

# LAW MATTERS

May 2017

Volume XXIX No. 1

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May 16, 2017

### Membership Meeting and One Hour General Credit CLE

11:15 a.m. Registration/  
buffet opens

11:45 a.m. Announcements



School's Out, Screen's On:  
Legal Trends in Internet and Social Media Safety

Speaker: Special Agent Dennis Fetting,  
Department of Homeland Security

B.B. King's Jazz Club

Cost:

Members: Lunch \$25/CLE \$15

Nonmembers: Lunch \$30/CLE \$25

\*Reservations must be made by Friday, May 12, 2017, at Noon.

Register Online at [www.law-nashville.org/events](http://www.law-nashville.org/events)

## LAW CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 9, 2017	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Board Meeting	
May 16, 2017	11:15 am - 1:00 pm
Membership Luncheon & One Hour General Credit CLE	
May 25, 2017	6:00 pm—8:00 pm
Networking Mixer—Meet the 2017-2018 Board	
June 13, 2017	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Board Meeting	
June 20, 2017	11:15 am—1:00 pm
Membership Luncheon & One Hour General Credit CLE	

[Click Here](#) for a complete listing of LAW events  
and registration details!



*Seeking attorneys who were  
New Admittees' at the first  
New Admittees' Breakfast in  
1977*

Did you, or do you know an attorney who was a New Admittee at the first New Admittees' Breakfast in 1977? The 40th anniversary of the New Admittees' Breakfast is this fall, and LAW would like to honor those persons at the Breakfast on November 7th. Please contact the LAW office at [info@law-nashville.org](mailto:info@law-nashville.org).

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Elizabeth Sitgreaves



Nine years ago this August, I moved to Nashville, Tennessee after completing law school. The first organization that I joined at the encouragement of my good friend, Laura Baker, was the Lawyers' Association for Women-Marion Griffin Chapter. Over the past nine years, my involvement in this organization has been the single most formative experience of my legal career. While that may seem odd, to me, being a lawyer is much more than the briefs we file, the legal arguments we make, or the contracts that we draft. It is about being a part of a profession that influences the community

around us.

This organization was created to do just that. LAW's work has paid off in many respects. Last year at our Annual Banquet we heard Margaret Behm speak on the start of LAW and the role it played in supporting our members to become judges and leaders in our profession and in the community. Many of our local federal and state court judges in Middle Tennessee are women. I'm proud that Tennessee's Supreme Court includes three female Supreme Court Justices. However, there is still work to do. When one looks to the intermediate Courts of Appeal, we see there is still room for improvement. Of the 24 judges that sit on the Court of Appeals and Court of Criminal Appeals, only 3 of these judges are women. One of the purposes set forth in our By-Laws is to advocate for increased numbers of qualified women on the bench and to work for improvement of the overall quality of the bench. This organization can and should continue to advocate for diversity on the bench and to provide a network of support and encouragement of our members to leadership positions.

Our purposes as set forth in our By-Laws are just as important and relevant today as they were at our founding in 1981. If you have not had the opportunity to review our By-Laws, now is a great time. Through the leadership of our outgoing President Nikki Smith-Bartley, we recently revised these and have strengthened our purposes to continue to match the goals of our organization in an ever-changing world and legal market. Purposes that are especially important for me this year are to encourage the participation of women in local, state, and national bar associations, legislative bodies, and other positions of leadership; to foster public dialogue about legal barriers causing unjust societal discrimination and bias; and to address issues of concern to women within the legal profession and legal issues affecting women generally.

This year the Marion Griffin Women's Symposium will take place on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Headlined by our Keynote Speaker Melanne Verveer, the Executive Director of the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, this Symposium will foster public dialogue about issues impacting women. Please mark your calendars for this important event. Additionally, I'm proposing that our Mentoring Committee change to the Mentoring/Leadership Development Committee. I've asked its chairs to focus their efforts on providing peer mentoring and networking opportunities and on finding new and different ways to provide leadership training for our members to strive for the purposes of our organization to encourage the participation of women in positions of leadership, whether in the community or within their work place. A newly proposed Law School Outreach Committee will continue the important and successful role of LAW in inviting new members of the bar into the organization and legal community.

## 2017-2018 LAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elizabeth Sitgreaves, *President*

Ashonti T. Davis, *President-Elect*

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Marnie Huff, *Archivist*

Leighann Ness, *Archivist*

Tracy Alcock, *Newsletter Editor*

LaTonnsya Burney, *Newsletter Editor*

Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs, *Newsletter Editor*

Jennifer Lankford, *Newsletter Editor*

Nikki Smith-Bartley, *Immediate Past President*

### Committee Co-Chairs

#### Breakfast Committee

Erin Palmer Polly/Sara Anne Quinn

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Callie Hinson

#### Community Service

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#### Diversity

Maria Campbell/Corletra Mance

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#### Health & Wellness

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#### Judicial Appointments & Elections

Shellie Handelsman/Emily Warth

#### Law School Outreach

Nina Kumar/Joyce Saffley

#### Legislation & Litigation

Raquel Bellamy/Brenda Gadd

#### Membership

Brooke Coplon/Lynn Lawyer

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Hannah Lanford Bernard/Courtney Orr

#### Practicing Parents

Kathryn Barnett/Anne Martin

#### Programs

Laura Baker/Rebekah Baker/

Kimberly Veirs/Gulam Zade

#### Publicity/Social Media/Technology

Caroline Hudson

#### 2017 Marion Griffin Women's Symposium

Meera Ballal/Laura Smith

### Executive Director

Melanie Gober Grand

LAW Matters is a monthly publication of the Lawyers' Association for Women, Marion Griffin Chapter, P. O. Box 210436, Nashville, Tennessee, 37221-0436. Voicemail: 615.708.1827; Fax: 888.834.7370; [www.law-nashville.org](http://www.law-nashville.org).

