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MONTHLY BULLETIN

Mobile Bar Association 153 Government Street Mobile, Alabama 36602 (251) 433-9790

President's Comments



WES PIPES, PRESIDENT
MOBILE BAR ASSOCIATION

www.MobileBarNews.com

JUDGES STEWART and LOCKETT have contacted the MOBILE BAR ASSOCIATION to follow up on the impact of the court funding crisis on our local state court system. You may recall that HENRY CALLAWAY wrote about this very topic in last September's Bar Bulletin. Unfortunately, the predictions from that time are coming true and it is increasingly urgent that something be done to preserve access to the courts. The layoffs that have already been experienced have been very serious, but are going to get significantly worse in the near future. A number of employees who would have been laid off last year remained at their jobs and were paid with local funds through an arrangement with the ALABAMA OFFICE OF COURTS. These employees are currently working at reduced pay and with no benefits. Unfortunately, it is projected that those local funds will soon run out and those employees will no longer be at work. A total of 57 employees have been effected by the funding cuts in the court system in Mobile County and when the existing local sources of funds run out and these employees are no longer at work, it is going to be very difficult for the circuit and district courts to operate with anything approaching the level of service to which we are accustomed. The amount of money required to pay the 57 effected employees is \$2.1 Million per year.

Our local court system needs immediate help and instead of getting it from the proposed budget for the judicial branch, it is going to have to come from local resources.

A local bill has been prepared at the request of the circuit and district court judges which if passed will increase the assessment for the law library fund by \$50.00 on all civil and criminal filings and traffic fines. If passed, the projection is that the local bill should generate enough money to reimburse AOC for paying the 57 employees who have been affected. The proposed budget for the judicial branch will not provide funds for these employees. Passage of the local bill is our only realistic hope.

As lawyers, we all recognize the critical role the court system plays in seeing that the rule of law is followed in our daily lives. Please take some time and involve yourself in trying to save our court system by drumming up support for the local bill to generate the funds to keep employees at work in the courthouse to serve the public. We need for everyone to pitch in and speak positively in favor of the local bill to increase the fee to the law library fund and contact your senators and representatives to impress upon them the importance of the local bill being passed before it is too late to salvage these critical jobs.

Barbara and Tammy at Bar Headquarters (433-9790) will be happy to provide you with the names and mailing addresses of the senators and representatives whose support is essential to passage of the local act. We need as many people as are willing to get behind this effort before it is too late.



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2012 OFFICERS

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PROGRAM

THE SPEAKER FOR THE MARCH MONTHLY LUNCHEON WILL BE

ASHLEY RICH, MOBILE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2012, 11:45 AM

ADMIRAL SEMMES HOTEL



HONOR 50 ATTORNEYS

BEN H. HARRIS, JR.

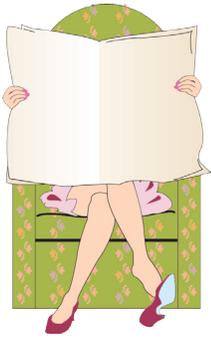
JACK W. MORGAN

JAMES C. WOOD

LOUIS E. BRASWELL



Browsing the Bar – With Barbara



Are You as Smart As a First Grader? A 1st grade school teacher had twenty-six students in her class. She presented each child in her classroom the first half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by first graders. Their insight may surprise you. While reading, keep in mind that these are first graders, 6-year-olds, because the last one is a classic!

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Don't change horses | until they stop running |
| 2. Strike while the | bug is close |
| 3. It's always darkest before | Daylight Saving Time |
| 4. Never underestimate the power of | TERMITES |
| 5. You can lead a horse to water but | how? |
| 6. Don't bite the hand that | looks dirty |
| 7. No news is | impossible |
| 8. A miss is as good as a | Mr. |
| 9. You can't teach an old dog new | Math |
| 10. If you lie down with dogs, you'll | stink in the morning |
| 11. Love all, trust | me |
| 12. The pen is mightier than the | pigs |
| 13. An idle mind is | the best way to relax |
| 14. Where there's smoke there's | pollution |
| 15. Happy the bride who | gets all the presents |
| 16. A penny saved is | not much |
| 17. Two's company, three's | the Musketeers |
| 18. Don't put off till tomorrow what | you put on to go to bed |
| 19. Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and | you have to blow your nose |
| 20. Children should be seen and not | spanked or grounded |
| 22. If at first you don't succeed | get new batteries |
| 23. You get out of something only what you | see in the picture on the box |
| 24. When the blind lead the blind | get out of the way |
| 25. A bird in the hand | is going to poop on you |
| And the WINNER and last one! | |
| 26. Better late than | pregnant |

