

- Explore the dimensions of executive leadership;
- Enjoy being effective and working with people who wish to strengthen their personal and organizational effectiveness and enhance their career potential;
- Develop the next generation of leaders;
- Lawyer leaders know the route to better effectiveness; and
- Experience action learning that focuses on leadership, teamwork, problem solving and self-discovery.

## *How Do I Apply?*

You can apply for a spot in Class 5 of the Leadership Forum by completing the application located online at [www.alabar.org](http://www.alabar.org). A nomination is not required in order for an applicant to submit an application. Applications are due no later than 5:00 pm on October 1, 2008. A selection committee appointed by the President of the State Bar and comprised of Leadership Forum alumni reviews the applications and recommends members for the class. Class member recommendations are reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Alabama State Bar, and the final selection is approved by the Board of Bar Commissioners. Participants will be notified no later than November 15, 2008 whether they have been accepted into the class. Submit the written application by mail to: Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum, 415 Dexter Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104, or send a scanned copy by email to [marie.updike@alabar.org](mailto:marie.updike@alabar.org)

## *What is the Cost?*

Tuition is \$500. This includes printed materials, accommodation for the orientation session and meals. No CLE credit may be obtained by participation in the Leadership Forum. Limited scholarships are available (please indicate such need on your application).

## ***LEADERSHIP FORUM PLANNING COMMITTEE 2009***

In addition to the support of the Alabama State Bar, this Forum is made possible through the hard work and dedication of the following team:

- Build on your own strengths, gain a better understanding of other functional areas and think in terms of the organization as a whole;
- Participate in panel discussions providing interaction with legal, political and community based representatives; and
- Experience action learning that focuses on leadership, teamwork, problem solving and self-discovery.

## ***Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum***



**Leadership Forum 2005 – Class 1**



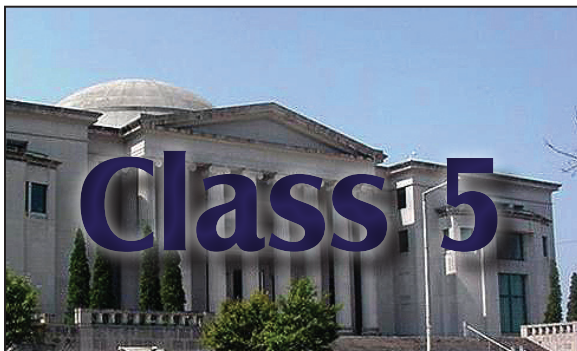
**Leadership Forum 2006 – Class 2**



**Leadership Forum 2007 – Class 3**



**Leadership Forum 2008 – Class 4**



**Leadership Forum 2009 – Class 5**

starting the program, I realized that it was too good of an opportunity to miss. I met new people, made new friends and, most importantly, learned how to better serve my law firm, my community, and my family.  
~ Christina D. Crow



• Being a part of the Leadership Forum opened doors to new friendships and new, shared concerns with fellow classmates of which I was previously unaware. I learned about the many issues and needs within our state and got to meet the leaders who are trying to address the needs in both big and small ways. Most importantly, I learned that these leaders are all very different. There is no “one type” of leader, other than being willing to tackle a problem and stick with it.  
~ Sandra B. Reiss

**Class 2:**

• The Leadership Forum was an incredible experience, which allowed class members to connect in a meaningful way and learn more about our state’s Bar. Through the Forum, tools were disbursed for the next generation of Bar leaders.  
~ Wyndall A. Ivey



**Class 1:**

• I was a member of the first class in 2005 and still keep in touch with lawyers I met from other areas of the state. The timing could not have been better as I became Chair of the Women’s Section just a few months after completing the Forum. Through my participation in this program, I gained invaluable knowledge about the workings of the State Bar and about leadership in general. It made me a much more effective section leader and should continue to be of benefit to me as I become involved in other areas of the Bar and other organizations.  
~ Mary Margaret Bailey

## *Alumni Reflections*

### **Class 4:**

- The Leadership Forum Program really helped me, it reminded me that I have a responsibility to others, regardless of the personal costs. It also reminded me that sometimes servant leadership is just a matter of doing. There are opportunities all around us to help others, we just have to be willing to step up to the plate. Sometimes you strike out, sometimes you hit a home run, but the most important thing is that you play in a very important game, the human race. ~ Kent M. Lauderdale



- I am so glad that a fellow attorney encouraged me to apply for selection to the Leadership Forum Class 4. The whole experience dramatically changed my outlook on our profession, myself and my fellow attorneys throughout the state. The experience allowed me to not only create lasting friendships, but has given me the ability to make a difference in my personal career and to become involved as a leader in our State Bar Association. ~ Jonathan B. Lowe

- The Leadership Forum was one of the best experiences I've had as a lawyer. It reminded me that the law is truly an honorable profession made that way by servant leaders which is what the Forum is all about. That, plus the friendships formed throughout the Forum, makes this program excellent and one that I would recommend to all lawyers. ~ Chad E. Stewart

- The Leadership Forum provides a unique opportunity for lawyers to step back from the everyday pressures of our law practices and focus on the larger issues affecting Alabamians. Throughout the course of the program, you will be challenged to identify ways to use your skills as a lawyer to confront these issues in an effort to improve our communities and our state. ~ James M. Terrell

### **Class 3:**

- Before applying, I thought I was too busy to participate in the Leadership Forum. After

## *Are You Ready to Lead?*

Are you ready to step up and play a critical leadership role as an Alabama lawyer?

