

LAW MATTERS

April 2019

Volume XXX No. 11

Celebrate LAW's 2019 Award Recipients



Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey Award Recipient

Chancellor Claudia Bonnyman

Chancellor Claudia Bonnyman is the recipient of the 2019 Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey Award. Chancellor Bonnyman graduated with her Juris Doctorate from Vanderbilt University in 1974. Shortly thereafter, she clerked for Justice William J. Harbison of the Tennessee Supreme Court before serving as the only female District Attorney in the office of District Attorney Tom Shriver. Chancellor Bonnyman was a partner at Ortale, Kelley, Herbert, and Crawford until her appointment as the Davidson County Chancery Court Clerk and Master in 1989. In 2003, Governor Phil Bredesen appointed Chancellor Bonnyman to the bench as Chancellor of the Chancery Court for the Twentieth Judicial District. Chancellor Bonnyman served in this capacity until her retirement in January 2019.

In addition to her remarkable legal career, Chancellor Bonnyman was a founding member of LAW and LAW's first president.



Rising Star Award Recipient

LaTonnsya Burney

LaTonnsya Burney is the recipient of the 2019 Rising Star Award. Burney graduated from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law with her Juris Doctorate in 2010. Burney currently serves as the Assistant General Counsel and Director of Contracts for Tennessee State University. Before joining TSU, Burney served as a Litigation Associate for Booker Legal Group, P.C., an Administrative Hearing Officer and Assistant General Counsel for the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and a Staff Attorney for the YMCA of Middle Tennessee.

Burney is a Fellow of the Nashville Bar Foundation and Treasurer of LAW.

April 11, 2019
Omni Nashville Hotel
Legends Ballroom
Cocktail Reception 6:00—7:00 pm
Dinner and Program 7:00
[Click Here to Register.](#)

Reservations Due Friday, April 5th at 5:00 pm

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LAW CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 7, 2019	Practicing Parents Outing 12:30 am
April 11, 2019	Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet 6:00 pm—9:00 pm
April 18, 2019	Networking Mixer with NBA YLD 6:00 pm—7:00 pm
April 25, 2019	Health & Wellness Book Club 6:00 pm—7:00 pm
May 15, 2019	Board Retreat 11:30 am—1:00 pm

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ashonti Davis



“Anything’s Possible – Thank You for Answering the Call”

In my first president’s message, I said, “Anything’s Possible” as we embarked on a new board year. Reflecting on the past year, I hope that you—our members—feel like that message was consistently reinforced. Thoughtful lunch programming? Offering new ways for member engagement? Passionately pursuing new ideas and implementing ways for our members to connect, learn, influence, and grow? I want the answers to the above questions to be enthusiastically “Yes!”, but I imagine the truth is that we made strides this year, but LAW still has some remaining work to do.

Despite the work that remains, I am proud of the content for our lunch programming this year. I owe a huge debt of thanks to Tayo Atanda, Laura Baker, Valerie Moore, Malaka Watson, and Gulam Zade for their effort in executing our monthly lunch programs. This year alone, LAW offered CLE programs on bail reform, an update on the Nashville-Metropolitan Government, the intersection of the law and breast cancer awareness, the ethical quandaries for government lawyers, and a presentation on the use of private DNA as evidence in criminal investigations and the underlying privacy

concerns. Those valuable programs were bolstered by the showing of the documentary about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, *RBG*, through a partnership with the Nashville Bar Association, and the program at the Nashville Public Library on “The Roles of Activists, Government, and Media in Shaping the Realities and Perception of Certain Civil Rights Groups.” Expanding the types and topics of our lunch programs was very important as it engendered inclusivity and highlighted new perspectives.

In harmony with the diverse programming, our committee co-chairs devoted time to planning events for member engagement. Stella Kamm and Courtney Orr organized networking happy hours all over Nashville and worked with other groups to co-sponsor joint events like the one later this month with the Nashville Bar Association’s YLD at Smith & Lentz Brewing. Practicing Parents co-chairs, Amanda Bradley and Lynne Ingram, devised ways to educate and provide parents with events to connect with each other and their children. And, Jessica Lim and Kimberly Veirs not only orchestrated the annual essay contest for high school students, but also the Pro Bono Possibilities Mixer, showcasing opportunities for lawyers to have a meaningful impact.