**I Just couldn't resist sharing this with you.
It was submitted by Juila Hornback for Hope International in 2009.**

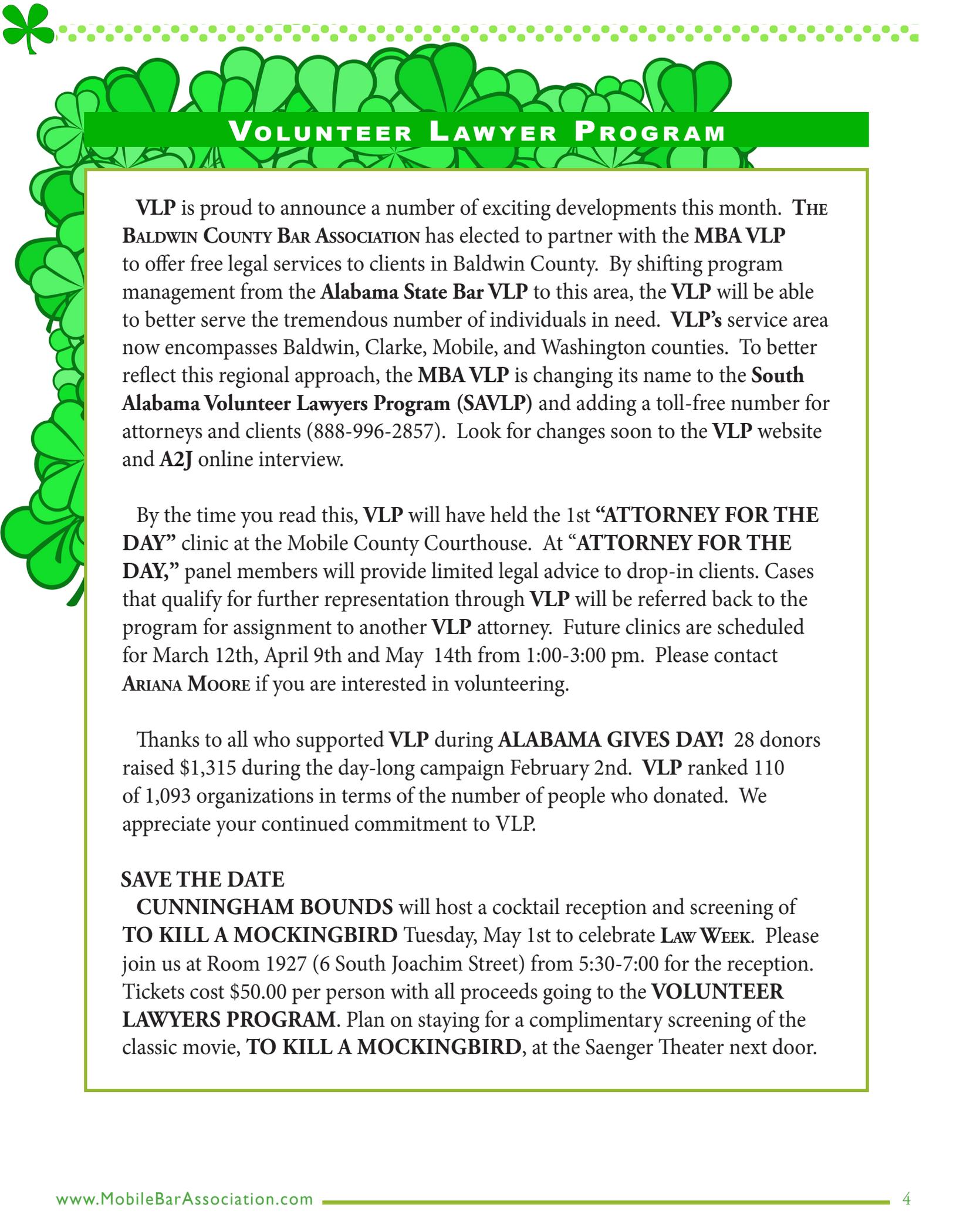


Three Lawyers at Joe Cain

Can you guess who they
are?

