

# LAW MATTERS

March 2019

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## LAW CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 12, 2019
March Board Meeting 11:30 am—12:30 pm
March 19, 2019
Field trip to the Nashville Library 11:00 am—1:00 pm
March 20, 2019
Pro Bono Possibilities Party 5:00 pm—7:00 pm
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

## LAW Celebrates Diversity at Special March Program (p.3)

I—try to teach through my opinions, through my speeches, how wrong it is to judge people on the basis of what they look like, color of their skin, whether they're men or women.

—Ruth Bader Ginsburg

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ashonti Davis



This month's past president's message features Jacqueline B. Dixon, who served as president of LAW from 2003 to 2004. Jackie has not only shared one of her famous recipes, but she has offered a valuable perspective on attorney well-being. I appreciate Jackie sharing her perspective and advice on how, we as lawyers, must be mindful of our own well-being and colleagues.



### *Past President's Message Jackie Dixon 2003-2004*

Generally, I tend to be looking toward the next thing on my calendar. One of my New Year's resolutions is to be more in the moment, and to be more mindful. Sometimes, I enjoy reflecting on the past. Being asked to write this Column prompted me to do a little looking back to see where LAW was in March 2004, when I was nearing the end of my term as President.

At our March 2004 membership meeting, held at the City Club, we had two special guests, female members of the legislature: Rep. Kim McMillan, House Majority Leader and a practicing attorney from Clarksville, and Rep. Jamie Hagood, Republican Caucus Floor Leader and a practicing attorney from Knoxville. An announcement was made about an upcoming mentoring event with Vanderbilt law students. Our program speaker was the late Nashville community leader and businessman, Francis S. Guess, who spoke to us about the African-American Museum project. Sadly, Mr. Guess did not live to see that project come to fruition. It is slated to open within the next year as the National Museum of African American Music in the Avenue of the Arts redevelopment at the site of the former Nashville Convention Center.

Fast forward to 2019, our organization still has many of the same interests and concerns as we did in 2004. We want to see more women and more lawyers serving in the legislature. I could not quickly find historical data from 2004, but in 2009, Tennessee had 24 women serving in our state legislature, which made up 18% of the body. Ten years later, the number of women serving in Tennessee has dropped to 20 or 15% of our legislature. That is a trend we should continue to work on reversing.

In the past fifteen years, mentoring has grown more prevalent, with many legal organizations providing opportunities. The Great Recession of the late 2000s can be thanked for the increase in mentoring programs due to demand caused by new law graduates having little choice but to hang up their own shingle and go solo in a very depressed job market. But mentoring really is as much an opportunity for the mentor as it is for the "mentee." We all need to continue to learn in order to grow as lawyers. There is a reason it is called "practicing" law! LAW's Lean In Mentoring Circles offer a unique opportunity for members at all stages of practice to benefit from sharing experiences. If you are not participating, I highly recommend it.

Attorney well-being was not on LAW's agenda in 2004. Today's focus on well-being is much needed. For many years, too many lawyers primarily concerned

## 2018-2019 LAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Caroline Hudson

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).

themselves with how many billable hours could be crammed into a week on very little sleep combined with some heavy afterhours drinking. The well-being movement was jump-started in 2016, when the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being was formed by several entities within and outside the American Bar Association. In its report, *The Path to Lawyer Well-Being*, the task force relied on two studies and concluded that too many lawyers and law students experience high rates of depression and substance abuse, which are incompatible with a sustainable legal profession, and raise troubling implications for many lawyers' basic competence. One of the five areas that the report focused on is well-being as an indispensable part of a lawyer's duty of competence. The entire report is available at [ambar.org](http://ambar.org) along with a toolkit that includes tips for "lawyer thriving." I commend it to you.

Some simple suggestions for our well-being are doing things we find enjoyable, performing acts of kindness for others, and eating a healthy diet. Cooking is one of my favorite things to do. I find it relaxing to stir a saucepan of lemon cream sauce to be used in chicken enchiladas. Putting together a quick, warm, healthy-ish desert for others or myself is fun. This one makes leftovers to serve for breakfast the next day, after all, it contains fruit and oatmeal!

### **Fruit Crisp**

Preheat oven to 350. Butter a 2-3 quart shallow casserole dish or pan.

For the filling--

7 cups peeled, sliced fruit or berries

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar, more or less depending on tartness of fruit

1-2 teaspoons corn starch, more for juicier fruit

1 teaspoon vanilla

In a large bowl, mix together the filling ingredients. Then pour the mixture into the prepared dish or pan.