To submit articles for the June issue, contact, Tracy Alcock at [tracy.alcock@tn.gov](mailto:tracy.alcock@tn.gov).

I have high hopes and high goals for the organization this year. This organization provides an important network and support system for its members. I love that this organization incorporates members from all areas of the legal community, whether in private practice, government, or business. All of the women (and men) that make up this organization have different experiences both in their practice and in their personal life, and yet LAW brings us together to continue to work towards common purposes and influence our community as lawyer leaders in a positive way.

I am honored to lead this organization for the next year, and encourage you to reach out to me with ideas. I welcome feedback both good and bad about our activities and programs.

## *Upcoming Monthly Membership Meetings*

*May 16, 2017—One Hour General Credit CLE*

### *School's Out, Screen's On: Legal Trends in Internet and Social Media Safety*

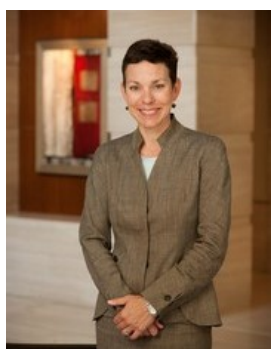


A special agent from the Department of Homeland Security will discuss current trends in Internet/social media related crime. Special Agent Dennis Fetting will explain a tool utilized by Homeland Security Investigations and known as Project iGuardian, which is “designed to inform youth, parents, and educators about the risks that children face in the online environment” and “aims to arm parents with knowledge and resources to help protect their children.” The presentation, developed in partnership with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, will discuss online predators and social media, sextortion, the risks associated with revealing too much, and cyberbullying. Come out and learn some tips to help the parents and clients in your life supervise the Internet activity of their children or employees.

*June 20, 2017—One Hour General Credit CLE*

### *Annual Legislative Update*

LAW looks forward to its June membership meeting when Mandy Haynes Young and Erica Bell Vick will deliver the Annual Legislative Update on what took place on The Hill during the 110th Tennessee General Assembly. Mandy is a partner at Butler Snow where she practices in the areas of governmental relations, healthcare and insurance law. Erica is Senior Public Policy Advisor at Bass Berry & Sims.



Mandy Haynes Young



Erica Bell Vick

# Annual Meeting/Banquet Recap

*by Sherie Edwards*

LAW members and guests gathered at the Music City Center on the evening of April 13 to catch up with friends, congratulate the outgoing President on a great year, and honor the winners of the Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey Award and the Rising Star Award.

Following a reception filled with laughter, conversation, and hugs between friends, attendees enjoyed a wonderful dinner while viewing a slide show of photographs from the past LAW year. As dinner ended, the reading of the minutes was dispensed by motion from the floor (Thank you, Nancy MacLean!) and the Treasurer's report by Mandy Floyd was approved. Nikki Smith-Bartley continued the program with her remarks, thanking those who sustained her through her year as President: her family (especially her husband and sons), her work family at Asurion, and her friends, and highlighting a few activities from her year as President.

At the conclusion of her remarks, Nikki introduced Margaret Behm, the 2016 recipient of the Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey award, who had the honor of introducing this year's award recipient, Justice Cornelia A. Clark. Margaret spoke of Justice Clark's career and highlighted some of her many accomplishments, including her leadership in Access to Justice's faith-based initiative and her focus on educating all Tennesseans on our judicial system. In her remarks, Justice Clark reminded those in attendance "the legacy of the law created by your mothers in the law, if you will, requires you to go onward." (Both Margaret Behm and Justice Clark's remarks can be found in later pages of the newsletter.)

Next, LaTonnsya Burney and Erin Palmer Polly presented the Rising Star Award to Ashonti Davis. LaTonnsya spoke about her longtime friendship with Ashonti that endures from their time at Hume Fogg High School. One of the sweetest moments of the evening was a chant of "2002" from several of Ashonti's classmates who were in attendance. Both presenters spoke about the reputation Ashonti has developed as a 'real lawyer', and her involvement in community groups such as mentoring through the NBA Minority Internship program, serving on the Board of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and coaching mock trial teams. During her acceptance speech, Ashonti thanked all of those who have mentored her during her career.

The program ended with the passing of the gavel from Nikki to Liz Sitgreaves. As in the past few years, the dinner was a wonderful way to end Nikki's year as President, honor amazing women, and look forward to the year ahead under Liz's leadership. LAW would like to thank its sponsors in making the banquet a success and appreciate their continued support of LAW!

Gold: First Tennessee Bank; Silver: Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP; Bronze: Asurion, Baker Donelson; Full Table Sponsors: Bone McAllester Martin PLLC, Justice Cornelia A. Clark, Dodson Parker Behm & Capparella PC; Half Table Sponsors: Laura Baker, Branstetter Stranch & Jennings, Kinnard Clayton & Beveridge, Leitner Williams Dooley & Napolitan, Littler Mendelson, LOGICFORCE and Nelson Mullins.



*Sherie was a 2016-2017 Newsletter Editor. She is Vice President, Corporate and Legal at State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company - State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company.*

Thank you to the following sponsors for your continued support of LAW!

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# Meet the LAW Executive Board for 2017-2018



**President—Elizabeth Sitgreaves.** Liz is a 2008 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an attorney at The Law Offices of John Day, where she practices in personal injury and tort litigation as well as appellate practice. Liz also co-chairs the NBA's Circuit & Chancery Court Committee and previously served as law clerk to Frank G. Clement, Jr. on the Tennessee Court of Appeals. Liz was the 2015 recipient of the LAW Rising Star Award.



**President-Elect—Ashonti Davis.** Ashonti is a 2009 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She recently transitioned from Butler Snow to Counsel at Aetna Senior Supplemental Insurance. Ashonti was the recipient of the 2017 Rising Star Award.



