

Addendum

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Remembering Jeanne Marie Leslie (1959-2012)

For 14 years, Jeanne Marie Leslie served the members of the Alabama State Bar as director of the Alabama Lawyer Assistance Program. She died April 14, 2012 after a bout with liver cancer.

It was through her patient, guiding spirit that the program was able to offer compassion, comfort and immediate confidential help to lawyers, judges and members of their staff who suffered from addictions and other types of mental health disorders.

Jeanne Marie received her undergraduate degree in nursing from the University of South Alabama (1985) and

earned a graduate degree in counseling from Auburn University (1990). She was a licensed registered nurse as well as a certified master-level addiction and mental health counselor.

Her competence was sought after and widely recognized. She served on the advisory board for the Alabama Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association, was a board member of the Alabama Lawyer Assistance Foundation and was selected to serve on the Chief Justice's Drug Court Task Force. Recently, she had been reappointed to the American Bar Association's Committee on Lawyer Assistance



Programs (CoLAP). At the time of her death, she was helping develop national

policy recommendations to address judicial impairment issues. She was named editor-in-chief of the CoLAP newsletter, Highlights. The fall 2009 issue of that publication carried her frank, open, first-person account of her own struggles with addiction but captured her positive outlook: (continued on page 2)

New Rules Permit Lawyers to Let Clients Handle Parts of Their Case under Supervision



Middle- and low-income Alabama litigants can now get legal help even if they cannot

afford to pay a lawyer to handle the entire matter.

New rules approved by the Alabama Supreme Court and drafted by a committee of the Alabama State

Bar will facilitate "limited-scope representation," which means allowing lawyers to handle part of a case—drafting a pleading, reviewing an agreement or attending one specific hearing—rather than the entire matter. Under the new rules, lawyers can help a client with one aspect of a case even if they cannot afford to have a lawyer handle the whole case.

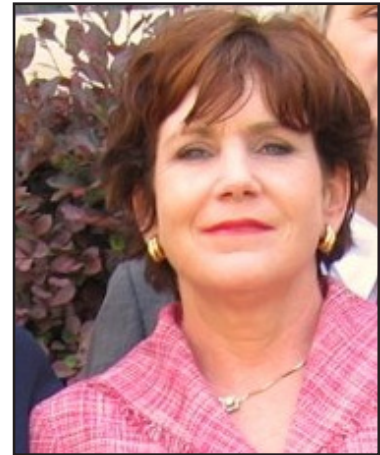
ASB President Jim Pratt said, "The state supreme court's approval of amended court rules to allow limited scope representation in civil matters is part of the legal profession's drive, in collaboration with the courts, to clear obstacles to legal representation and make legal help more affordable for middle- and low-income Alabamians." (continued on page 2)

Remembering Jeanne Marie Leslie *(continued from page 1)*

"My journey in recovery has been filled with many lessons, many of which I had to relearn in the face of reality.

Today I cherish the essence of being a woman and what that means to me. I truly marvel at my femininity. I obtain strength from my intuitiveness and compassion for others through an attribute of sensitivity. More importantly I learned that what I think about myself reflects in everything I do. I love being a woman, a mother, and a professional. I am an alcoholic and a drug addict and I know beyond any shadow of doubt that recovery is possible.

As a professional I carry this message of recovery to lawyers, judges, and law students suffering from addictions and other mental health disorders. I am truly privileged and humbled to do this work and I am grateful everyday to be alive." Surviving her are her husband, Montgomery attorney Arthur Leslie, and her children, son Arthur and daughter Culle.■



New Rules Permit Lawyers to Let Clients Handle Parts of Their Case under Supervision *(continued from page 1)*

Limited-scope representation allowed under these rules can take on many

different forms, such as providing limited advice as to court procedures and what a client can expect in a court case, preparation of pleadings, preparation or coaching for specific hearings, review of pleadings and/or settlement agreements, and appearing in certain specific hearings for a limited purpose. The practice of limited-scope representation is viewed positively as a new opportunity to allow more consumers to avail themselves of important, albeit limited, legal assistance in on-going litigation. The process benefits clients, attorneys and the courts.

