



The Citation

Justice Pinson Speaks at Hot Topics Luncheon

On January 20, 2023, the Savannah Bar Association held its annual Hot Topics Seminar and monthly luncheon at the Savannah Golf Club. At the luncheon, Justice Andrew Pinson of the Supreme Court of Georgia spoke on ethics, focusing on the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct and the Georgia Code of Judicial Conduct.

Born in DeKalb County and raised in Lithonia, Lawrenceville, and Lincolnton, Justice Pinson earned a finance degree and a law degree from the University of Georgia. After graduating from law school, he clerked at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit for then-Chief Judge David B. Sentelle, and at the U.S. Supreme Court for Justice Clarence Thomas. He later worked at Jones Day and served as Solicitor General of Georgia before being appointed to the Court of Appeals of Georgia in August of 2021 and to the Supreme Court of Georgia in July of 2022 by Governor Brian Kemp.

At the luncheon, Justice Pinson was introduced by Judge Elizabeth Gobeil of the Court of Appeals of Georgia.



Justice Andrew Pinson



Judge Elizabeth Gobeil

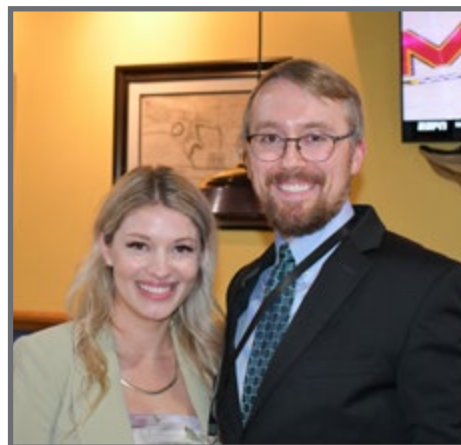


January YLD Update

From January 12-14, 2023, several Savannah YLD members, including President Nicole Pope and President-Elect Alec Chappell, attended the State Bar of Georgia's Midyear Meeting at the The Westin Buckhead Atlanta. As part of that meeting, Nicole updated the State YLD regarding the recent service and networking activities of the Savannah YLD. Additionally, attendees experienced a CLE like no other: "An In-Depth Dive on How Podcasts have Changed Criminal Law" featuring Stoney Birt, son of Dixie Mafia enforcer Billy Sunday Birt and star of the podcast "In the Red Clay."

For those interested, the State Bar's 2023 YLD Signature Fundraiser will be held on March 4, 2023, at The Blacksmith Shop in Macon. The program will benefit the Georgia Legal Services Program and Middle Georgia Justice. For more information, visit <https://www.gabar.org/calendar/eventdetail.cfm?id=31915015>.

On January 19, 2023, the Savannah YLD held its annual trivia contest at the Congress Street B&D Burgers. As per usual, YLD Treasurer Gary Tiller of Morgan & Morgan emceed the event and stumped participants with questions about Savannah geography, among other things. Virginia C. Josey of Macon, currently a co-editor of the State YLD's newsletter, spoke about her campaign to succeed Veronica Rogusky Cox as Secretary of the State YLD. Many thanks to Collision Specialists, Inc. for sponsoring and to CSI Marketing Director Connor Murphy for attending!





Mock Trial Announcement - District Level

Attention Bar Members:

Many thanks to all who volunteered to judge the Georgia High School Mock Trial Program Regional competition held on February 4, 2023. The District competition will take place on Saturday March 4, 2023, tentatively at the Chatham County Courthouse. As this is a different level of competition, new volunteers will be needed!

If you are interested in volunteering, please complete the online form via <https://www.cognitofrms.com/HighSchoolMockTrial/JudgingPanelVolunteerRegistration2023Season>. Or you can contact Regional/District Coordinator Craig Call.

Please consider offering a few hours to help this excellent program and earn a CLE credit! Note that even if you earned one hour of CLE credit for February 4, you can earn an additional hour on March 4.

Also, please reach out to anyone you think may want to volunteer. Thank you in advance, and please do not hesitate to contact Craig at ccall@smaclegal.com if you want more information or want to volunteer.

Cordially yours,
Craig A. Call, Esq.
Georgia High School Mock Trial
Region 14 / District VII Coordinator

Save the Date! 2023 Admiral Harvey Weitz Boat Ride

Join the Savannah Bar Association on Friday, April 21, 2023, for the Admiral Harvey Weitz Boat Ride. Boarding starts at 9:30 a.m. for the Boat Ride. The boat leaves promptly at 10:00 a.m. from the dock and travels down the Savannah River to Daufuskie Island. The boat should return to the dock at approximately 4:00 or 4:30 p.m.