“When I Get Where I’m Going”: Immigration Law Questions?

As the **DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES** have initiated a series of policy and operational initiatives to attract foreign entrepreneurial talent of exceptional ability or who otherwise can create jobs and the State of Alabama has provided incentives to foreign-based companies, we do see more business and individual clients with employment or family-based immigration issues or questions than ever. **THE GULF COAST IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER** offers guidance, advice, counsel and representation to individual and business clients in matters of immigrant (both employment and family-based) and nonimmigrant working visas and compliance matters, including the **U.S. IMMIGRATION INVESTOR PROGRAM (EB-5 Program)**. If you have any immigration related question, please contact us at info@gulfcoastimmigrationlawcenter.us or **SUJIN KIM, Esq.** at 251-379-8065 or skim@gulfcoastimmigrationlawcenter.us



VOLUNTEER LAWYER PROGRAM

VLP is proud to announce a number of exciting developments this month. **THE BALDWIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION** has elected to partner with the **MBA VLP** to offer free legal services to clients in Baldwin County. By shifting program management from the **Alabama State Bar VLP** to this area, the **VLP** will be able to better serve the tremendous number of individuals in need. **VLP's** service area now encompasses Baldwin, Clarke, Mobile, and Washington counties. To better reflect this regional approach, the **MBA VLP** is changing its name to the **South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program (SAVLP)** and adding a toll-free number for attorneys and clients (888-996-2857). Look for changes soon to the **VLP** website and **A2J** online interview.

By the time you read this, **VLP** will have held the 1st **“ATTORNEY FOR THE DAY”** clinic at the Mobile County Courthouse. At **“ATTORNEY FOR THE DAY,”** panel members will provide limited legal advice to drop-in clients. Cases that qualify for further representation through **VLP** will be referred back to the program for assignment to another **VLP** attorney. Future clinics are scheduled for March 12th, April 9th and May 14th from 1:00-3:00 pm. Please contact **ARIANA MOORE** if you are interested in volunteering.

Thanks to all who supported **VLP** during **ALABAMA GIVES DAY!** 28 donors raised \$1,315 during the day-long campaign February 2nd. **VLP** ranked 110 of 1,093 organizations in terms of the number of people who donated. We appreciate your continued commitment to **VLP**.

SAVE THE DATE

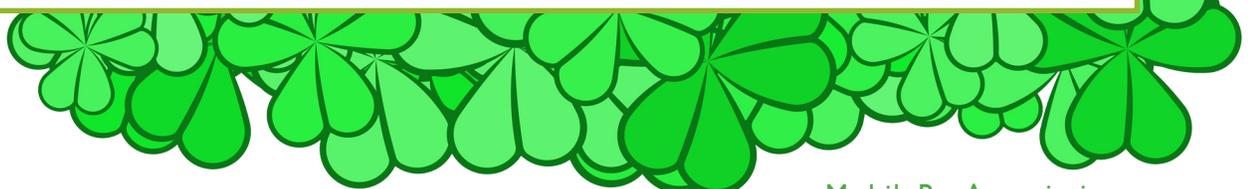
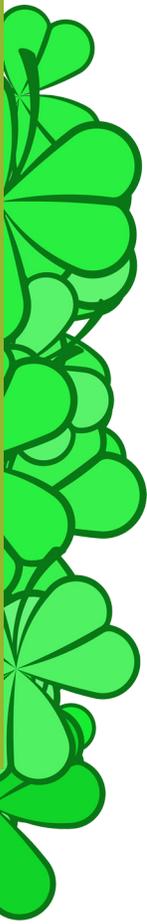
CUNNINGHAM BOUNDS will host a cocktail reception and screening of **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD** Tuesday, May 1st to celebrate **LAW WEEK**. Please join us at Room 1927 (6 South Joachim Street) from 5:30-7:00 for the reception. Tickets cost \$50.00 per person with all proceeds going to the **VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROGRAM**. Plan on staying for a complimentary screening of the classic movie, **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD**, at the Saenger Theater next door.