Pratt emphasized that not every type of matter will lend itself to using the limited scope rules.

He cited several examples of how limited scope representation could be employed by a client to reduce costs:

- You can just consult a lawyer and get legal information and advice about your case when you need it;
- You can hire the lawyer to represent you on certain issues or hearings in your case (such as child support and/or custody) while you do the rest yourself;
- You can hire the lawyer to prepare the forms and other court documentation but file them yourself and represent yourself at

the hearings;

- You can hire the lawyer to coach you on how to represent yourself at the court hearings and help in the preparation of evidence that you will present in court; or
- You can hire the lawyer to help you with the more complicated parts of your case, such as discovery and legal research, while you do the simpler tasks yourself.

According to the American Bar Association, more than 41 states have adopted limited-scope representation rules. Pratt said the new rules permit solo and small firm practitioners, who comprise 66 percent of the state bar's membership, to provide legal services to people who could not otherwise afford it and might never have sought such assistance.■

2012 Law Day Theme Contest for Students: "No Courts, No Justice, No Freedom"

Court funding cutbacks affect all Alabamians. This year's Law Day theme reflects that the current funding crisis experienced by the court system exerts a disproportionate impact on the wheels of justice.

The Alabama State Bar asked for entries from students in grades K-12 across the state for a creative competition based on this year's theme, "No Courts, No Justice, No Freedom." Students could submit entries using social media, posters or essays.

State Bar President Jim Pratt said, "Courts are not just another state agency. In our democracy, the judicial branch of government is co-equal with the executive and legislative branches. Courts must administer justice regardless of how many people walk through the courthouse door, and the rule of law is threatened without access to the courts."

Montgomery attorneys **Chad Stewart** and **Pamela Beard Slate** served as co-chairs of this year's Law Day Committee.



The poster and essay entries were presented in two classifications—grades K-3 and 4-6 for posters; grades 7-9 and 10-12 for essays and the new social media category.

A total of \$2,400 in U. S. savings bonds was awarded to winners. Teachers also received a monetary gift for use in the classroom.

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower established May 1st as Law Day to strengthen the country's heritage of liberty, justice and equality under law. It is a national day set aside to celebrate the rule of law and underscore how law and the legal process contribute to the freedoms we share.

For the first time since the competition began, three schools swept first, second and third place in the Posters (K-3), Twitter and Facebook categories. They are Advent Episcopal School of Birmingham, Central High School of Phenix City and Brewbaker Technology Magnet School of Montgomery, respectively.

In the past, competition was limited to posters and essays. However, it now includes categories focusing on the use of social media. Students were encouraged to design a theoretical Facebook page illustrating the role of the courts as the third branch of government or Tweet about the historical role the courts have played in society.

This year's participants had to make the connection between the rule of law, the need for an independent judicial system and how all of these fundamental American principles affect our citizens' daily lives.

Winners will be recognized Tuesday, May 1st at a ceremony at the **Alabama Supreme Court**, with the presentation of awards by **Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Chuck Malone**. All winners receive engraved gold medals

and award certificates. Schools of all winners receive certificates and teachers of the winners receive a \$25 contribution per award for use in their classrooms.

Judges for the contest were Law Day Committee co-chairs Slate and Stewart, **Tommy Klinner, Tim Lewis, Craig Baab, Alvin Benn, Jeremy McIntire, Robby Lusk, and Mark Moody.** ■