Please note that online registration paid via credit card is the only way to guarantee a spot on the Boat Ride. Walk-up registrations on the morning of the event are subject to availability.

Be on the lookout for an SBA email with details and instructions on registering for this popular SBA event!



Law Day Award Nominations

It is once again time to nominate outstanding individuals from our legal community for the Savannah Bar Association's Law Day Awards. The awards will be presented at this year's annual SBA Law Day luncheon on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

The SBA Young Lawyers Division is seeking nominations for the following awards:

Judge Edward Hester Award: Recognizes outstanding local courthouse personnel who have been of particular assistance to the members of the local bar.

Liberty Bell Award: Recognizes a non-lawyer for outstanding service in promoting a better understanding of our Constitution and Bill of Rights. The recipient encourages greater respect for law in the courts, stimulates a more profound sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights, and fosters a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law.

Robbie Robinson Award: Presented to a member of the legal profession who has demonstrated dedication to the principles of service to individuals and of the advancement of the legal, political, social, and civil rights of the citizens of the Savannah community.

John B. Miller Award: Presented to a member of the Savannah Bar who is selflessly dedicated to making the Savannah area a better place to live through volunteer community service.

The SBA YLD is proud to continue the tradition of recognizing individuals for outstanding service to the Savannah legal community through the presentation of the Law Day Awards.

Please email all nominations to YLD President-Elect/*Citation* Editor Alec Chappell at sbacitation@gmail.com.



Attorney Gregory L. Finch Named Partner at Bouhan Falligant

Bouhan Falligant LLP recently announced Gregory L. Finch has become a partner in the firm. Finch is a member of the firm's litigation group focusing his practice primarily on transportation and logistics, medical malpractice and professional liability, nursing homes and long-term care, products liability, and general civil practice. He is a member of the firm's Emergency Response Team, conducting on-scene accident investigations.

Originally from Crestwood, Kentucky, Finch is a member of the State Bars of Georgia, Indiana, and Kentucky and is admitted to practice in the courts of each state. Finch is also admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, the Southern District of Indiana, and the Middle and Southern Districts of Georgia. Finch received his Juris Doctor from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law and his Bachelor of Arts from Transylvania University.



Gregory L. Finch

Prior to joining the firm in January 2019, Finch practiced with a national civil defense firm in Kentucky. Since moving to Georgia, Finch has been named by Best Lawyers in America as "One to Watch" for both 2022 and 2023. A proud Eagle Scout and Kentucky Colonel, Finch enjoys engaging in the community and is currently a board member and treasurer of the Savannah Harbor Foundation, a volunteer for the United Way of the Coastal Empire on the Campaign Cabinet and as a Business Champion, a member of the Emerging Leaders Committee, and a mock trial coach for Savannah Country Day. Finch is also an active member of the Savannah Bar Association, serving on the Young Lawyers Division board. Finch is a proud graduate of the Leadership Savannah class of 2022.

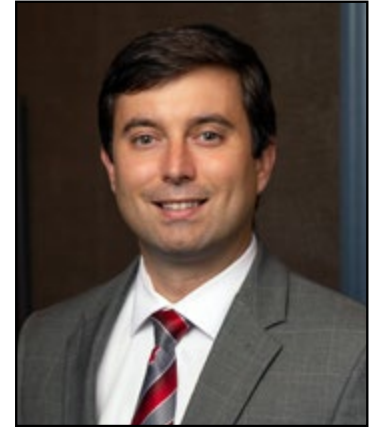


Savannah Law Firm Oliver Maner Names I. William Drought, III Partner

Oliver Maner LLP, one of Savannah's most prominent law firms, named I. William Drought, III as a Partner of the firm. Drought practices civil litigation, working on personal injury, medical malpractice, business disputes, and general litigation.

Drought joined Oliver Maner in 2015 as an Associate. He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the Savannah Bar Association and the Savannah Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. He is admitted to practice before all state trial and appellate courts in Georgia and all U.S. District Courts of Georgia.

"William's dedication to professionalism and advocacy has been apparent since he started at Oliver Maner," said Managing Partner Patrick T. O'Connor. "William has now progressed and developed into a valuable leader in the firm. He has demonstrated a strong commitment to serving our clients, our community and our profession. I look forward to his contributions and achievements in the years to come."