For the topping--

1 cup all-purpose flour

1 cup old-fashioned oats

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup brown sugar

$\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon cinnamon

$\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt

# NOMINATE TODAY

**Nominations are now being taken for the 2019 Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey Award and the 2019 Rising Star Award. Click on the links below to access nomination forms. Nominations are due by March 11, 2019 at close of business.**

**[2019 Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey Award](#)**

**[2019 Rising Star Award](#)**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

# 2019

## MARCH

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

March Membership Meeting and One Hour CLE

Field Trip to the Downtown Nashville Public Library

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

Speakers:

Court of Appeals Judge Richard Dinkins  
Andrea Blackman and Tasneem Tewogbola, Nashville Public Library

**Note Time Adjustment for this Event**

11:00 am—11:30 am Registration/Box Lunch

11:30 am—12:30 pm CLE

Followed by Q &A and Tour of Civil Rights Room

Reservations due by Noon, March 15th



Use Code

LAW 319

OR Park in the library parking garage.  
The first hour is free!

## MARCH

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**Wednesday, March 20, 2019**

**Pro Bono Networking Event**

**Bass, Berry & Sims PLC**

(More Details on Page 9)

5:00 pm—7:00 pm

150 3rd Avenue South, Suite 2800, Nashville, TN 37201

## APRIL

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**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**

To register for all LAW events go to [www.law-nashville.org/events](http://www.law-nashville.org/events)

## February Meeting Recap: Women, Money, Marriage, Repeat

By Tabitha Robinson

On February 19, LAW members convened for the February meeting at B.B. King's. This meeting featured Rosemary Frank as she presented, "Women, Money, Marriage, Repeat." Rosemary Frank is a financial planner specializing in wealth management and divorce. She is a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst, Advanced Divorce Financial Analyst, Certified Fraud Examiner, Master Analyst in Financial Forensics, and a Rule 31 Family Law Mediator. At the meeting, members got out of their comfort zones as Ms. Frank candidly discussed difficult topics such as financial planning, domestic violence, and divorce.

Ms. Frank began her presentation by stating that women make 80 cents on the dollar compared to their male counterparts. Furthermore, women have an 80% chance of outliving their male spouses. Despite this, financial services firms largely ignore women, as they are perceived as incapable of spearheading control of their households' finances. Ms. Frank even pointed out that women's shirts cost more to dry clean, even if they are nearly identical to men's shirts. All of these financial inequities—however slight some may seem—eventually accumulate and become a huge burden upon retirement, as many women do not have enough financial resources to live.

Ms. Frank then discussed what women expect from their financial consultants. Foremost, women want respect. Women want objective-oriented financial consulting. Women also prefer female financial advisors because of their communication styles and listening skills. Ms. Frank provided advice on how lawyers can productively approach finances with their female clients. When talking about money, it is paramount to relate the financial discussion to a woman's personal objectives. It is also important for attorneys to allow women to overcome potential feelings of vulnerability. Lastly, attorneys should reinforce a woman's existing knowledge and confidence in her finances.

Regarding finances in the marital context, Ms. Frank advised that there should be a financial partnership between spouses. There should be full disclosure and transparency, and each spouse should have an equal understanding of their financial situation and play an equal role in financial decision-making. Ms. Frank urged members to participate fully in their financial partnership by reading statements, perusing resources, and being an active participant when meeting with financial planners. While to many, this may seem like antiquated advice better suited for women of yesteryear, Ms. Frank lamented that women's participation in finances are still low, thus necessitating this advice. In fact, 61% of all millennial women leave investment and long-term planning solely to their husbands.

Ms. Frank then discussed the sobering realities of unbalanced financial partnerships and how they can be a sign of financial abuse. Ms. Frank explained that money is a common control mechanism for abusers and that financial control can be a precursor to verbal and physical abuse. Ms. Frank stated that 99% of women that have experienced domestic abuse were initially financially abused. Signs of financial abuse include: limiting or sabotaging the victim's employment opportunities, controlling the spending of all household income, limiting access to accounts and financial information, giving "allowances," and accruing debt under the victim's name.