List of Winners		
ESSAYS	GRADES 7–9	GRADES 10–12
1st Place	Brady Unziker S. Girard School/Phenix City Teacher: Mrs. Kim Jones	Read Mills Spain Park High School/Hoover Teacher: Mrs. Libby Day
2nd Place	Hayden Desmond Hilltop Montessori School/Birmingham Teacher: Mrs. Sherry Cook	Dannielle Thompson B.T. Washington Magnet/Montgomery Teacher: Dr. DeShannon McDonald
3rd Place	Starlaina Graham Central High School/Phenix City Teacher: Mrs. Barbara Romey	Jarmine Bolden Spain Park High School/Hoover Teacher: Mrs. Libby Day
POSTERS	GRADES K–3	GRADES 4–6
1st Place	Sasha Foreman Advent Episcopal School/Birmingham Teacher: Mrs. Lee Stayer	Nicholas Fitzgerald Baldwin Magnet School/Montgomery Teacher: Mrs. Martha Sikes
2nd Place	Lily Geisen Advent Episcopal School/Birmingham Teacher: Mrs. Lee Stayer	Simon Jeon Baldwin Magnet School/Montgomery Teacher: Mrs. Martha Sikes
3rd Place	Simms Berdy Advent Episcopal School/Birmingham Teacher: Mrs. Lee Stayer	Madison Foshee Bear Exploration Ctr./Montgomery Teacher: Mrs. Lindsey Norred
SOCIAL MEDIA	SOCIAL MEDIA–FACEBOOK	SOCIAL MEDIA–TWITTER
1st Place	Ashley Biggs Brewbaker Tech. Magnet/Montgomery Teacher: Mrs. Sonya Keeton	Paul Waldrop Central High School/Phenix City Teacher: Mrs. Barbara Romey
2nd Place	Monica Sarabia Brewbaker Tech. Magnet/Montgomery Teacher: Mrs. Sonya Keeton	Nick Jackson Central High School/Phenix City Teacher: Mrs. Barbara Romey
3rd Place	Alwaleed Alzahrani Brewbaker Tech. Magnet/Montgomery Teacher: Mrs. Sonya Keeton	Mary Jenkins Central High School/Phenix City Teacher: Mrs. Barbara Romey

Cumberland Celebrates 50 Years at Samford University

Samford University's Cumberland School of Law celebrated its 50th anniversary in Birmingham with a weekend of special events April 13-14.

Founded in Lebanon, Tennessee in 1847, Cumberland moved to Alabama in 1961 when Samford, then Howard College, paid \$125,000 for the law school, "lock, stock and alumni," read an account in a 1961 issue of *Newsweek* magazine.

The special reunion weekend was designed to salute the last five decades of Cumberland history, with the focus on reminders of Cumberland history, its impact locally and nationally, and current programs that train future leaders in the legal profession.

Important Dates in Cumberland History

1847: Cumberland was founded by Judge Abraham Caruthers, an innovator in legal education, in Tennessee. One of the oldest law schools in the country, Cumberland pioneered an instructional method based on intensive trial practice, laying the foundation for what is widely acclaimed as the nation's finest program in trial advocacy.

1865: During the Civil War, the law school's buildings were burned to the ground, but the school continued its programs.

1961: Cumberland moved to the campus of Samford (then Howard College) in Birmingham after the college bought the struggling law school that had fallen on lean financial times. In return, Samford got about 40 law students, 23,000 law books, most of a five-member faculty and a list of distinguished graduates that included 11 U.S. senators, 75 U.S. congressmen, 15 governors, two U.S. Supreme Court justices, and former Secretary of State Cordell Hull. Since then, the



Cumberland, circa 1858. The law school was the nation's largest in student population that year. This building burned to the ground during the Civil War. Photo courtesy of *The Birmingham News*

school has flourished with a faculty of significant practical experience and a diverse student body.

2012: Cumberland's curriculum continues to break new ground in law study through its use of technology in the courtroom, sponsorship of one of the nation's first centers for Biotechnology, Law and Ethics and the only Community Mediation Center in this area. Cumberland's trial advocacy program is considered one of the best in the nation on the basis of regular championships in national competitions. In 2010 and 2011, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the program among in the top five in the country.

