

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION

CANDIDATE GUIDE (contested races)

Click the candidate's name below to view his/her photograph and biographical sketch (if submitted by the candidate)

President-Elect

[George Parker](#)

[Taze Shepard](#)

13th Judicial Circuit, Place 1

[R. Edwin Lamberth](#)

[Jeff Luther](#)

15th Judicial Circuit, Place 5

[Felicia Long](#)

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[Terinna \(Tina\) Moon](#)

The 2020 Alabama State Bar Election will open on Monday, May 18, 2020. **All ballots must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. CT on Friday, May 22, 2020, to be counted.**

In order to access your online ballot, you will log in to your Dashboard on the Alabama State Bar website (www.alabar.org) and click the link to the online balloting site. Click [here](#) if you need assistance accessing your Alabama State Bar account.

Online balloting will be conducted by an external vendor, Election-America. All ballots are confidential and the Alabama State Bar will not have access to voter information during the election. After the close of the election, the Alabama State Bar will receive only certified election results from the vendor.

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATE PROFILE



George Parker

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Montgomery

George Parker has been a resident of Alabama his entire life. He grew up in Montgomery and headed 50 miles east for college, where he earned a BS in Marketing from Auburn University in 1994. After graduating from Auburn, George moved to Tuscaloosa where he earned his JD from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1998. George then returned home to Montgomery where he has practiced law for 21 years, first at Ball, Ball, Matthews & Novak and then at Bradley's Montgomery office.

George began his service to the Alabama State Bar as a young lawyer. He was an active member of the Young Lawyers Section, serving on the Executive Committee as Treasurer, Vice President, and ultimately President of the Young Lawyers Section in 2007-2008. George also chaired the Bar Admissions Ceremony for multiple years.

In 2007, George was selected as a member of the Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum, Class 3. He has remained active in the forum's alumni section and organized the Leadership Forum Summits and "Ed Talks" that the Alumni conducted during 2019.

George has represented the 15th Judicial Circuit in Montgomery since 2013 as a Bar Commissioner and is currently serving on President Christy Crow's Executive Council, on the State Bar's Finance and Audit, Insurance Benefits and Personnel Committees and as co-chair of the Member Benefits Committee. He also served on President Augusta Dowd's Executive Council in 2017-2018.

George has served on countless Alabama State Bar committees and task forces. Most notably, he has served as a member of the MCLE Committee, the Character & Fitness Committee, the Disciplinary Board, the Editorial Board of the Alabama Lawyer, as a hearing officer for Disciplinary Panels, and on the recent General Counsel Search Committee.

George is a Fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation and the American Bar Foundation. He is AV Preeminent Rated by Martindale-Hubbell® and has been listed in *Alabama Super Lawyers*, *Mid-South Super Lawyers*, and *The Best Lawyers in America*®. He is a member of ADLA and IADC. George is a past member of Chief Justice Cobb's Commission on Professionalism. He also chaired the American Bar Association TIPS Outreach to Young Lawyers Committee in 2014-2016.

While he focuses his practice on pharmaceutical and medical device, products liability, mass tort and class action litigation, George has also spent significant time representing individuals and entities on a pro bono basis and was honored as a Pro Bono Exemplar for the Alabama Access to Justice Commission in 2015. His law firm received the 2019 Alabama State Bar Pro Bono Award in the Law Firm category in 2019.

George and his wife Jessi are active members and Sunday School teachers at First United Methodist Church Montgomery. At the 2019 Annual Conference, George was installed as the associate chancellor for the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. George and Jessi will celebrate their 20th anniversary in August. They have three daughters, ages 16, 13, and 11.

Note: Candidate professional/biographical information and photographs were due to the Alabama State Bar by Friday, April 24, 2020.

Only candidates who submitted items by the deadline are included in this guide, and all information appears as submitted by the candidate.

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATE PROFILE



Taze Shepard

Sparkman Shepard & Morris, P.C.

Huntsville

Taze Shepard's forty-year legal career reflects his belief that every Alabama lawyer can be a servant-leader in their community – dedicated to helping their fellow lawyers as well as their clients.

Taze started his career working alongside his grandfather, former Senator John Sparkman. Today, he's the senior partner in the three-lawyer firm of Sparkman, Shepard & Morris, P.C., in Huntsville, which includes Taze's partner and son, Ty Shepard. Taze has handled commercial litigation from copyright infringement to equipment lease disputes and serves as a federal trustee in bankruptcy, administering Chapter 7, Chapter 11, and Chapter 12 cases. Currently, Taze often serves as debtor's counsel in negotiated workouts and Chapter 11 reorganization cases for a variety of individual professionals and small companies who are facing large judgments or tax liens.