Lastly, Ms. Frank discussed how women should financially protect themselves during a divorce. Women business owners facing divorce should foremost protect their businesses, pay themselves a market salary, and have professional business valuations. After divorce, women should consider the divorce as a growth opportunity and become empowered to take control over their financial resources. Ms. Frank advised members to not succumb to the "lottery effect" by blowing a divorce settlement all at once. When remarrying, prenuptials are essential. During the marriage, seek out financial management to define what's "yours, his, and ours." Be sure to preserve personal wealth, protect any businesses, and protect children's inheritances. Prepare yourself for retirement and ensure that you have at least 20-30 years' worth of finances to sustain yourself through retirement.

Ms. Frank's presentation provided a wealth of information to LAW members in all phases of life. Members can learn more about Rosemary Frank and her financial planning services at [rosemaryfrank.com](http://rosemaryfrank.com) and [dollarsofdivorce.com](http://dollarsofdivorce.com).



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

## February Luncheon



## Networking Happy Hour



# The Pro Bono Outlook

By Miki Sisco

If you're like me, you listen to a lot of podcasts on the way to the office in the morning. And if you're even more like me, that means Ted Radio Hour. As I was driving to court the other day, an episode aired entitled, "Wired for Altruism," which examined what motivates everyday people to perform acts of service—even acts their own expense. The host interviewed one speaker who had studied "extreme altruists," including a man who injected himself with leprosy bacillus to test for a cure. Another speaker shined on people who had donated their kidney to a complete stranger into an MRI machine, presumably to figure out what in the world they were thinking (as it turns out, these people have increased amygdala activity). Still another speaker talked about choosing ethical careers, whether it be running a soup kitchen, or becoming a Wall Street banker who can simply donate millions of dollars to those soup kitchens.

While I can't imagine injecting myself with a tropical disease or donating my kidney to someone I've never met (although kudos if you have!), it did strike me how lucky I was to belong to a profession that, at the end of the day, is defined by public service. Whether you work at a non-profit organization, a state or federal governmental agency, or a private law firm, every day is an opportunity to use our special legal skills to make a difference in our community. I'd like to share one such opportunity with you.

The Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP) is based at Legal Aid Society, and connects pro bono attorneys with low-income clients across the 48 counties we serve. VLP accomplishes this by referring pre-screened (sometimes by me!) potential clients to pro bono attorneys, as well as organizing legal clinics at Legal Aid Society's main office, churches, community centers, and libraries.

## **Direct Representation**

Through VLP, pro bono attorneys may represent low-income clients in cases involving conservatorships, expungements, unemployment benefits, SSI/SSDI benefits, Chapter 7 bankruptcy, eviction, debt collection, tort defense, wage claims, adoptions, Orders of Protection, Fair Housing, Consumer Protection Act, and more! VLP has a current need for attorneys to represent domestic violence survivors in divorce proceedings in Davidson and its surrounding counties. For so many survivors, seeking a divorce is a critical step toward achieving safety and independence from an abusive spouse—and as someone who takes these types of cases myself, I can't stress how important it is for survivors to have an attorney by their side as they confront their abusers in the courtroom. VLP also has a need for attorneys to draft wills and POAs in Davidson and the surrounding counties, empowering low-income people to make important decisions for themselves and their loved ones.

Clients aren't the only ones who will benefit by your participation in VLP. Pro bono attorneys also receive:

- Up to three (3) hours of E&P credit
- Professional liability coverage
- Mentoring
- Legal Aid Society pays necessary litigation expenses
- Interpreter services
- Mediation
- Attorney's Fees

If you're interested in becoming a VLP attorney, you may fill out the following registration form located on Legal Aid Society's website: <https://las.org/volunteer/volunteer-lawyers-program/volunteer-lawyers-registration-form/>.

## **Legal Clinics**

VLP is particularly excited to announce that they will be resuming their Saturday McHugh Help Clinic in partnership with Belmont University on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to noon. If you are interested in participating at this or any other clinic, please contact Jorge Salles Diaz at (615) 780-7131.