(continued on page 5)

Former Chief Justice Takes on New Challenges at Law School

While candidates for the Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice seat are sparring for the position, former **Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb** is enjoying her new duties as a professor at **Faulkner University's Thomas Goode Jones School of Law** in Montgomery and tackling the problem of Alabama's over-crowded prison system. Since January, Cobb has been teaching a new **Sentencing Reform Laboratory** in which students will study and build grassroots support for sentencing reform legislation considered by the legislature.

"This course seeks to expose students to Alabama's sentencing culture and laws and how they negatively impact our state's public safety and, unfortunately, preserve Alabama's national standing of having the most overcrowded prison system in the nation," explained Cobb.

Cobb took office in 2007 as the first female chief justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama and retired from her position in 2011 to devote time to her family and the causes near to her heart. Having served on the bench for 30 years, she advocated for juvenile justice reform, model drug courts and community corrections.



Former Chief Justice Cobb and husband Bill

In 1982, at age 25, Cobb was the state's youngest elected judge. She explained that as a young district court judge in a rural Alabama county, she saw the cycle of poverty, neglect, child abuse and drug abuse that existed in the state. She also witnessed the progression of children who came to her court as abuse victims and returned in later years as troubled teens or abusers themselves. Cobb explained

that current sentencing laws do little to relieve the cycle of abuse and crime, especially as they relate to nonviolent drug-addicted offenders.

"I think it is wonderful that the [law school] recognizes the need for a course like this, explained Cobb. "I am thrilled to be the first professor at Jones to present the course. The students appear to be truly excited to have the opportunity to use their legal education to improve our state."

(This article originally appeared at www.faulkner.edu/news.) ■

Alabama Law Foundation Awards 2012 IOLTA Grants

The Alabama Law Foundation announces its yearly IOLTA (**Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts**) grants to programs committed to the foundation's mission of making access to justice a reality for all of Alabama's citizens. As Alabama's major grant-maker for legal aid, the Alabama Law Foundation annually distributes at least 80 percent of IOLTA funding to programs that provide legal aid to citizens who cannot afford an attorney. Other award categories are improving the administration of justice and supporting law-related education for the public.

IOLTA is the financial foundation for the Alabama Law Foundation. The IOLTA program allows attorneys to convert their commingled client trust accounts to interest-bearing accounts. This interest then is disbursed to the Alabama Law Foundation, and a grants committee distributes the funds to law-related charities across Alabama. When IOLTA became mandatory in 2008, the increased revenue made a major difference in meeting the dramatic need for legal services. IOLTA grants increased from \$680,000 in 2009, to a total of \$919,000 for 2010. However, the continuing economic downturn was accompanied by an interest reduction that caused the 2011 grants to fall to \$800,000, and 2012 reveals a dramatic reduction of available grant money: \$480,000. The **Atticus Finch Society** and the **Fellows** contributed \$112,000, or the IOLTA grant amounts would have been even lower. This year's grants are divided into two sections: legal aid and administration of justice.

Programs that provide legal services for the underserved collectively received IOLTA grants totaling \$450,000. **Legal Services Alabama (LSA)** provides legal aid to economically disadvantaged citizens throughout Alabama. LSA received a \$62,000 grant to target the current unmet legal need. **The Alabama State Bar Volunteer Lawyers**

Program, which refers cases directly to lawyers in 64 counties and coordinates almost 2,000 volunteers, received a \$70,000 IOLTA grant. **The Mobile Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Program** refers cases to 769 attorneys who provide free legal service to low-income clients in Mobile; the program was awarded a \$68,000 grant. **The Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program**, which refers cases to 1,542 attorneys in the Birmingham area, received a \$100,000 IOLTA grant. **The Madison County Volunteer Lawyers Program**, currently working with 290 lawyers, was awarded a \$40,000 grant. The **YWCA of Central Alabama** received a \$60,000 IOLTA grant to continue the "Justice on Wheels" program for victims of domestic violence. The **Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama** received a \$50,000 grant to continue providing low-cost, quality legal and immigration services to low-income immigrants.

The Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama (EJI), the only grantee in the category of "administration of justice," received IOLTA grants totaling \$30,000. The EJI assists attorneys appointed to capital cases in the post-conviction stage and supplies some representation to indigent defendants.