Taze's service to the Alabama State Bar is well-known throughout the state. He has served as Vice President of the Bar, received the 2019 Albert Vreeland Pro Bono Award for his efforts on behalf of legal aid organizations, and is in his sixth year as a member of the Board of Bar Commissioners. Taze has twice co-chaired the State Bar's Government Relations Liaison Committee and served as Chair of the Solo & Small Firm Section for two terms.

Through those leadership roles, Taze organized focus sessions that provided Alabama lawyers with the opportunity to discuss pertinent issues like technology challenges, work stress, ethics, and how the State Bar can better meet the needs of its members. He grew the SSF Section into the Bar's largest and most active section by developing free and low-cost CLE events held around the state and online, including the 2019 Probate Practice CLE events attended by nearly 1,000 attorneys; an active ListServ® used to mentor and discuss legal issues; a growing library of legal forms and articles; a new Lawyer Wellness Program; and an upgraded, user-friendly website. Taze is currently organizing a series of 2020 Alabama District Court Practice CLE events in eight locations.

In addition to his commitment to the State Bar, Taze is serving his second term as Vice President of Legal Services Alabama, has served as President of the Madison County Volunteer Lawyers Program, and has served as President of the Huntsville/Madison County Bar.

Taze is a Fellow and member of the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Law Foundation, which makes IOTA grants to legal aid organizations. Because Taze is deeply dedicated to legal aid, he brought leaders together in a summit meeting to discuss improving court administration to assist low-income debtors in Alabama. Next, Taze organized a series of meetings of legal aid groups on the delivery of pro bono services to low-income Alabamans. The results were compiled in the Access to Justice Report he delivered at the State Bar's 2018 annual meeting and the 2019 Winter Conference of Alabama Circuit and District Judges.

As a father of five and grandfather of six, Taze takes an active interest in Alabama youth and education. This includes his work with Junior Achievement and Big Brothers/Big Sisters and his two terms as President of the Schools Foundation in Madison County. Taze is a former Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees of Athens State University, was an elected member of the State Board of Education, served as Chair of the Governor's Commission on School Violence, and was Vice-Chair of the Board of the Alabama Space Exhibit Commission (Space Camp).

Taze and his wife, Pamela Lang Shepard, live in his family home in downtown Huntsville. In addition to his legal career, Taze and Pamela run a small business together.

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2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

13th Judicial Circuit, Place 1



R. Edwin Lamberth
Gilmore Law Firm
Mobile

Edwin Lamberth grew up in Mobile, and then attended the University of Virginia, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Government in 1994. He went on to Cumberland School of Law, Samford University, and earned his Juris Doctorate, *magna cum laude*. He then became the first law clerk for Justice Champ Lyons, Jr., Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama. After a short stint at Heninger, Burge, Vargo & Davis in Birmingham, he returned to Mobile where he has practiced law for 17 years, first at Cunningham Bounds, and then opening the Mobile office of the Gilmore Law Firm in 2010 as a partner in the firm.

He specializes in civil plaintiff litigation, but his law firm is a family-founded firm that provides legal services in virtually all areas of the law, including family law, criminal defense, civil defense, real estate, and estate planning.

Edwin has served on the Executive Committee and Board of the South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program, and has provided pro bono legal services through its program for over 12 years. He serves on the Executive Committee for the Alabama Association for Justice and is chairman of its *amicus curiae* brief committee. He is listed in *Alabama Super Lawyers*, *Mid-South Super Lawyers*.

Edwin and his family are active members of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Mobile, where he has taught an adult Sunday School class for many years. He is a member of the 2010 class of Leadership Mobile. Edwin has also served on the Board of the Alabama Rivers Alliance, and is past chairman of Coastal Conservation Association Alabama. Edwin and his wife Kelley have been married 23 years. They live in Mobile, and have two daughters, ages 21 and 19, and one son, 16.

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

13th Judicial Circuit, Place 1



Jeff Luther

Luther, Collier, Hodges & Cash, LLP
Mobile, Alabama

Jeff was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama. He attended the University of Alabama where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree 1982. He received a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 1984, and a Juris Doctor from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1988. Upon being admitted to the Bar in 1988, Jeff joined a state-wide law firm with offices in Mobile, Alabama. He formed his own firm in 1995 and has maintained a private practice in Mobile (13th Judicial Circuit) for 32 years.

Jeff has served as President of the Young Lawyers section of the Mobile Bar, and served on numerous local Bar committees, as well as, a member of the Board of Editors of the Alabama Lawyer. In 2007, after serving as lead counsel in over sixty jury trials to reach verdict, Jeff was selected as a Charter Fellow of The Litigation Counsel of America.