**Secretary—Christen Blackburn.** Christen is a 2008 graduate of The University of Memphis School of Law. She is a partner in the law firm of Leitner Williams Dooley and Napolitan, where she practices civil litigation focused primarily in the areas of transportation, products liability, medical malpractice, and professional liability. Christen has previously served LAW as chairs of the Programming Committee and Judicial Appointments, Nominations and Awards. She is also active in NBA, where she serves on the Community Relations Committee.



**Treasurer—Mandy Strickland Floyd.** Mandy is a 2012 graduate of University of Memphis College of Law. She is an attorney at the law firm of Bone McAllester Norton PLLC, where she focuses her practice on Litigation and Dispute Resolution, Appellate Practice, Victims' Rights, and Employment Law. Mandy is also the Historian for the Napier Looby Bar Association.



**Archivist**—Marnie Huff is a Rule 31 Listed General Civil Mediator. She is an adjunct professor at MTSU, teaching Legal Writing and Research, and a certified Teacher of English as a Second Language. Marnie is a Fellow of the Nashville, Tennessee, and American Bar Associations.



**Archivist**—**Leighann Ness.** Leighann Ness is a 2012 graduate of the University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is a Litigation Attorney at HCA, where she manages various healthcare-related litigation matters.



**Newsletter**—**Tracy Alcock.** Tracy is a 2011 graduate of The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is an Assistant General Counsel at the Tennessee Department of Health's Office of General Counsel, where she serves as an advisory attorney for Tennessee Health Professional Boards and where she prosecutes the Tennessee medical licenses of physicians and nurses practicing in Tennessee for the overprescribing of narcotics and other controlled substances.



**Newsletter**—**LaTonnsya Burney.** LaTonnsya is a 2010 graduate of Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis. She is an Assistant General Counsel for the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development where she represents the department on Employment Security matters.



**Newsletter**—**Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs.** Kyonzte is a 2004 graduate of Vanderbilt Law School. She is Deputy General Counsel for the Tennessee Department of Health where she is a healthcare regulatory attorney. She is immediate past president of the Napier Looby Bar Association.



**Newsletter**—**Jennifer Lankford.** Jennifer is a 2010 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an attorney with Thompson Burton, PLLC, where she practices employment law. Jennifer is a three year Board member of LAW and is also on the Young Lawyers Board for the Tennessee Defense Lawyers Association and a committee member for the Nashville Bar Association Friday Fundamentals and Social committees.



**Second Year Director—Lynne T. Ingram.** Lynne is a 2003 graduate of Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. She is an Assistant U.S. Attorney, where she focuses on a variety of criminal cases, including violent crimes, gun crimes, and child exploitation cases. She is chair of the Community Relations Committee for the Nashville Bar Association, President of the Tennessee Bar Association Leadership Law Alumni and chair of the McKendree United Methodist Day Care Board of Directors.



**Second Year Director—Susan Neal Williams.** Susan Neal graduated from Wake Forest University School of Law in 2011. She is an attorney at Morgan & Morgan where she practices personal injury law on behalf of Plaintiffs.



**First Year Director—Kimberly Faye.** Kimberly is a 2015 graduate of the Nashville School of Law. She is the senior law clerk to the Honorable Frank G. Clement, Jr. at the Tennessee Court of Appeals, where she conducts legal research, prepares bench memoranda, and drafts orders and opinions. Kimberly is a member of the Nashville Bar and serves on the Nashville Bar Journal Editorial Committee as well as the Appellate Practice, Community Relations, and Social Committees. She also serves as an At-large Executive Committee Member for the Harry Phillips American Inn of Court.



**First Year Director—Camille Steward.** Camille is a 2000 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She was an Attorney at Nashville Electric Service, but as of May 1st became the Acting Staffing and Employee Relations Manager.



**Immediate Past President—Yanika C. Smith-Bartley.** Nikki is a 2002 graduate of Vanderbilt Law School. She is Assistant General Counsel in the Legal Department of Asurion, where she oversees litigation and manages a comprehensive range of global employment matters for the Company. She has served on the Executive Board of LAW for the last 5 years and currently serves on the Board of Nashville Public Television (NPT).



# Meet the LAW Committee

## Co-Chairs for 2017-2018



**Breakfast—Erin Palmer Polly.** Erin is a 2002 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is a partner at Butler Snow LLP and President Elect of the Nashville Bar Association.



**Diversity—Maria Campbell.** Maria is a 2015 graduate of Loyola Law School, Los Angeles. She is a litigation associate at Bone McAllester Norton. She is the first military spouse admitted to practice law in the State of TN under the Military Spouse JD Network.



**Breakfast—Sara Anne Quinn.** Sara Anne is a 2010 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an attorney at Butler Snow, LLP.



**Diversity—Corletra Mance.** Corletra is a 2008 graduate of The University of Tennessee College of Law. She is a Private Attorney at TN Law Group as of March 1, 2017.



**Breakfast/Banquet & Sponsorships—Callie Hinson.** Callie is a 2014 graduate of the Belmont University College of Law. She is an associate attorney at Leitner Williams Dooley Napolitan, PLLC.



**Domestic Violence—Shaina O. Thompson.** Shaina is a 2015 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. She is a Family Law Attorney and Civil-Legal Advocacy Program Assistant Coordinator at the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlandlands.



**Community Relations—Kristen Cass.** Kristen is a 2014 graduate of the Michigan State University School of Law. She is an Attorney at Baker Donelson.



**Domestic Violence—DarKenya Waller.** DarKenya is a 1999 graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Law. She is the Managing Attorney for the Nashville office of the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlandlands.



**Community Service—Samantha Simpson.** Samantha is a 2016 graduate of Belmont University College of Law. She is a judicial law clerk for Judge Robert L. Holloway, Jr. at the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals.



**Health & Wellness—Paige Ayres Nutini.** Paige is a 2015 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She practices commercial litigation at Butler Snow.



