

LAW MATTERS

June 2021

Volume XXXIII No. 2



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Kimberly Faye



Am I the only one who cannot believe that we are almost halfway through 2021? For me, it feels like time is flying by as we are adjusting and learning how to navigate in the new post-pandemic world. It almost feels like every occasion is a social event—from returning to the office, having dinner with people outside of my “pod,” and finally getting to see live music again. It is a wonderful feeling actually seeing people.

With COVID restrictions lifted, LAW is excited to start planning in-person events.

We will also have some virtual events this year as those were already in the planning phases, including our 2021 Marion Griffin Women's Symposium, which will be virtually held on September 23. We will have more details in the coming weeks, but please mark your calendar now.

LAW's June Board Meeting also served as our Annual Board Retreat this year. The committee co-chairs shared goals and ideas for this year, and I am looking forward to working with the committees and seeing all the great things LAW will accomplish this year. I'm excited for all of our members to meet the 2021-22 Board, and our Networking Committee is planning our “Meet the Board” event to be held sometime in late August or September.

Our first in-person event will be our Annual Legislative Update at the June Membership Meeting and CLE on June 15. I encourage you to join us at the Nashville City Club as we welcome the dynamic trio of Mandy Young, Erica Vick and Kim Adkins as they analyze, summarize, and (maybe eulogize) legislation brought before and passed by the 2020 and 2021 Tennessee General Assemblies. This event is always well attended and one of my favorites. The CLE will be offered as a hybrid, but we would love to see as many of you in attendance who are comfortable in a group setting.

A quick reminder, it is membership renewal time, so if you have not renewed your LAW membership for this year, please do that as soon as possible. If your financial situation allows, I strongly encourage you to renew or join at the Sustaining Member level. As a sustaining member, you will receive additional benefits in terms of visibility and exposure. Also, new members or renewing members who raise their membership level to the Sustaining Member level by June 30, 2021 will receive One Hour of Free CLE (to be used by September 1, 2021). If you have already renewed this year and do not know what level you signed up for and want to upgrade to Sustaining Member level, please email our Executive Director, Melanie Gober Grand.

LAW is committed to diversity, equality and inclusion, and I want to remind everyone that June is Pride Month. In honor of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan—considered the tipping point for

2021-2022 LAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Melanie Gober Grand

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the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States—each June people across the world come together to celebrate LGBTQIA+ Pride Month. Although the LGBTQIA+ has made great progress since the Stonewall Uprising, there is still violence and discrimination against the LGBTQIA+ community and a lack of protections for fundamental rights and dignity in hospitals, schools, public accommodations, and other spaces. So please keep in mind, that not only is Pride a time to recognize the progress that’s been made since the Stonewall Uprising, but it’s just as important to acknowledge how far we still must go as a society. With that in mind, in closing, I share with you a Dalai Lama quote that inspired me this month. “Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.”

The Future of Qualified Immunity

July 20, 2021

Noon—1:00 pm

Virtual July Membership Meeting One-Hour General Credit CLE

Qualified immunity is a judicially-created doctrine that shields government officials who have violated the U.S. Constitution from personal liability so long as their violation is not of “clearly established law.” With broad-reaching impact on civil rights and related litigation, the future of qualified immunity has become central to conversations about reforms addressing law enforcement abuse and overreach. Professors Alexis Hoag and Karla McKanders, both civil rights experts, will share their insights regarding the doctrine of qualified immunity, its impact on civil rights, and the future the doctrine. Professor McKanders will additionally discuss qualified immunity in the context of immigration detention and the doctrine’s impact on women who are detained.



Professor Alexis Hoag is an Assistant Professor at Brooklyn Law School, where she teaches Evidence and Criminal Law and Procedure. She spent over a decade as a civil rights and criminal defense lawyer, primarily representing capital convicted clients in federal post-conviction proceedings. Professor Hoag’s scholarship examines the laws, institutions, and jurisprudence that perpetuate the subordination of Black people within the criminal legal system and offers avenues for reform.