The alumni of the Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum belong to an elite group of lawyer executives who made a commitment to lead in the Alabama legal community. Each year 30 applicants are selected as Leadership Forum participants. This is your chance to make a difference in your legal community and around the state of Alabama. Take your place among the outstanding few – the best and the brightest – who have come before you.

The self-discipline, self-confidence and respect you earn as a Leadership Forum graduate will be invaluable. As we approach the next forum, we become even more aware of our surroundings, the world in which we live and practice law, the value of community, and the importance of visionary – yet practical – thinking. We have learned much in four years, and Class 5, like the classes before it, will step out as Alabama's next generation of "servant lawyer leaders."

~ Edward M. Patterson, Assistant Executive Director, Alabama State Bar

## *Who is Eligible?*

Any member of the Alabama State Bar who has practiced law for not less than five years and for not more than 15 years as of January 1, 2009 (based upon first admission to any state bar) may apply. The selection process is competitive. Considerations of the Selection Committee when reviewing applications include, among others: (a) demonstrated leadership ability based upon past accomplishments and current engagements, (b) practice diversity (criminal, civil, governmental and corporate, judicial), (c) geographic diversity, (d) racial diversity, and (e) previous application to the Leadership Forum.

## *Why Should You Apply?*

You will benefit personally and professionally and will be better prepared for leadership opportunities and challenges upon completion of the Leadership Forum. You will have an opportunity to meet and interface with prominent legal, community and state leaders, develop

leadership skills, explore long-term opportunities for leadership, and form a lifelong network of friends. With four years of graduates, the Leadership Forum has achieved success beyond measure.

## *Outstanding Faculty*

A sample of distinguished, challenging and influential speakers who participated in previous year's classes is pictured below. They are representative of judges, policy makers, legal practitioners, scholars, historians and government officials who provide opportunities for class members to consider forward-looking ideas and challenging questions about Alabama.



Morris S. Dees, Jr.



Paul Hubbert



Stephen Black



Gov. Albert Brewer



Hon. John L. Carroll



Hon. Sue Bell Cobb

## *Forum Overview*

### *Session 5.1 (January 15 - 16, 2009)*

#### **Orientation – Fundamentals of Leadership and Professionalism The Marriott Renaissance Ross Bridge, Hoover, AL**

The Forum kicks off with a dynamic two-day retreat. Participants have an opportunity to get to know one another in a casual environment. A reception and dinner is planned for Thursday evening where you meet Leadership Forum Alumni from the prior four classes. Prominent leaders in the legal community will address Class 5. Throughout the retreat, you will be challenged about what you can do to make a difference in the lives of the people of Alabama as you begin to evaluate your own servant leadership skills.

### *Session 5.2 (February 12, 2009)*

#### **Leadership Through Education**

##### **Alabama State Bar, Montgomery, AL**

Class members will connect with local education organizations and learn about the challenges of educating students from elementary through post-secondary levels and improving the knowledge and skill base of Alabama's workforce. The presenters, all whom demonstrate commitment to improving education in Alabama, work in various positions and divisions of our education system and will share their unique experiences in a series of lectures and presentations. The program is designed to identify the most pressing issues and practical needs of education in Alabama, examine proposed solutions to those problems and engage class members in a dialogue about how they, as attorneys and servant leaders, can implement workable solutions.

### *Session 5.3 (March 12, 2009)*

#### **Alabama's Black Belt: Past, Present and Future, Selma, AL**

The class will travel to one of Alabama's Black Belt counties for an all day session. If our state is to reach its full potential, the challenges of this region must be addressed. The day will be spent learning about this region, identifying practical needs in the area and examining proposed solutions to problems. Class members will discuss the means by which to identify and implement workable solutions.

### *Session 5.4 (April 15, 2009)*

#### **Economic Development and the Legislative Process**

##### **Hyundai Motor Manufacturing, Montgomery, AL**

This session will bring together some of Alabama's most prominent leaders for an in-depth discussion of key issues facing the state. The class will look at economic development as well as the legislative process in this session.

### *Session 5.5 (May 14, 2009)*

#### **Access to Justice, Volunteer Workshop and Graduation**

##### **Conference Facility at Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham, AL**

Prominent attorneys and law school educators from Alabama will speak on Access to Justice issues. Included in the day's program will be a tour of the Civil Rights Institute in Birmingham. Roundtable discussions during lunch with faculty will be part of the session. We will conclude the day with a graduation reception and dinner.