**Health & Wellness—Grace Stranch.** Grace is a 2014 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an associate at Branstetter, Stranch & Jennings, PLLC.



**Legislation Litigation—Brenda Gadd.** Brenda is a graduate of the Nashville School of Law. She is public policy coordinator at the Tennessee Bar Association, and represents the TBA and its members before the General Assembly and other policy making bodies.



**Judicial Appointments, Nominations and Awards—Shellie Handelsman.** Shellie is a 2014 graduate of Belmont University College of Law. She is an attorney at Shuttleworth Williams, PLLC. She practices in the areas of civil litigation, insurance defense litigation, estate planning and probate, and entertainment and sports law.



**Membership—Brooke Coplon.** Samantha is a 2014 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School. She is an Associate at Howell & Fisher, PLLC.



**Judicial Appointments, Nominations and Awards—Emily Warth.** Emily is a 2006 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School. She is Senior Counsel at Asurion.



**Membership—Lynn Lawyer.** Lynn is a 2002 graduate of the South Illinois University School of Law. She is a Trial Attorney for Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.



**Law School Outreach—Nina Kumar.** Nina is a 2010 graduate of the Vanderbilt University Law School. She is an attorney at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP.



**Mentoring/Member Development—Chambre Malone.** Chambre is a 2006 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School. She is a Senior Counsel, Regulatory Compliance at Bridgestone Americas, Inc.



**Law School Outreach—Joyce Safley.** Joyce is a 1989 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School and holds a masters in nursing. A former Administrative Law Judge, she now practices with the Law Office of Melinda Jacobs and represents school districts in special education, ADA and other related matters.



**Mentoring/Member Development—Jenny Bonilla Moreno.** Jenny is a 2011 graduate of Duke Law School. She is an Assistant Metropolitan Attorney in the litigation division at the Metropolitan Nashville Department of Law.



**Legislation Litigation—Raquel Bellamy.** Raquel is a 2011 graduate of Vanderbilt Law School. She is a lawyer at Bone McAllester Norton PLLC practicing in the areas of civil litigation and immigration law.



**Networking—Hannah Lanford Bernard.** Hannah is a 2013 graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law Counsel, Regulatory Affairs and Operations Support at Correct Care Solutions





**Networking—Courtney Orr.** Courtney is a 2014 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an Assistant Attorney General (Criminal Appeals Division). She is a former law clerk to Judge Robert Holloway, TN Court of Criminal Appeals.



**Programs—Gulam Zade.** Gulam is a 2011 graduate of the University of Louisville. He is General Counsel at LOGICFORCE.



**Practicing Parents—Kathryn Barnett.** Kathryn is a 1992 graduate of the Vanderbilt University School of Law. She is the Managing Partner at Morgan & Morgan – Nashville. She served as the 2004-2005 LAW president.



**Publicity/Technology/Social Media—Caroline Hudson.** Caroline is a 2014 graduate of the University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is an Associate at the Law Offices of John Day.



**Practicing Parents—Anne Martin.** Anne is a 1992 graduate of the Vanderbilt University School of Law. She is a member of Bone McAllester Norton and concentrates her practice in the areas of commercial litigation and employment law. She served as the 2000-2001 LAW president.



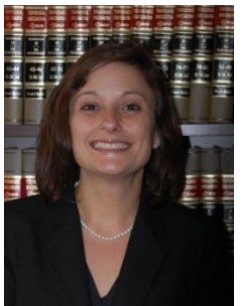
**2017 Marion Griffin Women’s Symposium—Meera Ballal.** Meera Ballal is a 1997 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is the Director of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Protocol at TriStar Health.



**Programs—Laura Baker.** Laura is a 2006 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is a shareholder in the Law Offices of John Day. Laura served as the 2014-2015 LAW President and was the recipient of the 2016 Rising Star Award.



**2017 Marion Griffin Women’s Symposium—Laura Smith.** Laura is a 1992 University of Florida - Fredric G. Levin College of Law. She is General Counsel at Nashville Electric Service.



**Programs—Rebekah Baker.** Rebekah is a 2005 graduate of Appalachian University School of Law. She is senior counsel in the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General. She is a former law clerk to the late Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Adolpho A. Birch, Jr.



**Programs—Kimberly Veirs.** Kimberly is a 2013 graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Law. She is a Labor & Employment Attorney at Bass, Berry & Sims.

# INTRODUCTION OF JUSTICE CORNELIA CLARK MARTHA CRAIG DAUGHTREY AWARD

Margaret L. Behm

Justice Cornelia Clark, (“Connie”), like all of us, has a history. But she has packed more accomplishments into her history than most anyone you will ever know.

As a member since 2005, Justice Clark is currently the longest serving member of the Tennessee Supreme Court. She probably knows more than anyone in our state about the Tennessee judiciary. Not only was she the second woman to serve as Chief Justice, but when in charge of the Administrative Office of the Courts for six years, she was the judiciary’s spokesperson in the legislature and responsible for the judiciary’s budget.

When Governor McWherter appointed Justice Clark to the trial bench covering Williamson, Hickman, Perry & Lewis Counties in 1989, she became the first woman trial judge to serve rural counties in Tennessee. She paved the way for other judges to be accepted by clerks, litigants and lawyers. Justice Clark was one of the first woman partners in a large Nashville law firm, with a practice that emphasized local government, employment, civil rights, land use and zoning law. Prior to attending Vanderbilt law school, she taught government and history in high school after receiving a Masters of Arts in Teaching from Harvard University.

Justice Clark has an incredible demeanor. She just knows what to do. A lot of folks would call it wisdom, which is good for a judge to have. She has an innate ability to connect with common sense and humility. She has a great smile. She really does her best to do a good job and be a servant to others. She is an excellent judge ... A great writer... Highly organized. She is very, very smart. She is the real deal.