VLP will be hosting the following clinics in March 2019:



Veterans Project	6-Mar	11:00 AM	OSDTN	1125 12th Ave S Nashville 37203
Mercy Clinic	7-Mar	4:30 PM	St. Andrew Lutheran Church	908 Murfreesboro Rd, Franklin 37064
Gallatin	12-Mar	4:30 PM	Gallatin Civic Center	210 Albert Gallatin Ave, Gallatin 37066
Nashville Tuesday Clinic	12-Mar	4:30 PM	Nashville Office	1321 Murfreesboro Pike Nashville 37217
Veterans Project	13-Mar	11:00 AM	OSDTN	1125 12th Ave S Nashville 37203
Maury County	19-Mar	4:30 PM	Maury County Library	211 W 8th St., Columbia 38401
Oak Ridge	19-Mar	5:00 PM	Oak Ridge Office	575 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge 37830
Veterans Project	20-Mar	11:00 AM	OSDTN	1125 12th Ave S Nashville 37203
MNPS	23-Mar	8:30 AM	EL Office	615 Fessey Park Rd Berry
Veterans Project	27-Mar	11:00 AM	OSDTN	1125 12th Ave S Nashville 37203

I hope to see you soon at a clinic, in court, or at least listening to your own favorite podcast in the car next to me. Here's to the extreme altruists!



*Michelle "Miki" Sisco is an attorney at Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands.*



Join LAW's Diversity and Networking Committees for the Pro Bono Possibilities Party on March 20, 2019 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Bass, Berry & Sims. Food and beverages will be provided. We will kick off the party with short presentations by our featured guests, Kinika Young, Director of Children's Health at the Tennessee Justice Center, and DarKenya Waller, Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society, on the importance of using our legal skills to give back to the community. Representatives from several local non-profits will be at the party to discuss exciting pro-bono and service opportunities for LAW members.

## On the Basis of Sex

A Movie Review

by Joyce Grimes Safley

[Disclaimer: The Reviewer is a huge admirer of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. This review may not be as neutral as some other reviewers may have of "On the Basis of Sex." movie.]

Today she is one of the few individuals in our country's history who is known simply by referring to her three initials: "RBG." Today little girls (including my granddaughter) wear "Notorious RBG" tee shirts with pride! Today women wearing "When there are 9" tee shirts (I have two - one pink, one black) are routinely stopped by men and women who say, "Isn't she fabulous!" No name necessary...we all know to whom "SHE" refers. The Ruth Bader Ginsburg "action figure" (complete with gavel) I received as a gift is in a place of honor on my desk! News stories on television, magazines, print, newspapers, and social media show photographs of girls and women wearing Ruth Bader Ginsburg costumes during the Women's March (black robes, large glasses, and the classic "I dissent" collar). Numerous women attorneys dressed up as their hero, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, for Halloween Parties! Today, there have been many news articles, news stories, and documentaries about Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Today if you see a coffee mug with "I Dissent" on it, you know immediately that it refers to Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Today how many Supreme Court justices are portrayed in a humorous yet admiring fashion on a regular basis, to standing ovations, by Kate McKinnon on Saturday Night Live? Finally, Ruth Bader Ginsburg appears as a Super Hero figure in the Lego Movie: Part Two! You know you have totally made it as a Super Hero when you appear in a Lego Movie!

"On the Basis of Sex" tells the story of Ruth Bader Ginsburg as a young student, wife, mother, and new attorney. I attended the "On the Basis of Sex" movie with two friends, one an attorney and one a physician. We all agreed the movie was excellent, we enjoyed it immensely, and it was very thought provoking. We all know the current Ruth Bader Ginsburg: a highly respected, accomplished, successful, and brilliant Supreme Court Justice. An *icon*. Admired by millions. The Ruth Bader Ginsburg we do not know is the woman her husband affectionately called "Kiki," a very human, brilliant, lovely young woman, with the same fears and insecurities that many women of all ages share. "Kiki" was *young*, was a newly-wed, had an eighteen-month old baby, and was entering her first year at Harvard Law School. "Kiki" worried over the appropriate dress to wear to the Harvard Law Dean's dinner for the "women students." "Kiki" was a terrible cook, with her "go-to meal" a horrible tuna casserole recipe that her husband Martin usually **surreptitiously** disposed in the trash. "Kiki" liked to have a beer and play charades.

This movie introduces us to a human Ruth Bader Ginsburg. This movie is a love story (really!), a social commentary, and a story of a woman's commitment, strength, grit, and perseverance. It also tells the story of mutually loving and supportive spouses.

Ruth Bader graduated at the top of her undergraduate class at Cornell University in 1954. That same year, Ruth Bader became Ruth Bader Ginsburg after marrying her husband Martin ("Marty") Ginsburg. After graduation, Ginsburg put her education on hold to start a family and have her first child, Jane. In 1955, when her husband, Martin Ginsburg, was a second-year student at Harvard Law School, Ruth Bader Ginsburg applied, was accepted, and enrolled at Harvard Law.