I. William Drought, III

Drought earned his Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) with summa cum laude honors at the University of Georgia in 2012. He completed his studies for his J.D. at Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law, summa cum laude, in 2015. While in law school, Drought was a member of the 2013–15 Mercer Law Review and served as its managing editor. He was also on the board of Mercer's Student Bar Association Alumni and Bar Committee and a member of the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. During his third year of law school, Drought interned for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia Chief Judge, the Honorable Marc T. Treadwell. He also worked in the Bibb County Superior Court for the Honorable Edgar W. Ennis, Jr.

"As a Savannah native, being named Partner at a firm like Oliver Maner, with its incredible history and connection to the city, is an overwhelming honor," Drought said. "I owe so much to the mentors and staff at Oliver Maner, and now it's my responsibility to work diligently to serve our clients in seeking the most effective and efficient outcomes."

Drought was recognized by Best Lawyers in America on the Ones to Watch list in 2020. That same year, and again in 2021, Drought was recognized by Super Lawyers as a Georgia Rising Star in the Personal Injury Medical Malpractice: Defense category. This program seeks to identify the top 2.5% of up-and-coming lawyers in Georgia under 40 years old. Additionally, he successfully completed the Leadership Savannah program in 2018.

Drought currently serves on the boards of the MedBank Foundation, a local non-profit that provides access to medications for patients who, for socioeconomic reasons, could not otherwise obtain their medications, and Coastal Georgia Council, Boy Scouts of America. For more information on I. William Drought, III, visit <https://olivermaner.com/lawyers/i-william-drought>.



Attorney Daniele Johnson joins the The Manely Firm P.C.'s powerhouse team

The Manely Firm, P.C. is excited to announce a new associate attorney has joined the Firm, Attorney Daniele Johnson. The Manely Firm proudly practices family law throughout the state of Georgia and has the unique experience of handling international family law cases all over the world. The firm also has attorneys that focus on estate planning and probate needs. The Manely Firm has offices located in Lawrenceville, Atlanta, Marietta, Cumming, Columbus, and Savannah, now with 12 attorneys fluent in over 10 languages to serve clients. Of Ms. Johnson, Founding Attorney Michael Manely says, "We are thrilled to have Daniele join the Firm. She brings an energy and depth of experience that will enhance our Firm's ability to serve each client."



Daniele Johnson

Ms. Johnson officially joined the Firm in October 2022 in the role of Associate Attorney to be based out of the Firm's Marietta office. She brings a wealth of experience to the Firm; Ms. Johnson has practiced Family Law for over 20 years and built strong relationships and an excellent reputation of success throughout the Metro-Atlanta legal community. She excels in her practice with a balance of compassionate advocacy while remaining results driven with superb trial skills.

Ms. Johnson is extremely passionate about child custody cases and is a certified guardian ad litem that works tirelessly to accommodate the unique circumstances of each family. Her work has been published through the State Bar of Georgia and she has been recognized with many awards and accolades on the local and state level. Ms. Johnson says, "I pride myself on striking a healthy balance between aggressive strategy and practicality to help you identify and reach your goals." Ms. Johnson will focus on Domestic Family Law and International Family Law in her new role with The Manely Firm, P.C.

You can read Attorney Johnson's full bio at <https://www.allfamilylaw.com/attorney/johnson-daniele-c/>.

Goodwill to Host Expungement Clinic

April is recognized as Second Chances Month, honoring the need for second chances for individuals previously incarcerated to lead productive lives as contributing citizens. At Goodwill, we firmly believe in the power of work to change lives. This April, we want to recognize Second Chance Month and support the needs of re-entering citizens by hosting an Expungement Clinic. The stigma of a conviction can lead to unnecessary barriers for individuals to find and maintain sustainable employment.

We are seeking partners willing to donate their time and legal expertise at the Expungement Clinic. If you are interested in partnering with Goodwill, please contact Veronica Styron at vstyron@goodwillsega.org or call 912.602.4450.



Southeastern Georgia Chapter ABOTA 2023 Annual Meeting Honors Judges for Distinguished Service

Oliver Maner Attorney and ABOTA President Tim Roberts Swears in New Board of Directors

Tim Roberts, Partner at Savannah's Oliver Maner LLP and President of the Southeastern Georgia Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), led the 2023 Annual Meeting at the Chatham Club in downtown Savannah. During the meeting, Judge Greg Sapp swore in the incoming board of directors and passed the gavel to Andrew Bowen, Founding Partner of Bowen Painter Trial Lawyers.

