2022 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)

26th Judicial Circuit

Joria B. Loftin

Kenneth E. White, III

32nd Judicial Circuit

Matthew K. Carter

Shelbie Hankey

The 2022 Alabama State Bar Election will open on Monday, May 16, 2022. All ballots must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. CT on Friday, May 20, 2022, 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.

26th Judicial Circuit



Jorja B. LoftinLoftin, Loftin & May, LLC
Phenix City, Alabama

Profile

Originally from Auckland, New Zealand, Jorja B. Loftin would go on to work at the firm that would become Loftin, Loftin & May as a receptionist for her father-in-law, Pat Loftin. During this time, she witnessed firsthand how law-yers can make a significant difference in people's lives during times of need. This inspired her to enroll in Faulkner University, where she graduated summa cum laude in 2012 and obtained her Juris Doctorate.

Since obtaining her law degree, Jorja has done significant work as an attorney. With her practice focused on personal injury, family law, probate law, and civil litigation, many of Jorja's clients are people going through difficult times. In every case she takes, Jorja tries to put herself in the client's position and think about what she would want from her attorney and the outcome if she was going through this. What's going on in a client's case is often the most important and pressing thing in their life, and Jorja strives to take that stress off their shoulders while pursuing the best possible outcome.

Jorja is an accomplished softball player, having represented New Zealand at the Junior World Series in Nan Jing, China. She also played for the New Zealand National Team, the White Sox. She went on to play for Auburn University, where she led the team in home runs her senior year. She understands the hard work and commitment that it takes to be successful and applies those same principles to her legal practice. Outside of law, she spends time with her husband and three children. She is also an avid cyclist, mountain biker, and participates in triathlons.

Education

Thomas Goode Jones School of Law, Juris Doctorate, 2012 Auburn University, Bachelor of Science, 2007

Bar Admissions

Alabama 2012 Georgia 2013

Affiliations & Service

Russell County Bar Association – current Treasurer. Former Bar President 2016-17

Muscogee County Bar Association

Certified Mediator

Note: Candidate professional/biographical information and photographs were due to the Alabama State Bar by Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

26th Judicial Circuit



Kenneth E. White, III Phenix City, Alabama

NO INFORMATION PROVIDED BY CANDIDATE

32nd Judicial Circuit



Matthew Keith Carter
Fuller, Willingham & Carter, LLC
Cullman, Alabama

Matthew Keith Carter is a native of Cullman County, Alabama born September 19, 1976. After graduating from Cullman High School in 1994, Matthew attended the University of Alabama and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Information Services. Thereafter, Matthew attended Jones School of Law earning a Juris Doctorate in May of 2002. Thereafter, Matthew successfully passed the Alabama State Bar Exam and was admitted to practice on September 27, 2002.

Matthew attended the University of Alabama on a Presidential Scholarship (1994-1998). While an undergrad, he served in the SGA Senate his Junior and Senior years. He was also admitted to the Jason's Senior Mens Honor Society. Matthew was also a member of the Kappa Alpha Order at the University of Alabama.

While attending law school, Matthew became a member of the Jones Law Review for the calendar year of 2001-2002. During his tenure at law school, he also clerked at the Court of Civil Appeals (1998-2000) and the law firm of Beasley, Alien, Crow, Methvin and Miles (2000-2002).

Upon being admitted to the Bar, Matthew became an associate at the Law Firm of Fuller & Willingham, LLC in 2002. The same year he moved back to Cullman with his wife, Amy Carter. Matthew and Amy have one child who is a Freshman at Cullman High School, Griffin Carter. He has been a member of the Firm since 2006. The Firm is now named Fuller, Willingham, & Carter, LLC.

Since becoming an attorney, Matthew has served the community as the Chairman of the Good Samaritan Board. He is also a past Cullman Kiwanis Club President and, while serving as the Cullman Kiwanis President, Matthew received recognition winning the Dr. G. W. Bledsoe Service and Dedication award (2011) and, the J. Mercer, Barnett Fellow Award (2012). Matthew also served as the Head Basketball Coach for the fifth (2017-2018) and sixth (2018-2019) grade boys at Sacred Heart School. Matthew is a member of First Baptist Church of Cullman.

Matthew is a past sustaining member of the Alabama Association for Justice; a member of the Cullman County Bar Association; and a member of the American Bar Association.

Matthew has a general practice that focuses in the areas of personal injury, family law, corporate law, social security disability, criminal defense, general civil litigation, probate matters, real estate closings and real estate litigation. He is the current Prosecutor for the City of Cullman.

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32nd Judicial Circuit



Shelbie Hankey Hankey Law Firm, LLC Cullman, Alabama

Shelbie Hankey is a native of Cullman County, Alabama. After working full-time while completing her Bachelor's degree in Political Science, she was accepted into and attended law school at Cumberland School of Law. She has lived in several different states, including studying law in London, England where she was living when the 9/11 attacks happened. After returning to the United States, she completed her law degree and, after working in mass tort litigation for a large firm, returned to Cullman and opened her independent practice in 2008. She is the founding member of the Cullman County Women's Bar Association and was the inaugural recipient of the Cullman County Bar Association President's Award for her service to the Bar. She was the organizer for the 2021 Pro Bono Divorce Clinic and has hosted several continuing education events to further legal education in our community. She is currently serving on the 2021-2022 Appointed Counsel & Indigent Defense Committee as well as a current Committee Member for the REM Alabama Human Rights Committee.

Shelbie resides in Vinemont with her husband and their three young daughters on a small farm. She is a proud grandmother of two boys. When she isn't at work, the family enjoys camping around the southeast. Shelbie believes her life experiences lend her the ability to more effectively relate to and better represent her clients. She believes thoroughly that all clients deserve dedicated representation and an attorney that will effectively communicate with them throughout the duration of their case. She believes that what wins a case and what makes a legal practice thrive is the passion that drives it.