But, this year was not only about programming and events for member engagement. This year’s board members went above and beyond answering the call of “Anything’s Possible.” The commitment demonstrated by our board members energized my time as President. For example, the dedication of Callie Hinson, Erin Palmer Polly, and Emily Warth ensured the success of the annual New Admittees’ Breakfast. This collective group worked hard to secure sponsorships and ventured to make changes to the usual program, which was anchored by the keynote address of Tennessee Supreme Court Chief Justice Jeffrey Bivins. And, thankfully, there are numerous other examples of such commitment by this year’s board, including: Joyce Safley’s incredible contributions to expanding our membership; the Mentoring co-chairs (Nancy Corley, Callie Jennings, and Mariam Stockton) building upon the momentum of the Lean-In Circles by continuing to plan creative sessions; Health & Wellness co-chairs (Rebekah Baker and Grace Stranch) providing our members with alternative ways to connect with the book clubs; Leighann Ness making sure that our members were represented with nominations for awards and honors as the Judicial Appointments and Elections co-chair; Community Relations co-chairs (Brooke Coplon and Danielle Ness) spearheading a book drive for elementary schools; Symposium co-chairs (Kay Caudle and Andrea Perry) tirelessly planning our next Symposium; and Caroline Sapp guaranteeing that all of this was captured as our Publicity/Social Media Chair.

In addition to our board, the Board of Directors and officers for this past year strengthened the success of LAW through consistent devotion to our mission. Elizabeth Sitgreaves, Christen Blackburn, Sara Anne Quinn, LaTonnsya Burney, Kimberly Faye, Camille Steward, Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs, Samantha Simpson, Mandy Floyd, Shellie Handelsman, Tracy Alcock, Jennifer Lankford, Jenny Moreno, and Tabitha Robinson – each person in their respective roles kept the business of LAW going, and saying thank you does not seem completely adequate. Nevertheless, thank you.

I am grateful to have served with this incredible group of people. I am even more grateful to our members for their continued engagement and support of LAW.

May is Membership Month!

Membership Renewals are right around the corner!

Watch for your renewal in your email inbox soon!

2018-2019 LAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ashonti T. Davis, *President*

Christen Blackburn, *President-Elect*

Sara Anne Quinn, *Secretary*

LaTonnsya Burney, *Treasurer*

Kimberly Faye, *2nd Year Director*

Camille Steward, *2nd Year Director*

Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs, *1st Year Director*

Samantha Simpson, *1st Year Director*

Mandy Floyd, *Archivist*

Shellie Handelsman, *Archivist*

Tracy Alcock, *Newsletter Editor*

Jennifer Lankford, *Newsletter Editor*

Jenny Moreno, *Newsletter Editor*

Tabitha Robinson, *Newsletter Editor*

Elizabeth Sitgreaves, *Immediate Past President*

Committee Co-Chairs

Breakfast Committee

Callie Hinson/Erin Palmer/Emily Warth

Community Relations

Brooke Coplon/Danielle Nellis

Diversity

Jessica Lim/Kimberly Veirs

Health & Wellness

Rebekah Baker/ Grace Stranch

Judicial Appointments & Elections

Casey Duhart/Leighann Ness

Legislation & Litigation

Brenda Gadd/Nina Kumar

Membership

Joyce Safley

Mentoring/Member Development

Nancy Krider Corley/Callie Jennings/Mariam Stockton

Networking

Stella Kamm/Courtney Orr

Practicing Parents

Amanda Bradley/Lynne T. Ingram

Programs

Tayo Atanda/Laura Baker/Valerie Moore/Malaka Watson/
Gulam Zade

Publicity/Social Media/Technology

Caroline Sapp

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Introducing LAW's Slate of Officers for 2019-2020

Pursuant to the LAW Bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the membership for the election of board of directors and officers for 2019-2020 will be held on April 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Omni Nashville Hotel, 250 5th Avenue, South, Nashville, Tennessee. Nominees for the officers and directors are introduced below. Other nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting.



President—Christen Blackburn. Christen is a 2008 graduate of the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She recently transitioned to Lewis Thomason from Leitner, Williams, Dooley, & Napolitan, PLLC, where she serves as Special Counsel dedicating a significant portion of her practice to employment litigation and workers' compensation, defending employers against allegations of discrimination harassment and retaliation. She is also active in the Nashville Bar Association.