The movie begins when Ruth Bader Ginsburg attends her first day of law school at Harvard. That day, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was one of only nine women in a class of more than 500 at Harvard Law School. Harvard Law had begun accepting women law students only five years earlier, in 1950. To say that nine women, including Ruth, in the entering law school class stood out like a "sore thumb", would be an understatement. During the Dean's "women law student dinner", the law school dean asked all the women law students to justify taking places at the school that could and should be occupied by men. As noted during the movie, there were NO restrooms for women law students. Women students were frequently ignored in class by law school professors. Women law students were subjected to the smirks and hurtful comments of many of their classmates, *and* many of their professors.

While attending Harvard Law, Martin Ginsburg was diagnosed with testicular cancer and had to endure surgery and long-term treatments for cancer. Martin was so ill that he was unable to attend law school classes. During his illness, Ruth attended Martin's classes, as well as her own, and typed all of Martin's notes and papers. Despite the demands of attending Martin's classes for him, attending her own law school classes, and taking care of her husband and child, Ruth won a coveted spot as the first female member of the *Harvard Law Review*.

Martin Ginsburg recovered from cancer, graduated from Harvard Law School, and accepted a position at a prominent New York City law firm. The opportunity was too great for Martin to turn down, but what would Ruth do? Would Har-

vard Law allow Ruth to receive a Harvard Law School Diploma? Would Ruth choose her husband and move to New York, or would she remain in Boston to obtain a Harvard Law School diploma? While other male Harvard Law School students were allowed to receive the revered Harvard Law School diploma after completing two years at Harvard, would Harvard allow Ruth, a woman, to do the same?

After Ruth graduated from law school, number one in her class, even her exceptional accomplishments and academic record were not enough to shield her from the gender-based discrimination women faced in the workplace in the early 1960's. Time and time again, law firms refused to offer Ruth Bader Ginsburg a job. At the time Ruth Bader Ginsburg graduated from law school, there were 170 statutes on the books that discriminated against women on the basis of gender.

Without spoiling all the movie's stories, "On the Basis of Sex" goes on to describe Ruth's championship of women's rights, and her many battles for gender equality. The movie also depicts the human side of Ruth that most of us never think about: her struggles to be a "supportive wife" to Martin, Martin's complete support of his wife professionally, and the dynamics of a family with two young children and two very busy professional parents. Even Ruth's "supporters" during her early years practice, such as the ACLU Director Mel Wulf, had trouble seeing past their ingrained gender biases and prejudices. As an example, Marty has become the family's cook (due to Ruth's inability to make an edible meal.) Yet, even "liberal" and "forward thinking" Mel Wulf, after making very critical comments to Ruth concerning her oral appellate argument, in an effort to be "positive," compliments Ruth for making "delicious" pate appetizers. (Marty made the liver pate appetizers.) When Ruth accepts a trailblazing gender equality case, she is required by the ACLU's Mel Wulf to participate in "moot court" oral argument preparation. After Ruth's "mock panel of judges" tell her she is too "shrill", "not believable", "not quick enough on her feet", and "too defensive," Ruth is very discouraged and doubts her own abilities. On the other hand, Martin Ginsburg (co-counsel with Ruth on the case), male, charismatic, handsome, brilliant and personable, waltzes through the "practice Moot Court", and sails through the real appellate argument. The contrast, at that time, between the Court's attention and respect for Martin, and the Court's dismissive attitude and lack of respect for Ruth, could not be more marked.

The movie portrays both Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and her husband, Martin Ginsburg, as loving, mutually supportive partners. During one scene in the movie, I turned to one of my friends and confessed, "It makes me a little queasy to see Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Martin Ginsburg in a sex scene." My friend acknowledged that the scene, too, made her feel a little awkward, but replied: "I know. But she IS human!"

This movie deftly tells the story of Ruth's personal struggles for equal rights, and her struggles on behalf of other women. It also tells the story, well known by many of us, of Ruth and her husband juggling the requirements of being attorneys, marriage, and children. It portrays the early cases of Ruth's historic career, which leads to her nomination and confirmation as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice. When the movie ended (I will not spoil the ending!), the audience applauded.