I have heard Justice Clark tell a story about how, early in her career as a trial judge, she encountered a woman who was angry at being called for jury service and was acting rude and disrespectful in the courtroom. Judge Clark excused the woman from jury duty but ordered her to sit and observe the court proceedings for the day. The following morning, Judge Clark was surprised to see the woman in her courtroom once again, and the woman had brought her daughter with her. The woman said to Judge Clark

“I wanted my daughter to be able to see that there is a woman who can be in charge of this, because I want her to know that she can be anything she wants to be.”

Justice Clark tells this story as an example of how you never know when you have the opportunity to touch someone’s life. But, it is also an example of what it is like to be around Connie Clark.

The public got a good chance to see what it was like to be around Justice Clark in the statewide Court retention race in 2014. This was a very difficult campaign -- responding to attacks, trying to figure out how to appropriately raise money when millions of dollars in out-of-state money was spent to unseat her, having to continually ask for help from acquaintances, friends and family and traveling statewide while being “judicial” at the same time. This was the true test. She did not become a Supreme Court judge to run statewide campaigns. In fact, she would rather do almost anything else. But she showed Tennesseans how a woman can be in charge and conduct herself with the utmost integrity and grace under pressure. She just knew how to lead and knew what to do and secured her re-election with a decisive win. She is one of a handful of women in our state to win a contested statewide election.

LAW has been a priority of Justice Clark throughout her career. A long time member, she attends monthly meetings, served on the Board and is a frequent presenter, including a presentation last year with Judges Daughtrey and Stranch. She was the keynote speaker at the New Admittees’ Breakfast in 2007. Like the namesake of the award given tonight, Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey, Justice Clark is accessible, friendly and helpful to our members and her support elevates LAW.

Justice Clark is a sought-after national and local speaker on topics ranging from civics education, the rule of law and Access to Justice. She has made innumerable presentations for years all over our state at schools, churches, women’s organizations, Rotary clubs, libraries, police academies, bar organizations and Continuing Legal Education seminars—always giving of herself and willing to be there if she can.

Her fervent desire to help others is best shown with her statewide leadership for Access to Justice. For example, it is a rare Justice who encourages religious leaders to be part of helping others with our legal system, but given Justice Clark’s deep faith and her servant lifestyle, she was integral in creating and now sustaining the successful faith-based initiative that connects persons who need legal assistance through their churches.

A Lay Leader at First United Methodist Church in Franklin, Justice Clark chaired the Site Selection and Building Committee when her overflowing church moved from its downtown location. Through the years, she has served in many prominent roles in her church and currently serves as Board Chair of the United Methodist Publishing House while also serving as Trustee of Martin Methodist College.

Tonight all 12 adult members of Connie's family are here to share this award with her. They are a close knit family, eating lunch every Sunday after church at Connie's house-- Going to countless ball games and always attending each other's special events. She is an eighth- generation resident of Williamson County, and few people have devoted more time and energy to preserving and promoting Williamson County than Connie Clark.

In 1968, Connie Clark was named a Presidential Scholar by Lyndon Johnson. She received a personal invitation from the President and traveled to Washington, D.C. to accept her award, and while she stood in the East Room of the White House, she heard the President encourage her to lead the country with the gifts she had been given. Almost 50 years later, Connie Clark has more than fulfilled that charge... as a scholar, teacher, lawyer and judge, as a woman, as a person of faith, and as a citizen of her city, county, state, and country.

With her excellent Supreme Court opinions, Justice Clark will long be remembered and has made history in ways the rest of us will never make.

However, tonight, in giving this award, LAW honors Justice Clark for her history, the way she has lived her life and how she has shown us how to be a servant leader while being a woman in charge.

Congratulations to the 2017 recipient of the Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey Award...Justice Cornelia Clark.

## **LAW CISSY DAUGHTREY AWARD REMARKS**

### **Connie Clark**

Thank you, Margaret for that very touching and generous introduction. Last year I had the honor of introducing you as you accepted this award. Our journey together continues!

Thank you to my family, who have supported me through my lifetime, and who are here 12-strong tonight. I could not exist without you.

Thank you to all those who nominated me, and to LAW for selecting me for this award. I am deeply honored and I deeply love this organization.

And thank you to Judge Martha Craig "Cissy" Daughtrey, who by simply living her life has changed the lives of all of us who have followed. No matter what trials I have encountered in my professional life, I always know that they pale in comparison to what was simply the daily norm for women when Cissy began practicing law. I could not have achieved the success or satisfaction I have had in my life had not Cissy Daughtrey created the path to success by walking alone down very dusty trails.

As you heard during the very generous introduction, going out and spreading the word has become a passion of mine. I have become convinced that the remarkable system of government embodied in our Constitution is always at risk unless we make sure that each new generation understands and values the principles on which it was created. Our agreement to govern ourselves by these principles is always fragile because it is voluntary. It only takes one election, or one outpouring of money, to threaten 230 years of mostly successful adherence to our Founders' ideas.

We saw that threat in Tennessee clearly in 2014, when Tennessee politicians and outsiders with money tried to "take over" the Tennessee Supreme Court. I have never been prouder of any group to which I have belonged than I was of LAW and its leaders for stepping up and creating an entire Campaign for Fair Courts that was critical in convincing Tennesseans what justice is really about. Liz, Laura, and many others here, you were, and are, the rising stars who are tasked with understanding the legacy left by your mothers in the law and then stepping forward to carry it onward, going farther and accomplishing more than any one of us who came before you.

Last year Margaret reminded us about the extraordinary women who founded this group, and she challenged each of us to move beyond words when necessary to "outrageous acts and everyday rebellions" to achieve the goals established by our Founding Mothers! I join her in asking you to look to their lives for inspiration, and then I ask you to look beyond them to the issues that remain unsolved, and start right now attacking those.