Jeff has been lead defense counsel in numerous, high exposure cases which have resulted in defense verdicts, as well as multimillion dollar verdicts and settlements over the course of his career. Mr. Luther's areas of practice include construction law, environmental-pollution, personal injury, product liability and professional liability. Mr. Luther is also Registered Mediator and Appellate Mediator.

Jeff is married to the former Cara Coker of Mobile and they have two grown daughters. He is member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church where he serves on the Vestry and is a member of the Mobile Rotary Club.

Law School Honors:

Member National Mock Trial Competition Team; ATLA National Trial Competition, National Finalist; Legal Intern: United States District Court, Judge Clarence Allgood

Admitted to Practice:

Alabama (1988); United States District Court, Southern District of Alabama (1988); United States Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit (1989); United States Supreme Court (1991); United States District Court, Northern District of Alabama, (1991); United States District Court, Middle District of Alabama (1996)

Professional Memberships:

Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association, Board of Directors; Alabama State Bar Board of Editors, *The Alabama Lawyer*; American Bar Association; American Inns of Court, Mobile Inn; Charter Fellow Litigation Counsel of America; Defense Research Institute; Mobile Bar Association; Trucking Industry Defense Association

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2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

15th Judicial Circuit, Place 5



Felicia Long

Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole & Black, P.C.
Montgomery

Mrs. Felicia Long is a shareholder at Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole & Black, PC where she focuses her practice on the defense of complex civil litigation matters, with particular concentration in insurance defense. She has successfully defended insurers, corporations, small businesses, and individuals in state and federal courts throughout Alabama. Mrs. Long also maintains an appellate practice and has argued before the United States Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit. Prior to joining the firm, she was a law clerk for Associate Justice Champ Lyons, Jr., of the Supreme Court of Alabama. Ms. Long is a Martindale-Hubbell AV rated preeminent attorney and has been recognized by Alabama Super Lawyers and Top 100 Civil Defense Litigators.

She has been active with the Montgomery County Bar Association for a number of years, having served as the President of MCBA, chairman of MCBA's Annual Charity Event for several years, and as a member of the MCBA Grievance Committee. Ms. Long is also a member of the Hugh Maddox Inns of Court and has served on several Alabama State Bar committees.

Mrs. Long is actively involved in the community and has served as Board President for the Junior League of Montgomery, Jimmy Hitchcock Memorial Award, and Britton YMCA. She is currently on the Executive Committee for the Metro YMCA Board of Directors and has served on the Board of Directors for the Red Cross of Central Alabama, Montgomery Area Council on Aging, Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church, and Alabama Youth in Government.

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

15th Judicial Circuit, Place 5



Erika McKay

*Office of Governor Kay Ivey
Montgomery*

Erika McKay has been a resident of Alabama her entire life. She left the River Region to attend college at the University of Alabama graduating *magna cum laude* with a degree in political science. Thereafter, she attended the University of Alabama School of Law and returned to Montgomery to join the Beasley Allen law firm. After leaving private practice, she became an Assistant Attorney General with the Alabama Department of Transportation. For the past two years, she has continued her dedication to public service by joining Governor Ivey's legal team where she currently serves as Governor Ivey's Chief Deputy General Counsel.

Upon returning to Montgomery to practice law, Erika began her service to the Alabama State Bar. Erika is an active member of the Government Relations Liaison Committee and the Quality of Life, Health and Wellness Task Force, serving as the Task Force's co-chair of the CLE Programs Subcommittee.

In addition to her service to the Alabama State Bar, Erika is a member of the Autauga County Bar Association and Montgomery County Bar Association and serves on the Board of Directors for the Montgomery County Women's Section and the Government Lawyer Section.

Erika is married to fellow attorney Chris McKay. They have two dogs, a Boykin Spaniel, Murphy, and American Staffordshire Terrier, Zeus.

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

18th Judicial Circuit, Place 1



Clay Carr

*Boardman, Carr, Petelos, Watkins & Ogle, P.C.
Chelsea*

Clay R. Carr has been licensed to practice law since 1991 and has maintained his office exclusively in Shelby County since joining Boardman & Tyra, P.C. (now Boardman, Carr, Petelos, Watkins & Ogle, P.C.) in 1994. The firm has been at its current location in Chelsea in Shelby County since 2000. Clay's practice includes general civil litigation and appellate advocacy, focusing on education, employment, health care, business and domestic law. He is admitted to practice in all state courts and federal district courts in Alabama, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court.

He served as President of the Shelby County Bar Association in 2000, Vice President in 1999, Secretary in 1998 and Treasurer in 1997, and remains an active member and regularly attends the monthly Shelby County Bar Association meetings. He served as President of the Alabama Council of School Board Attorneys in 2011-2012, Vice President in 2010-2011, and is a past member of the ACSBA Board of Directors. He is a volunteer for the Alabama Bar Association Volunteer Lawyer Program through Shelby County Safehouse, the Birmingham Bar Association Volunteer Lawyer Program, the Plan for Pro Bono Counsel for Qualified Unrepresented Parties in Civil Cases in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, and the Wills for Heroes program in Shelby County.