This reviewer gives "On the Basis of Sex" 4.8 out of 5 stars. The only fly in the ointment as far as my group was concerned was the fact that a British Actress, Felicity Jones, portrayed Ruth Bader Ginsburg, an American icon. Admittedly, Felicity Jones was excellent in her role, but still .... Armie Hammer was terrific in his role as Martin Ginsburg. Sam Waterson and Kathy Bates were particularly good in their respective roles; as was Justin Theroux, who was surprisingly good as Mel Wulf, the ACLU attorney who sincerely wanted to be liberal and unbiased, yet still had some of his own deeply ingrained personal biases and prejudices against women attorneys. There were other excellent actors in the movie who successfully portrayed a bevy of sexist and smarmy individuals that Ruth encountered along the way. While I and my two companions thought the movie was terrific, some reviewers have complained that it was too "legal." (A movie about Ruth Bader Ginsburg that is *too legal*?) I highly recommend it! I believe any member of LAW will enjoy this movie immensely.



*Joyce Grimes Safley, a graduate of Vanderbilt Law School is the owner of SAFLEY LAW. Joyce represents Plaintiffs in race, gender, age, ethnic, and other discrimination lawsuits, FLSA cases, civil rights actions; and represents respondents in professional licensure actions before state and local agencies. Joyce thought she had it rough going through law school as a single mother with an eighteen-month-old baby, but now believes she had it relatively easy after seeing "On the Basis of Sex." She has never made a tuna casserole in her life, nor attempted to feed her family such a dish.*

# The Culinary



## Chaatable

By Tabitha Robinson

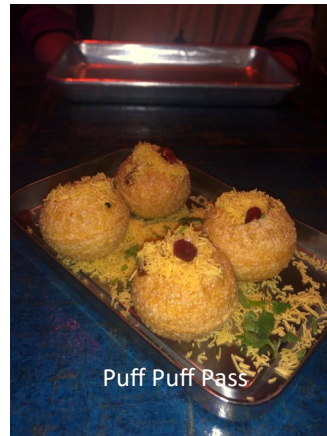
Chaatable debuted last November and has since garnered approval from choosy gourmands and casual diners alike. Chaatable is the second restaurant of Food Network judge and renowned chef Maneet Chauhan. Tucked away in Sylvan Park, Chaatable is everything Nashvillians love about Chauhan's flagship restaurant with an added element of flashy casual flair. It is a fresh compliment to Sylvan Park's collection of eclectic, contemporary restaurants.



Chaatable turned out to be nothing that I had expected, but in the best way possible. Upon entering the restaurant, I was greeted with a colorful collage of traditional Indian décor, from the parasols hanging from the ceiling, to a wall completely adorned with bangles. The environment is uplifting and authentic, a pleasant preliminary to the main event. After my friend and I were seated, our waiter promptly welcomed us. Upon his suggestion, I started with a Pani 'Rita. Described as a "mini tamarind margarita with chaat masala, lime, mint, and chile," this tiny taster resembled a traditional margarita with an unexpected twist of savory Indian spices. It came with Pani Puri, a traditional Indian street snack of hollow puffed bread, which complimented the savory yet sweet drink it adorned. This unique drink was the perfect primer to an equally unique main course.



Pani 'Rita'



Puff Puff Pass

With cheekily-named entrees like “Send Noods” and “Legalize Wheat,” Chaatable’s menu selections sound as exciting as they taste. We started with “Puff Puff Pass,” a cold appetizer consisting of “moong daal, potatoes, semolina puffs, and sweet and sour yogurt.” It arrived to the table on a silver platter, daintily adorned with fresh seasonings. Encapsulated inside the puff was a zesty fresh yogurt, which was certainly an unexpected element for what appeared to be a solid one-bite appetizer. Next up was “Hand It Over.” The menu describes this appetizer as “spiced potato hand pies” with chaat, green peas, tamarind, and mint chutney. It was definitely among the best that Chaatable has to offer. It was visually and palatably colorful, and the samosas were dressed with an array of exciting toppings. I likened this appetizer to nachos with an Indian twist. We also tried “Why the Chicken Cross Street,” a tandoori chicken dish marinated in cream and spices until tender.



By the time we finished our appetizers, we were so satiated that we decided to split an entrée. While there were multiple contenders such as “Curry On,” a “pork belly sorpotel curry” and “The O.G.,” a “half-roasted butter chicken,” we ended up trying “Go Shorty.” The menu describes this entrée as a “Mangalorean ghee roast” made with confit short rib, ginger, and coriander. This entrée was like nothing I had tried before. My friend and I described it as “Indian comfort food.” The short rib was more like a roast and was similar to a traditional Southern pot roast with zesty and flavorful spice.