President-Elect—Sara Anne Quinn. Sara Anne is a 2010 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an Attorney at the law firm of Butler Snow, LLP where she practices in the Labor and Employment Group and Healthcare Regulatory and Transactions Group. She represents private and public sector employers in every aspect of the employment relationship, and in all aspects of healthcare, including business, medical and legal matters.



Secretary—Kimberly Faye Clark. Kimberly is a 2015 graduate of the Nashville School of Law. She is an attorney at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP. assists clients across each tier of the alcoholic beverage industry – manufacturing, distribution, and retail. She also advises new and emerging businesses in business formation, contract matters and non-disclosure agreements. Prior to entering private practice she served as Senior Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Frank G. Clement, Jr. of the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Middle Section.



Treasurer—Leighann Ness. Leighann is a 2012 graduate of the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is an attorney at HCA Healthcare where she serves as Operations Counsel-Physician Services Group.



Archivist—Amanda Bradley. Amanda Bradley. Amanda is a 2016 graduate of the Nashville School of Law. She is a Law Clerk and Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Frank G. Clement Jr. on the Tennessee Court of Appeals.



Archivist—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.



Newsletter—Brooke Coplon—Brooke is a 2014 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School. She is an Associate at Wiseman Ashworth Law Group, PLC where she practices in personal injury, employment, civil rights litigation, nursing home litigation, healthcare law, mental health law, and premises liability.



Newsletter—Chambre Malone. Chambre is a 2006 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School. She is Senior Counsel, Regulatory Compliance for Bridgestone Americas, Inc.



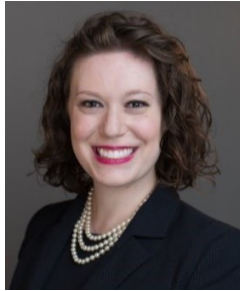
Newsletter—Tabitha Robinson. Tabitha is a 2017 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is a Staff Attorney at Nashville Electric Service.



Newsletter—Caroline Sapp. 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, PC.



Second Year Director—Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs. Kyonzte is a 2004 graduate of Vanderbilt Law School. She is Deputy General Counsel for the Tennessee Department of Health.



Second Year Director—Samantha Simpson. Samantha is a 2016 graduate of Belmont University College of Law. She is a Judicial Law Clerk to The Honorable Robert L. Holloway, Jr., Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, Middle Section.



First Year Director—LaTonnsya Burney. LaTonnsya is a 2010 graduate of The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is the Director of Contracts/Assistant University Counsel at Tennessee State University. LaTonnsya is the recipient of LAW's 2019 Rising Star Award.



First Year Director—Shellie Handelsman. Shellie is a 2014 graduate Belmont University College of Law, where she also earned a certificate in Entertainment and Music Business Law. She is an Attorney with Shuttleworth PLLC where she practices in the area of civil litigation, insurance defense litigation, entertainment, sports, IP law, and estate planning and probate law.



Immediate Past President—Ashonti Davis. Ashonti is a 2009 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She serves as in-house counsel at Aetna Senior Supplemental Insurance. Upon graduation from law school, she was a judicial law clerk for The Honorable John W. McClarty, Tennessee Court of Appeals, Eastern Section. Ashonti is the recipient of the 2017 Rising Star Award.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019

APRIL

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Practicing Parents Spring Outing at Hatch Show Prints

12:30 pm pick up pass

1:00 pm session begins

224 5th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37203

For children ages 5 and up.