Professor Karla McKanders directs the Immigration Practice Clinic and teaches Refugee and Immigration Law at Vanderbilt Law School. Professor McKanders’ work has taken her throughout the U.S. and abroad teaching and researching the efficacy of legal institutions charged with processing migrants and refugees.

*Sustaining Members who renewed their dues by June 30th qualify to receive one hour of FREE CLE. Sustaining Members must use their free one-hour CLE by September 1, 2021.

A View From the Bench: Remote Advocacy 1+ Years Into the Pandemic

By Caroline Sapp

On May 18, 2021, LAW held its May Membership Meeting and One Hour Dual Credit CLE: A View From the Bench: Remote Advocacy 1+ Years Into the Pandemic. Judge Jane Stranch, U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals; Magistrate Judge Alistair Newbern, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee; Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle, Davidson County Chancery Court, Part 111; and Judge Ana Escobar, General Sessions Court Division 3, offered insight as to what they have experienced in their courtrooms for the last year.

The courtrooms certainly have changed since the start of the pandemic. Virtual hearings, trials, among other court-related occurrences, were the norm, as well as limiting the number of people in the hallway and on elevators in General Sessions Court. The judges also offered their perspectives on the best practices for virtual interactions with the court/judges, provided pointers and helpful tips for attorneys, and their thoughts on what advocacy will look like in the future.



Judge Stranch



Mag. Judge Newbern



Chancellor Lyle



Judge Escobar



Caroline is a 2021-2022 Newsletter Editor. She is the managing attorney of the Tennessee office of The Barnes Firm PLLC.

Marion Griffin Women's Symposium

September 23, 2021

9:00 am—1:00 pm

**Watch for more details
about this virtual event!**



As the Lawyers' Association for Women—Marion Griffin Chapter celebrates its 40th anniversary this year, we are looking back on and honoring our past. As part of the celebration, we are highlighting a LAW founder and past president each month, finding out what drew them to LAW, what they remember most about their time as president, and their reflections on LAW's role in the community now and in the future.

Founder's Spotlight

Beth Jones



What were you doing in your career at the time the Marion Griffin chapter of LAW was founded?

Clerking for Judge Daughtrey/Assistant District Attorney.

What memories do you have about the formation of LAW?

Great enthusiasm about what we could all do together.

What did you envision as the goal or purpose of LAW when it was founded?

It helped get judges elected and advocated for the YMCA to open to women.

What's a favorite memory from your time with LAW?

Friendships and support.

What has your membership in LAW provided for you over the years?

I left Nashville in 1990. Woman lawyers in Washington, DC were not as supportive as LAW members.

What do you consider to be the greatest accomplishment of LAW?

Election of judges and other public officials.

What do you think LAW has provided to the Nashville legal community since it was founded?

Diversity and qualified candidates to the bench.

What do you hope LAW does in the next 40 years?

I hope it continues to do good things.

**Don't Miss Out on What's Ahead!
Renew Your 2021-2022 Dues
TODAY!**



Past President's Spotlight

Jan Bossing

1990-1991

Why (and how) did you first get involved in LAW?

Marietta Shipley (from Shipley and Behm—the first women's law firm in Nashville) came to a meeting of WLSA (Women Law Students Association) and invited us to come to a LAW event and/or meeting.

What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment while serving as president of LAW?

We began using LAW Matters to advocate for (and/when appropriate, against) the realities of the Nashville legal community.

What's your favorite memory from your time serving as LAW's president?

Barbara Mendel Mayden brought Hillary Clinton to speak at our "annual meeting." She said that she could "feel the love and the power in the room!" I learned that it truly does take a team!

What has changed about LAW and/or the Nashville legal community since you first got involved in LAW?

I think the biggest change in Nashville's legal community is the increasing diversity of the bench and bar.