VOLUNTEER LAWYER PROGRAM

Special thanks to those who opened and closed cases in January:

JOSEPH ALTADONNA, TRISTAN R. ARMER, BRIGG H. AUSTIN, RUSSELL E. BERGSTROM, JAIME W. BETBEZE, BRITT V. BETHEA, KNOX BOTELER, HENRY H. BREWSTER, PAUL D. BROWN, JENNIFER C. BYRD, HENRY A. CALLAWAY, III, CRAIG CAMPBELL, JEANNA M. CHAPPELL, WALTER G. CHAVERS, ROBERT E. CLUTE, JR., HARWELL E. COALE, JR., ROBERT J. CRANE, BRENT T. DAY, EDWARD A. DEAN, MARGARET F. DEMERANVILLE, DANIEL A. DENNIS, IV, MARK A. DOWDY, BRYAN G. DUHE', BARRE C. DUMAS, KARLOS FINLEY, JONATHAN B. FRIEDLANDER, NATHAN FRIEDLANDER, MICHAEL A. HART, KATIE H. HASSELL, ROBERT J. HEDGE, TIMOTHY A. HEISTERHAGEN, R. SCOTT HETRICK, JENNIFER HOLIFIELD, WESLEY J. HUNTER, HERNDON INGE, III, MATTHEW R. JACKSON, JACK F. JANECKY, JAMES D. JEFFRIES, JR., CANDACE D. JOHNSON, GREGORY R. JONES, GILBERT B. LADEN, JAMES LORIS, JR., TODD C. MALLETT, E. RUSSELL MARCH, III, L. A. MARSAL, THOMAS R. MCALPINE, GREGORY B. MCATEE, LYNN MCCONNELL, JENNIFER E. MCDONALD, ROBERT B. MCGINLEY, JR., MICHAEL S. MCNAIR, S. C. MIDDLEBROOKS, BROOKS P. MILLING, JENNIFER S. MORGAN, PAUL D. MYRICK, MEEGAN NELSON, JAMES B. NEWMAN, MARY E. PILCHER, JAMES REBARCHAK, ROBERT RICCIO, J. BURRUSS RIIS, IAN ROSENTHAL, SARAH RUTLEDGE, WILLIAM H. SALIBA, TROY T. SCHWANT, STEVEN SCIPLE, ANNA L. SCULLY, MATTHEW T. SCULLY, CLIFFORD C. SHARPE, JONATHAN E. SHOLTIS, PATRICK H. SIMS, JACK SMALLEY, III, APRIL D. SMITH, JON M. SPECHALSKE, D. TRICE STABLER, T. JEFF STEIN, DRAGAN STOJANOVIC, WILLIAM D. STOKES, MARGARET A. STONE, RENEE E. THIRY, BARRY L. THOMPSON, GREGORY VAUGHAN, PATRICK J. WARD, WILLIAM W. WATTS, III, JARROD J. WHITE, AND THERESA N. WILLIAMSON.





ANNOUNCEMENTS



JONES WALKER is pleased to announce that **CHRISTOPHER H. EZELL** has joined the firm's Mobile office. **CHRIS EZELL** is an associate serving in the firm's Business & Commercial Litigation Practice Group. **Mr. Ezell** works closely with banking and financial services clients on business and commercial disputes. In 2009, **Mr. Ezell** earned his juris doctor degree from **THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SCHOOL OF LAW**, magna cum laude, where he served as **ACQUISITIONS EDITOR** and **JUNIOR EDITOR** of the **ALABAMA LAW REVIEW**, and was named to the **ORDER OF THE COIF**. Mr. Ezell received his Bachelor of Science in Finance, summa cum laude, from **THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA** in 2006, where he was named an **AUSTIN SCHOLAR**. He is a member of the **ALABAMA STATE BAR** and the **STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**.