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet

Omni Nashville Hotel

6:00 pm—9:00 pm

250 5th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37203

\$75.00 Members

\$85.00 Non-members



Use Code

LAW 411

OR park with the hotel valet at reduced cost of \$16.00

Reservations Due April 5, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

APRIL

Thursday, April 18, 2019

LAW and NBA/YLD Joint Networking Event

Smith & Lentz Brewing

5:30 pm—7:30 pm

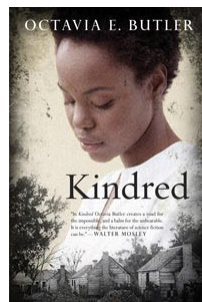
903 Main Street, Nashville, TN 37206

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Health & Wellness Book Club

926 Fairwin Avenue, Nashville, TN 37216

6:00 pm—8:00 pm



MAY

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

May Membership Meeting and One Hour General Credit CLE

BB King's Jazz Club

11:15 am—Noon Registration and Buffet Lunch

Noon—1:00 pm CLE Presentation

152 2nd Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37201

Beyond Politics: The Private Governance Response to Climate Change

Vanderbilt Law Professor Michael Vandenburg and Vanderbilt Physics Professor Jonathan Gilligan will discuss their latest book. How can private sector action provide opportunities to reduce the risk of climate change? Attend this informative session to find out!

To register for all LAW events go to www.law-nashville.org/events

March Meeting Recap:

The Roles of Activists, Government, and Media in Shaping the Realities and Perception of Certain Civil Rights Groups

By: Tabitha Robinson

On March 19, LAW members convened for a special membership meeting. The meeting garnered over 50 attendees at the Downtown Nashville Public Library. Attendees learned about how activists, the government, and the media shaped—and continue to shape—the perception of civil rights groups. The speakers were the Honorable Judge Dinkins of the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Andrea Blackman, Special Collections Division Manager of the Nashville Public Library, and Tasneem Tewogbola, Associate Director of the Nashville Public Library.

Judge Dinkins began the CLE portion of the meeting by discussing the “tumultuous time in American life and American history” that was the Civil Rights Era. At the time, women’s rights movements were gaining prominence, the nation was in the throes of the Vietnam War, and politics were rapidly transforming due to civil rights legislation. Judge Dinkins explained the shift away from silent protests and marches during the Civil Rights Movement. He discussed that the Black Panthers explored new ways to advocate and demonstrate. For example, the Black Panthers combatted police brutality by carrying guns and following police cars through African-American neighborhoods. Judge Dinkins explained how the media emphasized these confrontations to depict the Black Panthers as a “threat to society.” He also explained how the media controlled the Black Panthers’ image by emphasizing violent protests and minimizing the Black Panthers’ charitable endeavors, such as their free breakfast, tutoring, and healthcare programs for disadvantaged children. Judge Dinkins concluded, “America is a work in progress...and that is why we cannot go backwards. We can only go forwards. The Panthers believed that their movement was a forward movement, and they did move us forward.”



Judge Richard Dinkins



Andrea Blackman and Tasneem Tewogbola

Andrea Blackman and Tasneem Tewogbola played segments from a documentary entitled “The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution.” Then, they lead the group in discussion related to the documentary. Blackman and Tewogbola engaged the group in a conversation about perception. Blackman posed the questions, “What drives your perception of the Black Panther Party? What has challenged it?” One member remarked that people’s ages affect their perceptions of the Black Panther Party. Another member discussed how media coverage controlled society’s perception of the Black Panthers. A member explained how he became involved in civil rights rallies while being a Navy ROTC Midshipman and how it created conflict with his Captain. Another member shared her perspective of growing up in Nashville with an immigrant mother and how her experience shaped her perception of the Black Panthers and the Civil Rights Movement.

Another question posed was, “what stoked the fears about the Black Panther Party?” Blackman prompted the group to think about the role that the government and the media played in stoking fear. One member discussed how the fear of Black Panthers stemmed from the fear of losing power. She also remarked, “When we start stripping away the otherness of different groups of people, we all start to recognize that we are more alike than dissimilar, and that is where there is real power. That is where we can make some real change.”

Following the discussion, Blackman and Tewogbola hosted tours of the Civil Rights Room at the Downtown Library. For more information about “Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution,” please visit theblackpanthers.com.



Tabitha Robinson is a 2018-2019 Newsletter Editor and Staff Attorney for Nashville Electric Service.



How Comprehensive Cybersecurity Programs Protect Client Data & Differentiate Your Firm

By: Paul Telesco

The sensitive data held by law firms makes them primary targets for cybercriminals. This is true for law firms of all sizes. Data breaches are not always the result of sophisticated hacking carried out by genius criminals on law firms' firewalls and servers. They are often the result of low-tech cybercriminals sending out phishing emails containing store-bought exploits or well-worded messages convincing the recipient to do something they shouldn't. These messages are often sent out to hundreds of thousands of addresses, with the hope that a small percentage will take the bait.