Tonight I ask you to consider the words of Elinor Smith, an early American aviatrix who lived from 1911-2010. Elinor broke endurance, speed, and altitude records for women pilots in the late 1920's and early 30's. She became only the 3rd person—and first woman—to appear on a Wheaties box!

Elinor once said: “It ha[s] long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely s[i]t back and let things happen to them. They [go] out and happen[] to things!” I cannot think of a better description for Judge Cissy Daughtrey, for Judge Aleta Trauger, or for Margaret Behm. Through your generosity, tonight you have elevated me into their sisterhood and by doing so have reminded me that I have the same obligation not to sit back, but to go out and “happen to” things! For as long as I am here, I will continue to advocate for the things that matter.

I am not tonight announcing any plans to retire! But I do recognize that I am now nearer to the end of my career than the beginning. I remind you that, as the women rising, it is now mostly in your hands to promote respect for the rule of law, for the separation of powers, and for the achievement of true equal access to justice for all people, whatever their background or status.

So I end tonight thanking LAW again humbly for honoring the things I and my generation have begun. But I challenge each of you to go out and “happen to” things arising now and in the future. Continuing to overcome the challenges is the best way to honor those who have come before you and to preserve the hard won privileges of equality for those who will follow you.









# Happenings on the Hill

## A Spotlight On Tennessee General Assembly: Legislation Impacting Women

The Tennessee General Assembly is in its waning days of the 2017 legislative session and at the time of this article the House and Senate are considering Governor Haslam's amendments to his budget related bills. The Tennessee Constitution requires only one action of the House and Senate and that is to pass a budget. While that is the only constitutional requirement of the legislative bodies, most of the time is spent filing, hearing and voting on legislation that covers all areas of state law. Here are highlights of legislation that has been considered this year regarding matters specific to women:

### Domestic and Sexual Violence

HB349 by Rep. Andy Farmer, R-Sevierville/SB554 by Sen. Bill Ketron, R-Murfreesboro, changes the standard for when a court may terminate parental rights to a child who was conceived as the result of the parent's rape.

HB434 by Rep. Bob Ramsey, R-Maryville/SB50 by Sen. Steve Dickerson, R-Nashville, requires a divorce court that modifies or makes an existing order of protection part of the divorce decree to issue a separate order of protection, and requires the clerk to send a copy of the order to the petitioner, respondent, and the law enforcement agency.

HB1158 by Rep. Mary Littleton, R-Dickson/SB931 by Sen. Bill Ketron, R-Murfreesboro, places restrictions on how evidence related to the sexual exploitation of minors is maintained and inspected as part of a criminal proceeding.

HB112 by Rep. Andrew Farmer, R-Sevierville/SB229 by Sen. Becky Massey addresses a gap in statutes as it relates to domestic violence victims by addressing the notification and dispossession of a firearm to mirror the notification and procedure that already exist for respondents in Order of Protection cases.

HB711 by Rep. Sam Whitson, R-Franklin/SB358 by Sen. Jack Johnson, R-Brentwood, as introduced, allows the respondent to an ex parte order of protection to waive the right to a hearing on the order within 15 days of issuance if the respondent acknowledges that the ex parte order will remain in effect until the hearing is held and the court finds that the interests of justice require the continuance of the hearing.

### Reproductive Rights and Women's Health

HB1189 by Rep. Mathew Hill, R-Jonesborough/ SB11801180 by Sen. Joey Hensley, R-Hohenwald, called the Tennessee Infants Protection Act prohibits any abortion being performed during the viability of a fetus. It also creates certain conditions the physician must comply with for the affirmative defense to apply. The proposed bill creates a rebuttable presumption that an unborn child of at least 24-weeks gestational age is viable, and makes any violation of the proposed legislation a Class C felony, with the physician's license to be revoked for such violation. Prohibits a physician from performing or inducing, or attempting to perform or induce, an abortion upon a pregnant woman after the beginning of the 20th week of pregnancy unless, prior to the performance or inducement of the abortion, or the attempt to perform or induce the abortion, the physician determines that the unborn child is not viable, and the physician makes that determination after performing a medical examination of the pregnant woman and after assessing gestational age, weight, bi-parietal diameter, or other factors that a reasonable physician would consider in making a determination as to whether an unborn child is viable.



HB1320 by Rep. Mike Stewart, D-Nashville / SB883 by Sen. Lee Harris, D-Memphis, called the Long-Acting Birth Control Information Act.

HB1318 by Rep. Jason Zachary, R-Knoxville/SB362 by Sen. Ferrell Haile, R-Gallatin, as introduced, permits a birth mother to complete documents and forms necessary to execute a pre-birth surrender or parental consent prior to the birth of a child and other changes related to adoption law.

If you want to check on the latest status and version of the legislation, you can check online at [www.capitol.tn.gov](http://www.capitol.tn.gov) and enter the bill number into the search bar. An example of how to enter the bill number is to enter only the house bill number or the senate bill number by using abbreviations such as “HB123” for House Bill 123 or “SB123” for Senate Bill 123.



*Brenda is a co-chair of LAW's Legislation and Litigation committee. She is public policy coordinator at the Tennessee Bar Association.*

## Nonprofit Spotlight: Sister Cities of Nashville

*by Sherie Edwards*



Sister Cities of Nashville (SCN), a chapter of Sister Cities International, was established in 1990 with the mission “[t]o connect Nashvillians with people of the world, promoting peace through mutual understanding, respect and cooperation—one person, one community at a time”. President Eisenhower founded Sister Cities International in 1956. His vision was that diplomacy between individuals was more effective than on a country-to-country basis. The hope was that, as people learned about other cultures, they would grow to respect and appreciate cultural differences, leading to personal connections that would bolster friendship and trust between countries.