ALISON BAXTER HERLIHY has relocated her office to 209 N. Joachim St., Mobile, AL 36603, all other information remains the same; telephone 251.432.7909; www.herlihyfamilylaw.com

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE in midtown Mobile. Onsite parking, lobby/reception area, work room, conference room, kitchen. Also available - hi-speed internet (DSL), extra phone line, large copy, printer, scanner, fax machine. Contact **DEBBIE MURPHY**. 251.510.4797.



FREE SEMINAR: Register now for **U. S. SENTENCING COMMISSION'S ANNUAL NATIONAL SEMINAR** on the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, June 13-15, 2012, New Orleans, LA. Register at <http://events.SignUp4.com/2012USSCAnnuaNationalSeminar>.

NOTICE TO ALL ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING CLIENTS IN SARALAND MUNICIPAL COURT

Effective March 21st, 2012, ALL dockets (arraignment and trial) in the Saraland Municipal Court will begin at 1:00 pm.

JUDGE C. MARK ERWIN

ARMBRECHT JACKSON LLP IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT CHRISTOPHER G. HUME, III HAS JOINED THE FIRM AS A PARTNER.

Chris' practice is devoted to civil litigation, with an emphasis on insurance and personal injury defense, product liability, construction litigation, property, including first party policy disputes, transportation and workers' compensation. Prior to joining **ARMBRECHT JACKSON LLP**, Chris served as the Managing Partner of the Mobile office of **BALL BALL MATTHEWS & NOVAK, P.A.**

Effective January 1, 2012, **DODSON & STEADMAN** moved its office to 4087-B Cottage Hill Road, Mobile, Alabama 36609. Contact information for Dodson & Steadman, P.C. is as follows: Telephone: 251-661-0702, Facsimile: 251-661-0112, Charles' e-mail: chd@dodsonsteadman.com, Joe's e-mail: jds@dodsonsteadman.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LAWYERS IN THE NEWS

BY SANDY G. ROBINSON



DIED: DR. WILLIAM A. BOX, FATHER OF MBA MEMBER **MIKE BOX**, DIED JANUARY 28, 2012. HE SERVED IN THE **U. S. ARMY** DURING **WORLD WAR II**, AND GRADUATED FROM THE **TULANE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE** IN 1952. HE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST DOCTORS IN **NORTH MOBILE COUNTY**, AND WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF **SUBURBAN HOSPITAL** IN **SATSUMA**. HE ENJOYED THE OUTDOORS AND WOODWORKING. HE IS SURVIVED BY 3 CHILDREN, ELEVEN GRANDCHILDREN, AND ONE GREAT-GRANDCHILD.

DIED: ERNEST P. THOMPSON, FATHER OF MBA MEMBER **BARRY THOMPSON** AND FATHER-IN-LAW OF MBA MEMBER **DENISE LITTLETON**, DIED IN GOODWATER, ALABAMA ON JANUARY 28, 2012. HE WAS A PILOT WITH THE **U. S. AIR FORCE** IN **WORLD WAR II**, AND RETIRED FROM THE RESERVES AS A MAJOR. HE RECEIVED A MASTER'S DEGREE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FROM **AUBURN UNIVERSITY** AND WORKED FOR MANY YEARS IN THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, AND LATER FOR THE **SOUTHERN COMPANY**. HE WAS ACTIVE IN MANY CIVIC AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES. IN ADDITION TO **BARRY** AND **DENISE**, HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE OF 60 YEARS AND TWO GRANDCHILDREN.

DIED: ALICIA CANE CROSBY, MOTHER OF MBA MEMBER **JIM CROSBY**, DIED AT WESTMINSTER VILLAGE IN SPANISH FORT ON FEBRUARY 2, 2012. SHE IS SURVIVED BY FOUR CHILDREN, ELEVEN GRANDCHILDREN, AND NINE GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN.