Since the IOLTA program was established in 1987, the Alabama Law Foundation has awarded \$17.4 million in grants. In these times of economic hardship, many families in Alabama find themselves in need of legal services they cannot afford. Through the mandatory IOLTA program, the Atticus Finch Society and the Fellows, the Alabama Law Foundation can continue to fund legal aid programs and help build a stronger, more democratic society by making access to justice for all citizens in Alabama a reality. The Alabama Law Foundation marks a milestone in 2012 as it celebrates 25 years of service to Alabama's citizens. ■

Accolades

Burr & Forman Birmingham Partners Elected to Council of Alabama Law Institute



Stephenson



Stewart

Burr & Forman partners **Jack P. Stephenson, Jr.** and **Carol H. Stewart** have been elected to the Council of the **Alabama Law Institute**, the governing body of the institute. This elected position is

awarded to just six practicing lawyers from each of the seven congressional districts in the state of Alabama.

The Alabama Law Institute works closely with the **Legislative Reference Service** in the annual proper placement and codification acts passed by the legislature within the *Code of Alabama*. The Legislative Reference Service prepares the vast majority of bills for each session for the legislature, while major code revision work, such as revision of an entire section of law, is handled by the Law Institute. ■

Cumberland Celebrates 50 Years at Samford University *(continued from page 4)*

Cumberland in the Community

The law school has about 8,000 living alumni who are located in 48 states and abroad. Approximately 3,800 live in Alabama, with most in the greater Birmingham area.

Each summer, Cumberland students volunteer in approximately 100 public interest placements with nonprofit or governmental legal positions, most of which are in the Birmingham area.

The **Cumberland Mediation Center** offers free services for people in need, and Cumberland students regularly work with the **Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program** to provide legal clinics on topics ranging from family law and domestic violence to wills. ■

Recommendations to the *Alabama Rules of Evidence*



Recommendations for numerous amendments to the *Alabama Rules of Evidence* were submitted to the Alabama Supreme Court by the court's Advisory Committee on the *Alabama Rules of Evidence*. Alabama lawyers and judges are invited to submit comments on the proposed amendments to the Alabama Supreme Court on or before September 1, 2012. The proposed amendments can be viewed at <http://judicial.alabama.gov/proposed> and comments should be submitted to Supreme Court Clerk Robert G. Esdale at resdale@appellate.state.al.us or the Heflin-Torbert Judicial Building, 300 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery 36104 ■.

Mandatory Licensing for Court Reporters



Effective July 1, 2006, all court reporters practicing in Alabama state courts and/or preparing transcripts were to be licensed by the Alabama Board of Court Reporting. An unlicensed court reporter may not bring a court action to recover fees and may be found guilty of a Class C misdemeanor, pursuant to *Ala. Code* §34-8B-8. ■

New Member Benefit: ASB Member Directory and Formal Ethics Opinions for Your Smartphone or Tablet

With this free resource, users can now locate general contact information about all members admitted to practice, search for elected legislative officials, locate members of the judiciary and review pertinent formal ethics opinions. The opinions themselves contain specific references to sections of the *Rules of Professional Conduct*.

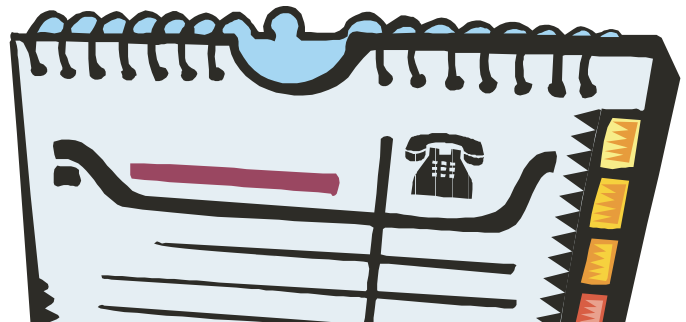
When you need information in a pinch, it's right at your fingertips! This resource is custom-made and perfectly designed for small devices and tablets, easy to read, easy to tap and quickly loads. And, you don't need to install anything. Just follow these three simple steps:

1. Use your mobile device to read this article.
2. Click on <http://www.alabar.org/mobile>.
3. A new screen will open and you have the option to bookmark it or to save it to your device's homepage as a new icon.