SCN carries out President Eisenhower’s vision through relationships with seven Sister Cities. These cities are: Belfast, Northern Ireland; Caen, France; Edmonton, Canada; Kamakura, Japan; Magdeburg, Germany; Mendoza, Argentina; Taiyuan, China; and

Tamworth, Australia. Through a network of community volunteers, SCN facilitates and supports student and professional (adult) exchanges to and from our Sister Cities, cultural events such the Cherry Blossom Festival and the Music City Irish Festival, sending delegations to experience the culture in the Sister Cities, and hosting delegations from those cities.

One of the highlights of involvement in SCN is the opportunity to host guests from our Sister Cities, and to visit a city as part of a delegation. I have been a part of the Caen Sister City committee for several years through my involvement with the Nashville Bar Association Sister Cities committee. The NBA has a long-standing sister bar relationship with the bar association in Caen (“Ordre des Avocats a la Cour d’Appel de Caen”), predating the establishment of SCN. In every even year the Caen delegation visits Nashville; the Nashville delegation visits Caen in odd years (such as this year). During these visits, there is a mixture of cultural events and a comparative law seminar. The ability to see and experience another culture, and to make enduring friendships, is a special opportunity not to be missed.

SCN raises funds through memberships and through events such as World of Friendship in November. The funds raised provide financial assistance for students who wish to participate in cultural exchanges or internships in one of our Sister Cities. SCN also hosts student delegations, find host families for each student and plan events that introduce students to the richness of cultural and business opportunities in the Nashville area. We have recently hosted students from Belfast and Mendoza, and it was enlightening to listen to their impressions of our city.

If you would like more information about joining Sister Cities, and to learn about upcoming delegation visits and events, visit [www.scnashville.org](http://www.scnashville.org).



*Sherie was a 2016-2017 Newsletter Editor. She is Vice President, Corporate and Legal at State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company - State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company.*

# KUDOS

## ...to our sisters in the law in Rutherford County!

Last year one of LAW's founders, Susan McGannon, contacted the LAW office and asked if LAW—Marion Griffin Chapter would share organizational materials with her, as she was assisting women in lawyers in Murfreesboro (where she served as a City Attorney for many years until her retirement in 2016) in creating a new women's bar association. After months of planning, LAW—Marion Griffin Chapter is pleased to announce that Lawyers in Rutherford County have formed a new professional organization to address issues of concern to women within the legal profession.

The Middle Tennessee Lawyers' Association for Women (MTLAW) was organized on March 16, 2017 with the adoption of by-laws, the election of a leadership team and a continuing education program on Professionalism from Judge Lisa Eischeid.

MTLAW's creation followed a 2016 networking event with Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Connie Clark and local attorneys about the reasons to have such an organization and a survey of women attorneys in Rutherford and Cannon counties.

The thirty-plus attorneys present elected a Board consisting of: Magistrate Diana Benson Burns, President; Amy Farrar of Farrar/Wright, PLLC, President-Elect; MTSU Professor Lara Daniel, Communications Director; Sonya S. Wright, Farrar/Wright, PLLC, Treasurer; Susan Emery McGannon, retired Murfreesboro City Attorney, Secretary; and, General Sessions Judge Lisa Eischeid, Sandra Trail, Trail & Trail, and Jessica Scott, Assistant District Attorney, Directors.

Any practicing attorney or law student who supports the goals of the Association, which include improving the administration of justice, increasing the diversity of the bench and bar, and facilitating personal and professional networking between members, is eligible for membership in MTLAW. Persons interested in membership may contact [mtlaw@midtnlaw.org](mailto:mtlaw@midtnlaw.org) any Board member.

# Membership Renewals

**Due Now!** Log into your account and completely update your information. Your email address is your user name. If you don't know your password, email the LAW office at [info@law-nashville.org](mailto:info@law-nashville.org) and request a new one.

Pay with



or generate an invoice and pay with a check.



# PODCASTING FOR ATTORNEYS

by Jane Salem

Do you have the gift of gab? Are you looking for a way to market your law practice? Consider the power of podcasting.

Nashville attorney Heather Hubbard relied in part on blogging, a well-established marketing tool, when she launched her consulting business, **The Language of Joy**, approximately two years ago. (Yep, she calls herself a “recovering attorney”—but that’s a topic for another article.)

While Hubbard says she generally she loves writing, after a while blogging became “a chore.” Meanwhile, she’d always enjoyed her speaking engagements and interacting with people one-on-one.

“As long as I have an outline, I can talk about anything for hours on end,” she said. Public speaking comes naturally to Hubbard. “Even as a very young child, I was singing and dancing, and in plays and theater, and in front of the class wanting to give speeches and debates. That’s just part of my personality.”

So when friends suggested she try podcasting, she immediately recognized it as an effective way to utilize her verbal, rather than written, communication skills for marketing.

At the end of February, Hubbard launched her “Hustle & Flow” weekly podcast. She addresses a variety of topics geared toward how professionals can enjoy greater career and personal satisfaction, such as meditation, time management, learning how to say no, dealing with perfectionist tendencies, etc.

The momentum’s been building: As of about one month ago, the podcast was downloaded, just from iTunes, over 1,500 times. Hubbard has seen a dramatic increase in subscribers to her newsletter email list as well.

The feedback so far is very positive. “Just two days ago, someone posted on Facebook – and I don’t know her – ‘I started following your podcast, and it really resonated with me. It made me feel so good to know I’m not alone,’” Hubbard said.

She asks listeners to complete a survey and was pleasantly surprised at the volume of responses and thought that went into them. The responses offered ideas for later podcast topics.

As for the overall return on investment, Hubbard explained she’s in it for the long game rather than to “make sales.” Some businesses – not hers – podcast with the idea of gaining sponsors: a direct-revenue model.

With her type of podcasting, however, the idea is to offer “free value” and “to get people into your funnel.” She explained, “They’re coming in. They’re getting to know you, and you’re nurturing that relationship. So that later on when you have something to sell, they’re a warm audience.”