So, what should we do to protect this data? Cybersecurity can be equated to golf. It is a simple concept, but the execution is not always easy. While golf is simply putting a ball in a hole, anyone that plays knows that there is nothing easy about accomplishing this. The same is true for cybersecurity. Keeping private information private requires preparation and practice. The best law firm cybersecurity program is made up of 3 components: policies, training, and tools.

Here are three ways to keep client data safe by implementing a comprehensive cybersecurity program.

Outline a cohesive cyber strategy through documented policies

Law firms need formally documented policies that outline proper procedures for every aspect of their IT environment. A comprehensive cybersecurity policy includes an acceptable use policy, a business continuity policy, an incident response policy, a data loss prevention policy, a records management policy, a mobile device policy, and a password policy. Formal policies provide a blueprint for employees to prevent and recover from a breach.

Empower your workforce through ongoing cyber training programs

Comprehensive training programs ensure the firm's documented cybersecurity policies are understood by all employees, detail and explain the tools the firm is providing to simplify adherence to these policies and explain the many ways employees can be exploited. This training should be part of employee onboarding to ensure new employees are aware of the importance of these policies to protect client data. The program should also include monthly refreshers in the form of newsletters or videos and quarterly follow-ups that detail the most recent methods used by cybercriminals to trick users into helping them.

Utilize security tools to further protect client data

LOGICFORCE'S Cybersecurity Scorecard, a periodic study designed to assess cybersecurity preparedness across the legal industry and educate law firms on the best practices for data protection, outlines the tools firms should be using to assist in following a robust cybersecurity plan.

For example, password managers are great tools to ensure users create complex and unique passwords for all professional and personal accounts, decreasing the likelihood of a password being compromised and limiting the impact if it happens. Multi-factor authentication (MFA) further protects users' accounts, even if an employee is tricked into giving it away and is most likely the single best tool to prevent account compromise. MFA provides a second layer of login verification, typically using a mobile device. Once a password is entered, a call or text is sent to the user's mobile phone, asking them to verify if it is actually them logging in.

These tools, including others outlined in LOGICFORCE's Cybersecurity Scorecard, need to be managed and developed by a security executive that can ensure the program stays current in the constantly changing cybersecurity landscape.

Law firms will not continue to get business if they expose client data, and client audits are increasing in number and overall complexity to ensure the firm is doing what it takes to prevent that exposure. Small or large, a firm's livelihood is directly tied to protecting its data. Comprehensive cybersecurity programs will not only limit the risk associated with keeping client data, but they will also open new business opportunities and act as differentiators from firms that don't make the investment.



Paul Telesco is the VP of technical services at LOGICFORCE, a Nashville-based leading legal IT consultancy.

Pro Bono Possibilities Party Recap

By: Jessica Cunningham Lim

On March 20, the LAW's Diversity and Networking committees co-hosted a "Pro Bono Possibilities Party" at the office of Bass, Berry & Sims. LAW members enjoyed food, drinks, and an amazing view of the city as they heard more about the importance of using their legal skills to give back to the community.

The party kicked off with a short panel discussion featuring Kinika Young, Director of Children's Health at the Tennessee Justice Center, and DarKenya Waller, Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and The Cumberland.

Ms. Young and Ms. Waller gave more information about their organizations and their respective roles in each. The **Tennessee Justice Center** focuses on providing legal assistance to Tennessee families with healthcare, disability, and food issues, including TennCare, Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP, and LIHEAP eligibility and appeals. Its goal is to ensure that all Tennesseans have access to affordable health coverage and food security. The **Legal Aid Society** of Middle Tennessee and The Cumberland provides free legal services and community education to low-income clients with civil cases or problems. With eight offices in 48 counties, it is Tennessee's largest non-profit law firm.

The panel speakers also told stories about their greatest accomplishments as pro-bono attorneys and provided more information about how LAW members can get plugged in and contribute. Ms. Young and Ms. Waller said their organizations provide lawyers, staff, and other support to help guide their pro-bono attorneys through cases and any legal issues that come up. If a long-term matter seems too overwhelming, attorneys can get great pro-bono experience by attending a legal clinic or workshop for several hours. Finally, it's important to remember that attorneys can always contribute by donating to these and other non-profit organizations providing legal services to the community.