That's all there is to it!

This benefit is the newest in the bar's planned strategy to provide

the latest technological tools and services to members. The state bar offers members free legal research through Casemaker; discounted subscriptions to both Clio and Rocket Matter, cloud-based practice management systems designed especially for solo and small firm practitioners; cloud-based back-up and recovery via Corevault, and time and billing software from EasySoft. ■



Do You Tweet?

If you Tweet, we want to follow you. At last year's annual meeting, we found a cadre of social media enthusiasts who sent out Tweets about the meeting's programs and activities, and we want to enlarge our group. This way, even if you can't attend the annual meeting, you'll have the option of keeping abreast of developments in Baytowne in 140-character bursts.

Please e-mail brad.carr@alabar.org with your name and Twitter handle. We will send you a DM with a request that you follow the hashtag #ASBANNUAL.

And remember, you can always update your member records information by logging in to www.alabar.org where you have the option to include your Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+ and Facebook accounts. ■



Save the Date!

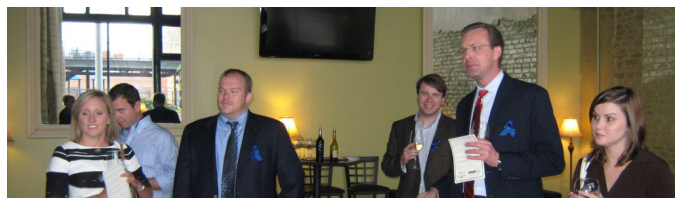
Alabama State Bar Heads Back to Baytowne for 2012 Annual Meeting

Join us July 18-21 for our return to Baytowne Wharf. This year's annual meeting will feature cutting-edge MCLE programs with renowned speakers, a practice management session geared to the solo/small firm practitioner, luncheons, receptions and award ceremonies, exciting activities for children and teens, the Fun Run/Walk, silent auction, and optional sports.

Once again, we will have focused educational tracts to help you get what you need with ample networking, all in an atmosphere that fosters collegiality and fun! ■



Muscular Dystrophy Association Teams up with Birmingham Legal Community



The Muscular Dystrophy Association announces the second annual **Legal Leaders of Greater Birmingham** ("Legal Leaders") program. Birmingham-area attorneys partnered with the Muscular Dystrophy Association and are raising funds to send children to the local MDA Summer Camp. (It costs \$800 for one child to camp for one week.) On Thursday, June 14th, the MDA will host a Legal Leaders of Greater Birmingham reception.

Keith Brashier is this year's Legal Leaders chair. Brashier explained, "Legal Leaders of Greater Birmingham demonstrates how the local legal community strives to fulfill the motto of the Alabama State

Bar—"Lawyers Render Service." The lawyers who participate in this program dedicate their time, effort and resources to raise the funds to give children with neuromuscular diseases the opportunity to attend a unique summer camp. This program is an example of service in action."

Board members for Legal Leaders of Greater Birmingham 2012 include Brashier, **Richard Bell, Craig Brown, Kris Burbank, Kerry Burgess, Steven Casey, Ty Dedmon, Jessica Kirk Drennan, Brad Howell, Harriet Thomas Ivy, Sammye Oden Kok, Jon Lewis, Glory McLaughlin, Taylor Meadows, Virginia Miller, Shane Smith, Brian Spellman, and Joseph Stott.**

MDA Summer Camp is available for children ages six–17 who are registered with the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

For more information or to make a donation to MDA, phone (205) 823-8191.



New Year's Resolution

It's a new year and one important resolution should be to review your I-Profile.

Go to www.alabar.org/members_only.cfm and make sure your information is up to date so we can keep you up to date!