Clay holds bachelor's and master's degrees in hospital and health administration and before entering private law practice, worked in health care administration, managing inpatient acute-care and outpatient facilities. He has been rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell's Peer Review Rating continuously since 2006, the highest peer review rating in legal ability and ethical standards.

He is married to Rebecca Jane Carr, has three daughters, Clare Anderson (Chris), Jane Evan Collum (Alex), and Mary Clay Hoffkamp (Coley) and is a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Homewood.

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

18th Judicial Circuit, Place 1



Thomas B. Hanes

*Thomas B. Hanes, Attorney
Hoover*

Education

University of Alabama B.A. 1972 (History)

ODK Leadership Honorary; SGA, Student Senate and President School of Arts and Sciences

University of Alabama J.D. 1976

Law Clerk, Dr. Richard Thigpen, President of The University of Alabama

Military

Air National Guard, 117th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, 1972-1978

Professional

In continuous private practice from 1976 through present, with offices in Birmingham, and in Shelby County.

Current Practice areas are

General Litigation

Social Security Disability

Administrative and regulatory matters, including licensing authorities

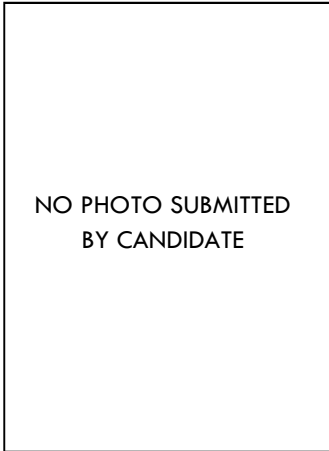
Criminal Defense

Practice Experience

In over 40 years, approximately 200 jury trials; hundreds of bench trials and administrative hearings, including professional licensing boards; scores of appeals; former municipal judge and specially appointed District Court Judge. Prior committee service with the Birmingham Bar Association, including Grievance Committee Panels.

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

19th Judicial Circuit

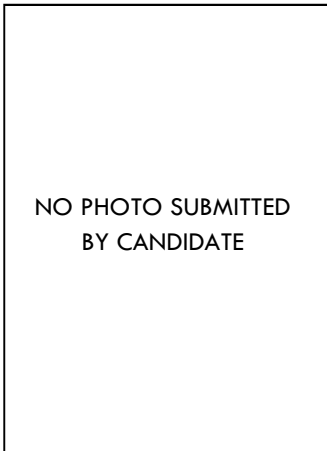


Robert L. Bowers, Jr.
Bowers & Bowers
Clanton

NO BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY CANDIDATE

2020 ALABAMA STATE BAR ELECTION | BAR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

19th Judicial Circuit



Terinna (Tina) Moon
Moon & Melvin, LLC
Prattville

Education:

Faulkner University Thomas Goode Jones School of Law – Montgomery, Alabama
Juris Doctorate - December 2005

Faulkner University – Montgomery, Alabama
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice - December 2001

Legal:

Alabama State Bar Member – Admitted April, 2006

United States Supreme Court Bar Member – Admitted December 2013

United States Middle District of Alabama – Admitted April 2006

Moon & Melvin, LLC

December 2014 – Current

Moon Law, LLC

March 2007 – December 2014

Civic & Educational:

Director, River Region United Way Board of Directors (2005 – 2007); Director, American Red Cross, Montgomery Alabama (2006 – 2008); Recipient, *Mary Prim Award* (2009), Family Sunshine Center; Mediator, State of Alabama (2006 – Current); Member-At-Large, Board of Directors, Family Law Section of Alabama State Bar (2011 - 2013); Member, Alabama Association of 4H Volunteers (2002 - 2010); Member, Autauga County Civitan Club (2012 – 2014); Member, Autauga County Exchange Club (2011 – 2014); Member, Board of Directors, Autauga County Library (2010); Member, Board of Directors, Autauga County Peers Are Staying Straight (PASS) (2008 - 2010); Member, Lowndesboro Landmark Foundation (2000 - Current); Member, Lowndesboro Heritage Society (2000 - Current); President, Autauga County Bar Association – Women’s Section (2010 - Current); President, Autauga County Bar Association (2013 - 2015); President, Citizens for Clean Black Belt (2006 – 2013); Referee, 19th Judicial Circuit – Child Support Court (2015 - 2017); Treasurer, Board of Directors, Family Law Section of Alabama State Bar (2013 – 2016); Vice-Chair, Board of Directors, Family Law Section of Alabama State Bar (2014 – 2016)

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