What do you hope LAW's role is in the Nashville legal community going forward?

I hope LAW will continue to lead in recognizing, encouraging, and supporting women (and men who value women) lawyers and judges.

What woman inspires you and why?

Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey has broken glass ceilings—and kicked in a few doors, too! She has been THE first "everything" . . . And an inspiration to all.

New Study Finds Women Lawyers Hit Harder by Pandemic

The ABA Journal recently reported on a study, conducted by a University of Minnesota psychiatry professor and a lawyer who also is a licensed and board-certified alcohol and drug counselor, that women lawyers were hit harder by the pandemic. The study found higher depression symptoms, anxiety, and stress in women attorneys. In addition, a more significant percentage of women than men are engaging in risky or hazardous drinking, and one in four women have considered leaving the profession due to mental health concerns. Finally, the report stated disparity in power in the workplace, the gap in promotions and pay, discrimination, and lack of opportunity as causes.

If you or someone you know struggles with substance abuse, stress, or emotional health issues, contact The Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program. TLAP is a free, confidential assistance program providing consultation, referral, intervention, and crisis counseling for lawyers, judges, bar applicants, and law students. www.tlap.org



Board Spotlight

LAW President Kimberly Faye

Where are you from? Tell us about your path to practicing law.

I am originally from McKenzie, Tennessee. It's a small town in West Tennessee mostly known for being the home to Bethel University. My path to practicing law is a little unique. I jokingly say that law school was my "back up plan," because I started out in the music industry. I was singer and musician, and I traveled all over the Southeast playing gigs at weddings, festivals, benefits, and even rodeos. Many of the musicians I played with during those years were attorneys. The bass player in the band I was in during high school was a general sessions judge. There are many musically inclined attorneys out there! Although I loved music, education was always very important to me. I attended Middle Tennessee State University for Music Business and Management and continued performing, then eventually ended up fulfilling my dream of attending law school and becoming an attorney. I miss playing as much as I used to, but it is nice to have music as a fun creative outlet now.

What do you do professionally, and what is your favorite part of your job?

I am on the Government Relations team at Waller. It's difficult to really summarize what exactly we do, but we assist businesses, trade and industry associations, and non-profit organizations with government affairs, legislative and administrative matters, municipal and state regulatory law, land use and zoning issues and other strategic issues that could impact their operations. We also represent clients in contracting matters and transactions with the Metro Nashville and other local governments. My favorite part of my job is getting to work and learn from great colleagues. I also love that our clients are forward thinkers and handling matters that change the landscape of Nashville.

What leadership roles have you had with LAW?

I've been a 1st and 2nd Year Director and Secretary with LAW. I've served on the Social Media and Technology Committee as well. I really enjoyed my time serving as Director and Secretary the most because it allowed me to be involved with others committees like Mentoring/Development and helping with the Lean In Circles along with planning events for Networking.

What is your favorite part of LAW?

My favorite part of LAW is the friendship and bonds that you develop. It's so refreshing to be in an organization where women truly support women and celebrate each other's accomplishments. Through LAW, I know I have friendships that will last a lifetime, and I will forever be thankful for that.

Describe yourself.

I'm an attorney, musician, dog mom to Leo (my 10 month English cream golden retriever), Aunt Kiki to my nephews, lover of traveling, and someone who loves to live life and have fun. I love to laugh and have a good time, but also like to be serious and overthink things too much. It's all about balance, right!?!?

It's a Saturday night in Nashville (pre-COVID-19) - what are you up to?

Pre-COVID-19, on a Saturday night, I would be exploring the newest restaurants in Nashville. I'm a foodie and love trying new things with friends and family.

Facebook or Instagram?

Instagram for sure. If I'm on social media, it's to pass the time and not think about anything serious, so I love looking at pictures and videos. I could spend hours watching videos of dogs, cats, and other animals on Instagram. Thankfully my friends enjoy the same thing, so we are always sharing cute videos and memes with each other.