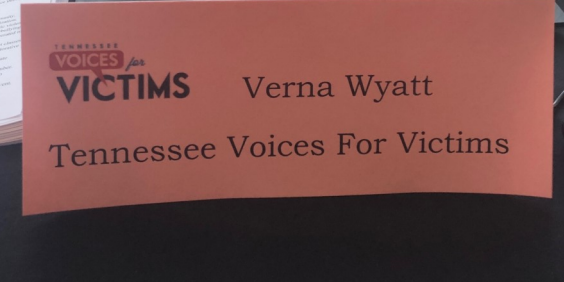
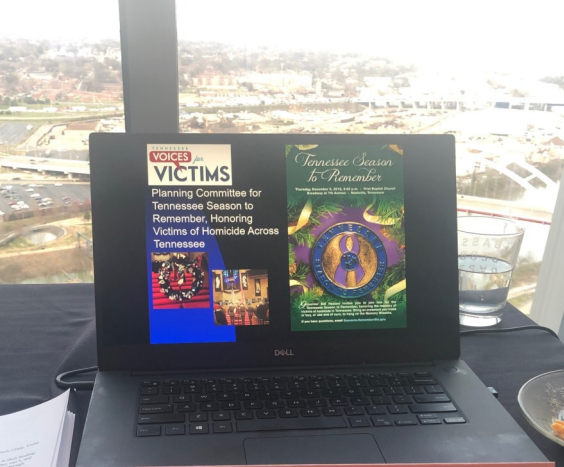
After the panel discussion, LAW members were able to discuss exciting and unique service opportunities with representatives from several non-profits serving Nashville and its surrounding communities. If you are interested in getting plugged in and giving back to the community, learn more about and reach out to one or more of LAW's partners at the Pro Bono Possibility Party:

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and The Cumberland (<https://las.org/>);
Tennessee Justice Center (<https://www.tnjustice.org/>);
ACLU Tennessee (<https://www.aclu-tn.org/>);
Nashville Peacemakers (<https://www.nashvillepeacemakers.org/>);
Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (<https://www.tnimmigrant.org/>);
Tennessee Innocence Project (<https://www.tninnocence.org/>); and
Tennessee Voices for Victims (<https://www.tnvoicesforvictims.org/>).



Jessica is a co-chair of LAW's Diversity Committee. She is an Associate at Leader Bulso & Nolan, PLC and practices in commercial and business litigation.

Pro Bono Possibilities Party



Health and Wellness Book Club: Becoming by Michelle Obama

By: Kimberly Walsh

On Thursday, February 28, the LAW Book Club began the new year discussing Becoming, Michelle Obama's best-selling memoir. Becoming has spent 16 weeks at the top of the New York Time's Best-Selling Non-fiction list. LAW's Health and Wellness Board Member Grace Stranch hosted the spirited discussion.

All LAW members in attendance would recommend Becoming. While the book does include some politics through the campaign and Michelle Obama's eight years in the White House, Becoming does not dwell on the politics. Rather it tells an inspiring story of Mrs. Obama's life. Mrs. Obama tells her story in way that draws you in, making the book difficult to put down.

Mrs. Obama begins her story as a child, growing up with her parents and brother in the second story apartment of her aunt's house on the south side of Chicago. One of the most prominent themes throughout the book is how important it is for a child to have an advocate supporting them, pushing them to do their best. For Michelle Obama, it was her Mother, Marian Robinson. Mrs. Robinson pulled a second grade Michelle Obama from a class where her teacher had given up. The teacher did not care to teach Michelle or her fellow second grade classmates. Mrs. Robinson, after meeting with school officials, got Michelle into another class. By getting into the other second grade class, Michelle was able to achieve more than most of her classmates. She got into one of the highest achieving high schools in Chicago, however it led to an hour and a half bus ride, each way, to school each day. Becoming continues through Mrs. Obama's time at Princeton, as an associate at Sidley Austin through their married life, the struggles of campaign life, living in the White House, and finally leaving the White House.