Our dessert may have been the most unexpected dish of them all. We ended our meal on a sweet note with “Full on Falooda,” a “pistachio-cardamom kulfi sundae,” with saffron rabri (a condensed milk-based dish) and rose noodles. The dessert arrived to the table and looked more like a soup with no resemblance to a sundae of any sorts. Nevertheless, we dug right in and were not disappointed. The richness of the sweet cream married with the rose noodles to create an indulgent, yet palate cleansing ending to our meal.



Whether you enjoy venturing out of your culinary comfort zone or prefer to stick to the tried and true Indian classics, Chaatable has something for everyone. Visit [chaatablenashville.com](http://chaatablenashville.com) to book a brunch, lunch, or dinner!



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



## Board Member Spotlight

### Camille Steward

**Where are you from?** I am originally from Birmingham, Alabama. I arrived in Nashville for the first time in 1992 to attend Fisk University as a freshman.

**Tell us about your path to practicing law.** I wanted to be a lawyer for as long as I can remember. However, upon meeting with my freshman advisor and informing her of my intent to achieve those ambitions by majoring in political science, she recommended that I select a different major just in case I changed my mind about being a lawyer. With that, I decided to major in business administration with a concentration in accounting. After working for a year as a financial analyst, getting blurry-eyed from creating Excel spreadsheets and tracking missing dollars from salesmen bonus checks on microfiche (Gee, I feel old)—I decided that practicing law was what I really wanted to do. I attended the University of Tennessee College of Law with every intent to return to Nashville which has been a permanent home to me for the last 18 ½ years.

**Tell us about your family.** I am married to Orson Steward and we have two girls: Ella, age 10 and Makenna, age 6. We also have a girl Labradoodle (that didn't quite doodle) named Cookie. I affectionately call her Cookie Monster because as a young pup, she tore up everything in our house. Cookie is as wild as can be and so are our kids and every day is crazy, but we wouldn't have it any other way!

**What do you do professionally and what is your favorite part of your job?** For the past year and a half I have been acting as the Staffing and Employee Relations Manager at NES. My background as a labor and employment lawyer has been most helpful in this role. The favorite part of my job is learning how my section fits into the big picture of operation and being on the front end of employment issues.

**What books are you reading right now?** I am currently reading "Me Talk Pretty One Day" by David Sedaris. It's an oldie, but Sedaris is a funny writer and his books make me laugh out loud, and I was in the mood for funny. I just finished Michelle Obama's Becoming—which I enjoyed very much. This year, I have made it a goal to read for pleasure more frequently, so now I read just a little bit every night. If nothing else, it relaxes my mind and helps me sleep better.

**What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by?** Being from Alabama I have been blessed with all kinds of sayings or advice passed down from generations that were helpful through the years. As, I have grown, I have come to live by four principles in The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz (1) Be impeccable with your word. (2) Don't take anything personally. (3) Don't make assumptions. (4) Do your best. I also have a quote on my desk about perfectionism by Lee Piper, a Cherokee Elder, "I don't compete with God." It reminds me of my humanness and the humanness of others.

**Any other fun facts that LAW members don't know about you?** I can dance. Like...really dance. Like, when I see dance moves on TV, I can do them (as long as no acrobatics are involved). I love to break out with a hard jam in front of my kids for absolutely no reason. It makes them scream and squeal.

**What woman inspires you most and why?** While there are countless women ranging from Harriet Tubman to Michelle Obama who have inspired me and continue to do so, my first inspiration is my mother. She made me and continues to build me up while never letting me down. She is the strongest, most loyal, and fairest person I know. If I am only half the woman she is, I would be ok with it.



## New Member Spotlight

### Savannah Flowers

#### New Member Spotlight – Savannah Flowers

**Where are you from? Tell us about your path to practicing law.** I grew up in Franklin, Tennessee. The journey from my hometown to my new home in Nashville is a pretty simple trip. The journey from my professional start in social work to the practice of law is a similarly simple trip. I've always wanted to help people, and, as a social worker, I came to see how powerfully the law could work in people's lives. I decided I wanted to be part of directing harnessing that power to the benefit of people in need.