It’s a marketing model that translates well to law, especially for niche practitioners who want to reach new audiences. So, if you’re thinking of giving podcasting a try, here are a few of Hubbard’s tips.



- **Do your homework.** Research about how others got started in podcasting, the particulars of how it’s done, etc. And this probably goes without saying, but listen to some podcasts as part of your research. Hubbard recommends “The Legal Roadmap,” by Chattanooga lawyer Autumn Witt Boyd.
- **Create a budget.** You can spend a lot or a little. Hubbard’s initial cash outlay was fairly modest, about \$600. She bought a Blue Yeti microphone, recording and editing software, and a monthly subscription to a host provider, such as Libsyn. She additionally determined that hiring an audio engineer for editing and ensuring sound quality was money well-spent, assuming her target audience demands good sound. But it’s optional.
- **Schedule it.** Block sufficient time on your calendar to regularly podcast. Listeners come to expect a new installment if you’ve started out by releasing a new podcast each week and on a particular day of the week. You can’t let them down by skipping a week or being unpredictable as far as when you make a new podcast.

- **Fully commit.** “Make sure you’re doing it for the right reasons,” Hubbard said. “If you don’t enjoy it, if you’re not passionate about the topics, and if you don’t really want to engage with your audience, there are many other ways to market that will be more satisfying and effective for you.”

In other words, don’t do it because it’s “trendy,” Hubbard emphasized; do it because it can help you reach your professional goals – and you want to have some fun along the way.

Email your ideas for better marketing and law practice management to [jane.f.salem@tn.gov](mailto:jane.f.salem@tn.gov). She’d love to capture your perspective in a future LAW newsletter article/profile.



*Jane is a staff attorney for the Court of Workers' Compensation Claims in Nashville and the former editor-in-chief of Wisconsin Law Journal.*



## New Member Spotlight Kaley Bell

**Where did you grow up? Tell us about your path to practicing law** (college, law school, reason why you chose the profession). I grew up in Dyersburg, Tennessee—a tiny town in Northwest Tennessee known for its duck hunting, soybean fields and not much else. My elementary school offered an “enrichment” program for students who wanted to participate in extra classes. As part of this program, I spent one day a week for approximately eight weeks doing a mock trial simulation where we put Goldilocks on trial for breaking and entering. At that point, I was hooked. Now if you had asked me at age eleven what I wanted to be, I would have said a country music singer. However, I remember my dad and I having a conversation about how much I liked my mock trial experience and how I might be able to practice law that involved the music industry. From that point forward, I was going to be an entertainment attorney, and I have been chasing that dream ever since.

**What brought you to Nashville?** Nashville has always felt like a second home to me. My dad had a small part of his business here so we visited frequently when I was younger. I loved how much personality the city had and how music seemed to be on every corner. I was in my last year at University of Tennessee Knoxville, when I learned that Belmont University was opening a law school that was going to have an entertainment law certificate program. I applied early admission to be a part of the Belmont College of Law Charter Class and never sent another law school application. I always tell people that I am not technically a Nashville native, but Nashville will always be home.

**Tell us about your family.** I married my husband, Zach, in September 2015. We have a long-haired miniature Dachshund named Grace who rules our house and bosses her “little” sister, our Weimaraner, Paisley, around often. My younger brother, Parks, lives in Murray, Kentucky but visits Nashville regularly. My parents still live in Dyersburg, Tennessee, and my in-laws are now in College Station, Texas, so we are constantly on the road visiting everyone.

**What do you do professionally and what is your favorite part of your job?** I practice primarily civil litigation at Leitner, Williams, Dooley and Napolitan, PLLC. Recently, with the firm’s help and support, I have teamed up with my colleagues, Jordan Puryear and Tony Noel, to launch Leitner’s entertainment law department. Regardless of my area of practice on any given day, my favorite part of my job is working with the Middle Tennessee community. I have met so many amazing people in this community, and whether it is an attorney, artist or small business owner, I have enjoyed every story and background they bring to the table.

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**If you weren’t a lawyer, what would you be and why?** If I was not an attorney, I would be an artist manager. The ability to be the “behind the scenes” deal maker and work with someone to launch and develop their career is a very similar relationship to working with a legal client but with more creative leeway. I have clients and friends who are artist managers, and their job has always appeared so interesting.

**What is your favorite thing about being a member?** My favorite part of being a member is the tremendous amount of support LAW provides a new, female attorney. I have felt so welcomed by the women in this legal community and know that I could call any one of them for advice or support.

**What do you like to do in your spare time (if you have any)?** I love to be at home working in the yard with my family or at Kentucky Lake. I grew up going to Kentucky Lake as a kid, and you can usually find us there on any given weekend in the summer.

**What books are you reading right now and what is the last book you read?** I just started reading “Secret Thoughts of Successful Women” by Valerie Young, Ed. D. after a friend recommended it. I recently finished “Luckiest Girl Alive” by Jessica Knoll as my “fun” read during a long weekend trip (another wonderful unexpected plot twist read).

**What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by?**  
“Be pretty if you can, be witty if you must, but be gracious if it kills you” –Elsie De Wolfe. I love the reminder that nothing else matters if you are not humble and kind to others.

**What woman most inspires you and why?** My grandmother is one of the most inspirational people I have ever known. She had a myriad of health problems from a very young age, battled cancer, and because of her health issues, lost three children at birth. Despite her life trials, she was one of the most positive, encouraging and strong women I have ever met. She would always tell me, “you can take anything that doesn’t take your breath” as a reminder to face the world without fear because you have the strength to do so. She never complained or bought into being a “victim” of her circumstances but continuously pushed forward with a faith and drive that inspired anyone she met.

# LAW COMMITTEE CORNER

## *Networking Committee*

**Meet the 2017-2018 Board**

**May 25th 6:00—8:00 pm**

**House: A Social Eatery**

**712 51st Avenue N.**