Phone call or text?

Text, then phone call. I'm so used to texting that now when the phone rings from someone unexpectedly, a small part of me is always concerned that something is wrong.

Summer Trips 2021: Vaxxed and Relaxed or Optimistically Cautious?

By Caroline Sapp

With vaccinations available for most folks, the vaxxed and relaxed motto (among other mottos) has appeared on t-shirts, hashtags, memes, etc. People are ready to be out, about, and interacting with friends, family, and frankly, just seeing other human faces.

The summer season officially starts on June 20, 2021, and thus, vacation season is upon us. Some folks may be ready to fly, even internationally, during this second summer of the pandemic. Others, however, may not be ready to fly or travel too far from home. Regardless of whether you choose to fly, travel internationally, or stay close to home, the spots below are some short (within a seven hour drive of Nashville) road trip ideas for the summer:

Cashiers, North Carolina¹

If you haven't traveled to this little gem of a place, do it. It's known as "The Heart Of The Blue Ridge Mountains" and located on the plateau. Multiple hiking trails, waterfalls, lakes, mountains, and beautiful scenery surround every spot. My favorite hiking spots include Dry Falls, Bridal Veil Falls, Glen Falls, Silver Run Falls, and Rainbow Falls.

In addition to the beautiful hiking and scenery, Cashiers also has a quaint downtown and is close to the Highlands—another perfect mountain retreat.

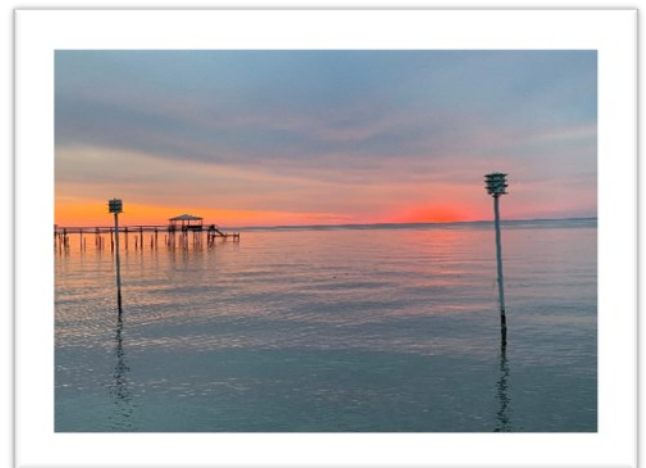
Drive Time (from downtown Nashville): Approximately 5 hours 30 minutes



Fairhope, Alabama²

Fairhope is one of my top three favorite places in the South. Many years ago, I attended a wedding in Fairhope and fell in love with its picturesque downtown. Little did I know that in 2020, I would work in Fairhope a few weeks out of the year.

Fairhope is located on the eastern shoreline of Mobile Bay, and the sunsets are some of the most beautiful ones I've ever seen. On top of boasting a view of the gorgeous bay, the Fairhope Municipal Pier and Park is a must-see spot to visit—did I mention it was covered in mature Longleaf Pines, Live Oaks, and Magnolia trees?



The downtown shops include art galleries and antique stores, and at certain times throughout the year, a First Friday Artwalk happens, along with the annual Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival.

Drive Time (from downtown Nashville): Approximately 6 hours, 46 minutes

¹Find out more information here: <http://www.cashiersnorthcarolina.org/>.

²Find out more information here: <https://www.fairhopeal.gov/visiting>.

Rock Island, Tennessee³

Rock Island is such a special place, and one of my favorite spots to recommend when folks visit the Upper Cumberland region. I love the area so much that I recently purchased property in the area and am only a few minutes away from the state park—childhood dream.

While Rock Island State Park is the main attraction (and rightfully so), there is also fishing or kayaking on the Caney Fork River. In addition to the river, folks can eat or launch their boat at Cotten's Marina, Fishlipz Bar & Grill, part of the Pates Ford Resort & Marina, and Sligo Marina.