**What brought you to Nashville?** Nashville being just a quick jaunt from Franklin, I found myself heading north to Nashville often growing up. When it came time to choose a college, I made that familiar trip north to Belmont after falling in love with their social work department. While there, I fell in love with the town, and grew a passion for making the town better. I was excited to return to Nashville after law school to put those new legal skills to work in this community.

**Tell us about your family.** I have a really cool family. Whenever my mom, dad, and sister are together, we keep each other laughing. Not only is my family hilarious, but they are also kind-hearted and generous people, and I learn from each of them daily. We all share a love for dogs, and each of us have one or more pups that are also an important part of the family.

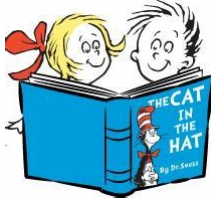
**What do you do professionally and what is your favorite part of your job?** I work in the family law section at Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland, the largest nonprofit law firm in Tennessee and founded in 1968. There, I get to assist survivors of domestic violence in achieving safety, independence, and prosperity. I honestly can't believe I get to do this work for a living. This is what I dreamed of doing when I went to law school. At Legal Aid, we get to give our clients some of the tools they need to rebuild their lives. I think my favorite part of this is watching our clients become empowered and thrive in that empowerment.

**What books are you reading right now?** I've been slowly but surely learning Spanish for what feels like a lifetime. A friend of mine and I went to Colombia during law school in a mutual effort to better our respective levels of Spanish fluency. He, being a supportive friend, recently suggested that I read the Harry Potter series in Spanish as a fun way to ensure that I get a little Spanish practice everyday. I am currently working my way through Harry Potter y la piedra filosofal.

**What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by?** I've always kept a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson close to my heart. He said "To know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded." It may sound a little cheesy, but this captures a philosophy that I would like to guide my life.

**Any other fun facts that LAW members don't know about you?** I tried my hand at roller derby during law school. I was terrible at it, but I had an absolute blast.

**What woman inspires you most and why?** During my last year of law school, I went on a service trip led by Fran Ansley. We got to know each other pretty well during our week together, and I've been blown away by her passion and spirit every week since. Even in retirement, she makes her community a better place every single day by insisting upon justice for every member. She's what would happen if the energizer bunny and superwoman went to law school. Another professor of mine once said that, "she's the lawyer you aspire to be." I agree, and if I can be half the lawyer that she is, I'll consider myself a great success.



## Community Relations Book Drive

In support of Read Across America day and the mission of the Lawyer's Association for Women, Marion Griffin chapter, we are pleased to kick off a book drive in support of local schools. Our goal is to deliver 120 books to 4 schools during the first week in March (480 total). Please help us reach the goal by purchasing books from the link below or bringing your books to any upcoming LAW event.

Read Across America day is a nationwide initiative to encourage reading. There is a particular focus on celebrating the many diverse readers within our schools. As such, the included list is filled with books with diverse characters, empowering messages and diverse authors. There are several books are not regularly found by or readily available to students mixed in with childhood classics. Please feel free to share widely!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact P. Danielle Nellis ([pdnellis@gmail.com](mailto:pdnellis@gmail.com)) or Brooke Coplon ([brooke@wisemannashworth.com](mailto:brooke@wisemannashworth.com))

View my Wish List:

[https://smile.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/34P8TK56E5LEW/ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_mt\\_gm\\_wl](https://smile.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/34P8TK56E5LEW/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_gm_wl)

# KUDOS

- . . . to General Sessions Judge Lynda Jones on being elected to the executive committee for the state General Sessions conference.
- . . . to Laura Baker, husband, J.T. and daughter, Claire, on the birth of Hudson. Hudson was born on February 26th and weighed in at 9.5 lbs.!



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

Blind Akrawi	Dana Haas	Andrea Perry	Elizabeth Washko
Audrey Anderson	Anne Hamer	Barbara Perutelli	Malaka Watson
Anne Arney	Sarah Hannah	Cynthia Podis	Bernadette Welch
Kristi W. Arth	Laura Heiman	Erin Polly	Susan Neal Williams
Katherine Austin	Lisa Helton	Sara Anne Quinn	Helena Walton Yarbrough
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Sherie Edwards	Barbara Moss	Annie Tipps	
Amy Everhart	Karen Neal	Martha Trammell	
Amy Farrar	Leighann Ness	Judge Aleta Trauger	
Doreen Farthing	Judge Alistair Newbern	Byron Trauger	
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Shana Foncesbeck	Ashley Odubeko	Erica Vick	
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Elizabeth Gonser			