Mrs. Obama's story of finding a career outside of law that challenged and fulfilled her gave hope and insight to several members of LAW who are considering a career change or recently changed the focus of their careers. Mrs. Obama details the struggles she went through when first entering the practice of law and the challenges of being one of a few female attorneys in a large law firm. The inspiration drawn from Mrs. Obama lead to a discussion on how we, as female attorneys, could help other female attorneys and young girls through mentorship and support. How having an advocate in your life, whether it be a mother or mentor, can make all the difference in a young girl's life.

Join the LAW Book Club for Octavia E. Butler's Kindred on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. And no, you don't have to read the book to join!





Board Member Spotlight

Callie Jennings

Co-chair Mentoring/Member Development Committee

Where are you from? Tell us about your path to practicing law. I was born in Nashville and grew up in the Hillsboro West End neighborhood. As a kid, I loved writing short stories and poetry. I took Spanish in high school and ended up studying Spanish and Portuguese literature and philosophy in college. After college, I worked as a bilingual legal assistant at a local immigration law firm. While I was working there, President Obama announced the deferred action for childhood arrivals program for the Dreamers. I got to work on some of the first applications for our young clients, which was an amazing experience. I applied to the University of Tennessee College of Law the following year.

What brought you to Nashville? Nashville is my hometown, so I guess you could say it's where my heart is. I'm a proud alumnae of Eakin Elementary, West End Middle School, and Hillsboro High School. My parents were always active in the local community and I think that's part of the reason I wanted to come back to Nashville after college and law school. I feel so lucky to have the opportunity to practice law with my dad, to be close to my family and friends, and to contribute to my city.

Tell us about your family. My little brother Ryan is a local musician. His band, Teddy and the Rough Riders, is signed with Third Man Records. If you like Margo Price, you might want to check them out! My mom Paula is an artist and was a social worker for many years before my brother and I were born. Some people might know my dad Jan as an attorney, but he is also a very prolific artist specializing in wood and clay mediums. My fiancé Stephen is an emergency medicine resident at St. Thomas.

What do you do professionally and what is your favorite part of your job? Most of my work involves class and complex litigation of employment and civil rights matters. I've sometimes heard people say that law school or law practice stifles a person's natural creativity. I think creativity is a huge strength for a lawyer and it's what I love most about my work.

What books are you reading right now? I am currently reading *What Doctors Feel, How Emotions Affect the Practice of Medicine* by Danielle Ofri. A friend gave it to Stephen when he began residency and I picked it up the other day.

What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by? I guess I don't really have a good answer for this. But someone once pointed out that Professor McGonagall's patronus is actually herself (as a cat animagus) and I always thought that was pretty inspiring. It helps me remember to try and be my own best advocate.

Any other fun facts that LAW members don't know about you? I go to the Nashville Cat Show with my family every year. It's usually at the fair grounds at the end of December, if anyone is interested! I also love the game Bananagrams and usually have it in my bag just in case someone wants to challenge me. I'm very good, so bring it on!

What woman inspires you most and why? This is a tough question because there are so many different women who I consider role models in my life. Right now I guess I'd say my best friend Laura, who is the closest I have to a sister. She is one of the bravest women I know.



New Member Spotlight

Ron Coleman

Where are you from? Tell us about your path to practicing law. I was born and raised in Crossville, Tennessee. I didn't always want to be a lawyer; rather, when I was a kid, I had dreams of becoming a superhero. However, at age 7, someone told me that I should be a lawyer because I could argue with a stump and win. For some reason, I took this seriously and started looking into the profession. It began simply enough, by watching various television shows and movies, but by the time I was in high school, I was spending several days shadowing different attorneys who were family friends. I also was fortunate to meet former Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Charles O'Brien, who spoke to me several times about the legal profession. From then on, I knew I wanted to become a lawyer.

What brought you to Nashville? Nashville has always had a place in my heart, as I was a big Batman fan as a child—and also because I would regularly visit family in the area. Naturally, when I began looking for a job, Nashville was near the top of my list, and I was fortunate enough to be offered a position with the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General. The rest is history.

Tell us about your family. I am an only child, but both of my parents come from large families, so I probably have several hundred cousins out there somewhere. My father passed away unexpectedly before I turned two, and since then I was raised by my mother—a retired home health nurse—and her parents.