Visitors can also easily travel around the area to access other state parks and wilderness areas for additional hiking trails, swimming, and waterfall viewing.

Drive Time (from downtown Nashville): Approximately 1 hour 36 minute

Regardless of whether you're ready to fly, travel internationally, or want to stay close to home, I hope the above offers you a road trip idea or two.



³Find out more information here: <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/activities/rock-island>.



... to LAW members who were recently named to Nashville Bar Journal's 2021 Best of the Bar!

Gail Ashworth, this year's Lifetime Achievement winner.

for Banking & Finance: Cindy Barnett

for Corporate Counsel: April Berman, Sherie Edwards, Laura Smith, Emily Warth, and Gulam Zade

for Corporate Counsel-Government: Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs

for Family Law: Jackie Dixon and Lynne Ingram

for Intellectual Property: Ed Lanquist

for Labor & Employment: Margaret Behm and Jennifer Robinson

for Litigation & Dispute: Laura Baker, Erin Palmer Polly, Liz Sitgreaves and Tyler Yarbrow

for Real Estate: Andrea Perry

... to Blake Howell on his promotion to Director of Flexible Talent and ELS Recruiting at Legality

... to Courtney Orr on her promotion to East Team Leader in the Criminal Appeals Division of the Tennessee Attorney General's Office.

Member Spotlight

Ed Lanquist



Where are you from? Tell us about your path to practicing law.

I was born in Crossville but have lived in California, South Dakota, and Iowa.

What do you do professionally, and what is your favorite part about your job?

I am an intellectual property lawyer. This allows me to deal with a great variety of technology and business models that are almost always interesting.

What brought you to Nashville?

I got my engineering and law degrees in Knoxville, so it was time to get out of Knoxville after 7 years.

What's your favorite thing to do in Nashville?

Either serve on non-profit boards or go to bars and restaurants.

Why (and how) did you first get involved in LAW?

When I managed our firm I wanted to make sure I learned more about the challenges of being a female attorney.

Tell us about your family.

My daughter is a freelance writer who lives in East Nashville. My son just finished his Masters in Library Science at University of Washington.

What are your hobbies?

Drinking and collecting whiskey and writing about it on my Instagram.

What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by?

We are a sacred profession, and we need to remember that when serving our clients as opposed to serving ourselves.

What woman inspires you and why?

There are so many. I love to hear, and at the same time shudder, about what female lawyers have had to put up with. I want to be Margaret Behm when I grow up.

**Thank you to our Sustaining Members who support the programs,
Mission and purposes of LAW above and beyond the Sliding Income Scale catego-**

Mallory Acheson	Hannah Kay Freeman	Ann Murphy	Rachel Zamata Swanson
Audrey Anderson	Victoria Gentry	l'Ashea Myles	Rachel Taylor
Anne Arney	Jessica Gichner	Margaret Myers	Scott Tift
Kristy Arth	Elizabeth Gonser	Karen Scott Neal	Elizabeth Tipping
Gail Ashworth	Melissa Gworek	Leighann Ness	Martha Trammell
Catie Bailey	Shellie Handelsman	Magistrate Judge Alistair Newbern	Judge Aleta Trauger
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Cindy Barnett	Laura Heiman	William O'Bryan, Jr.	Robert Tuke
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April Berman	Michele Johnson	Barbara Perutelli	Malaka Watson
Paige Bernick	Judge Kelvin Jones	Bart Pickett	Bernadette Welch
Judge Cheryl Blackburn	Judge Lynda Jones	Erin Polly	Karen Williams
Christen Blackburn	Brendi Kaplan	Sara Anne Quinn	Susan Neal Williams
Judge Melissa Blackburn	Quynh-Anh Kibler	Phillis Rambsey	Emeritus Dean Melanie Wilson
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