DIED: ELAINE MARIE DUKE, WIDOW OF LATE MBA MEMBER **PETE DUKE**, DIED JANUARY 19, 2012 AT THE AGE OF 81. SHE AND PETE WERE MARRIED FOR 54 YEARS, AND SHE IS SURVIVED BY FOUR CHILDREN, EIGHT GRANDCHILDREN (INCLUDING MBA MEMBER **CULLEN DUKE**) AND SIX GREAT GRANDCHILDREN.



251-433-9790
www.MobileBar.com

PLEASE GIVE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I want to make a donation to the Mobile Bar Foundation.

In honor/memory of: _____

Acknowledgement to: Name _____

Address _____

I want to become a member of the Mobile Bar Foundation.

Check enclosed

Bill my credit card \$_____ Visa/Master Card/Amex # _____

Life Member (\$5000, paid in up to 5 annual installments)

Partner (\$500 or more)

Associate (\$100 or more)

Regular Member (\$50 - \$99 annually,

or if member of MBA practicing 5 years or less \$25 - \$99)

I would like information on including the Foundation in my estate planning.

Signature _____ Exp. _____

Mail to: Mobile Bar Foundation, P.O. Drawer 2005, Mobile, AL 36652

YOUNG LAWYERS

E. GLENN SMITH, JR., PRESIDENT

I would first like to thank **MCDOWELL KNIGHT ROEDDER & SLEDGE** for a great February meeting at **THE BAR** on February 29th. **MCDOWELL KNIGHT** has always been a generous sponsor of the **YOUNG LAWYERS**, and we appreciate their support. The March meeting is being sponsored by **BURR FORMAN**. We are still in the process of getting all of the details ironed out as far as location and date, and I will let you know as soon as we finalize all of that information.

I would also like to remind everyone that the **YOUNG LAWYERS** will again be sponsoring **FUN FEST** at **SAINT MARY'S ORPHANAGE** on April 28th, and we are in need of volunteers and sponsors. **FUN FEST** is always a great fundraising success as well as a great time for the children and volunteers. **CHRIS CONTE** and **SCOTT STEVENS** have been the chairs of the **FUN FEST** committee for the last two years, and they deserve to be commended for their work and dedication to the **YOUNG LAWYERS** and **ST. MARY'S**. If you would like to get involved with **FUN FEST**, are interested in sponsoring an upcoming meeting, or have any questions, please e-mail me (gsmith@carrallison.com), **JOSH FRIEDMAN** (josh@bafmobile.com), or **KASEE HEISTERHAGEN** (kasee.heisterhagen@burr.com), **CHRIS CONTE** (ctc@helmsinglaw.com), or **SCOTT STEVENS** (sstevens@starneslaw.com).

MARCH 2012

**8- THURSDAY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
12 O’CLOCK NOON, BIENVILLE CLUB**

**9 - FRIDAY
VLP SEMINAR, 9:00 – 11:00 AM**

**15 - THURSDAY
WORKERS COMP SECTION MEETING,
12 O’CLOCK NOON, ADMIRAL SEMMES**

**16 - FRIDAY
MBA MONTHLY LUNCHEON,
11:45 AM. ADMIRAL SEMMES**

**16 - FRIDAY – SEMINAR “THE MODERN LAW PRACTICE”,
ADMIRAL SEMMES, 1:30 – 4:45 PM**

**22 - THURSDAY
MBA GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING,
12 O’CLOCK NOON, MBA HEADQUARTERS**

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

MARCH 9	9:00 – 11:00	DEFENSE OF DEBT COLLECTION MATTERS: THE ABCs OF DEBT COLLECTION DEFENSE”	2.0 HRS
MARCH 16	1:30 – 4:45	THE MODERN LAW PRACTICE	3.0 HRS.
APRIL 20	1:30 - 4:45	DRUG COURT	3.0 HRS
MAY 18	1:30 - 4:45	WORDS FROM ON HIGH	3.0 HRS