What do you do professionally and what is your favorite part of your job? I am an Assistant Attorney General in the Criminal Appeals Division of the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General. Once an individual requests appellate review of a decision (whether it be a direct appeal, post-conviction petition, or otherwise), I am part of a team of attorneys that represent the State in those matters. In short, my job is to keep the bad guys in jail, and that's precisely why I love it so much. I always wanted to go into public service, and being able to serve the people of Tennessee by upholding the ideals of the criminal justice system—and keeping the streets safer—is incredibly rewarding.

What books are you reading right now? I am currently on my fifth reread of the Wheel of Time series by Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson. After spending every day reading graphic details of various crimes, it is nice to be able to immerse yourself in a fantasy novel and forget about some real-life details. At the same time, I am also reading "Point Made, 2nd Ed." by Ross Guberman and "Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury: Greatest Closing Arguments In Modern Law" by Benjamin Bycel, H. Mitchell Caldwell, and Michael s. Lief.

What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by? "We judge ourselves by our intentions and others by their behavior." – Stephen M.R. Covey. It reminds me to attempt to empathize with others and look at things from their perspective, and also to be more thoughtful about my actions and how they could affect others.

What woman inspires you most and why? Mrs. Annabelle Clement O'Brien. I had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Annabelle for several years before she passed away, and she taught me a great many lessons. She served in the Tennessee House of Representatives and Tennessee State Senate for nearly twenty years, and I thoroughly enjoyed listening to all the stories she could tell. I think the one that has impacted me most, and the reason I find her to be so inspiring, is how she won her first election. She was so determined that she went door-to-door and must have had a personal conversation with every person in her district. The amount that she could get done through sheer determination and force of will was simply astonishing. At the same time, she was always willing to take time out of her day and show kindness to a nerdy little high-school-aged kid.

KUDOS

... To Tracy Alcock and husband, Ryan, on the January 20th birth of Parker James. Although almost a month early and weighing in at 5 lbs. 10 oz., all are doing well!

... To Jenny Moreno and husband, Tomás, on the February 24th birth of Tomás Joaquín.

(Both Tracy and Jenny were LAW newsletter editors for 2018-2019. Unbeknownst to both of them when they chose the months they wanted to cover last summer what early 2019 would bring!)

... To Tony Orlandi and wife, Emily, on the March 8th birth of Aria Clelia! Aria was 9 days late so she could be born on International Women's Day!

... To Sherie Edwards on being chosen as TBA Vice President. Sherie will ascend to the position of TBA President in 2021.

... To Chancellor Patricia Head Moskal on her investiture as Chancellor in Part 1 of the Chancery Court for the 20th Judicial District which serves Davidson County.

... To Brenda Gadd on becoming the 2019 recipient of the Nashville ATHENA Young Professional Award.

... To Kimberly Veirs on the March birth of her first child, a daughter.



Members on the Move

Christen Blackburn has recently moved from Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC to Lewis, Thomason, King, Krieg & Waldrop, P.C. where she serves as Special Counsel.

Kaley Bell has recently moved from Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC to Legility (formerly Counsel On Call) where she will serve as a Talent Manager.

Abby Sparks has moved from the Tennessee Department of Revenue where she served as HR Director to the Department of Human Services where she is the Assistant Commissioner of HR, Talent Management, and Learning Development.

**Thank you to our Sustaining Members who support the programs,
mission and purposes of LAW above and beyond the Sliding Income Scale categories.**

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Audrey Anderson	Anne Hamer	Barbara Perutelli	Elizabeth Washko
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Laura Baker	Jessica Hill	Sara Anne Quinn	Helena Walton Yarbrough
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Kay Caudle	Carol McCoy	Lucinda Smith	
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Carrie Daughtrey	Lori Metrock	Mariam Stockton	
Judge Martha Daughtrey	Amy Mohan	Grace Stranch	
Ashonti Davis	Valerie Diden Moore	Judge Jane Stranch	
Jackie Dixon	Marlene Moses	Allison Thompson	
Brenda Dowdle	Patricia Moskal	Scott Tift	
Sherie Edwards	Barbara Moss	Elizabeth Tipping	
Amy Everhart	Karen Neal	Annie Tipps	
Amy Farrar	Leighann Ness	Martha Trammell	
Doreen Farthing	Judge Alistair Newbern	Judge Aleta Trauger	
Kimberly Faye	Scarlett Nokes	Byron Trauger	
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