ABOTA is an invitation-only national association of more than 6,700 experienced trial lawyers and judges dedicated to preserving and promoting the Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees the right to civil jury trials.



During the annual meeting, four judges were recognized for their distinguished service to Chatham County. Each judge was presented with a custom engraved plaque featuring their title and recognition statement. Those honored include: The Honorable Louisa Abbot, Judge of Superior Court of Chatham County; The Honorable James F. Bass Jr., Judge of Superior Court of Chatham County; The Honorable Hermann W. Coolidge, Jr., State Court Judge of Chatham County; and The Honorable H. Gregory Fowler, Judge of the Chatham County State Court of Georgia.

The annual meeting consisted of open discussion on recent topics in law and time for professional networking, followed by a reception.

The Southeastern Georgia Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates includes plaintiff attorneys, defense attorneys and judges from the region, including Savannah, Brunswick, Augusta and the Golden Isles. Programming over the year consists of informative monthly webinars, networking events, and Masters in Trial training sessions in conjunction with the national ABOTA office. ABOTA members are required to have at least five years of active experience as trial lawyers, have tried at least 10 civil jury trials to conclusion and have additional litigation experience.

The incoming board of directors includes:

- Andrew Bowen- President
- Chris Phillips – VP and President-Elect
- Beth Boone – Secretary
- William J. Hunter – Treasurer

For more information, visit <https://www.abota-sega.org/>.





SACDL Update

The Savannah Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers would like to give a big thank you to attorney Doug Andrews. Doug has served on the board and as President for over two decades. In his role he has worked diligently to maintain a space for lawyers to assist one another and learn from each other. He has always encouraged open dialogue and been very welcoming to attorneys in all stages of their practice. The criminal defense bar could never thank him enough for his unrelenting willingness to help. We will be forever grateful for his commitment.



Doug Andrews

The new SACDL Board is as follows:

- President: Kelly Turner Office of the Circuit Public Defender
- Vice President: Maria Justus of Lasky Cooper Law
- Adjutant: Joe Cronk of Law Offices of Harold J. Cronk
- Treasurer: Bobbie Foster of Chatham County Misdemeanor Defense Office

Executive Committee Members:

- Steve Beauvais of Zipperer, Lorberbaum, & Beauvias
- Francesca Rehal, Attorney at Law
- Daryl Walker of Daryl Walker Law Firm

If you are interested in joining SACDL we meet for lunch the third Tuesday of every month. Please reach out to Maria Justus at mjustus@laskycooperlaw.com for more information.

Savannah Tech Offers Career Connections

Attention All Attorneys: Are you looking to hire legal support staff? Do you have a job description/job listing for the position to share? Well, the Paralegal students at Savannah Technical College are eagerly awaiting an opportunity to learn, grow and advance in the legal services industry. No need to pay to post ads. You can simply submit your job notices on Savannah Technical College's online portal, Career Connections, which will allow you to easily reach our students and graduates. This user-friendly system allows you to provide an overview of your company, post ads, manage the dates the ads will run as well as view resumes and directly contact job seekers.

We invite you to use this link to post any openings you may currently have: <https://savannahtech-csm.symphlicity.com/employers/>

Periodically, Savannah Technical College, hosts events throughout the year that will also give you an opportunity to directly connect with its students. By enrolling in Career Connections, you will be added to the distribution list for those events. Thank you for your consideration of our students and programs!



Child's Attorney II - Position Open

CHATHAM COUNTY CHILD ADVOCATE OFFICE
CHATHAM COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

There is currently an opening for a full-time Child’s Attorney II in the Chatham County Child Advocate Office. The position is advertised through Chatham County Human Resources Department. Employment opportunities (chathamcounty.org)

The Chatham County Child Advocate Office was established at the Chatham County Juvenile Courthouse as a part of a state pilot project to improve representation of neglected and abused children. Engaged and supporting this project are:

- The Georgia Office of the Child Advocate (OCA),
- The Supreme Court Committee on Justice for Children (J4C),
- The Georgia Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS),
- The Chatham County Commission and County Manager’s Office
- The Office of Misdemeanor Indigent Defense, and
- The Chatham County Juvenile Court

The Chatham County Child Advocate Office includes three full-time children’s attorneys, one assigned to each of the three Juvenile Court courtrooms, as well as an office social worker and support staff. This office is located at the Juvenile Court and receives training and technical support through the Georgia Office of the Child Advocate and the Supreme Court’s Committee on Justice for Children (J4C). The project utilizes limited caseloads, a multi-disciplinary support staff, and ongoing specialized training, so that attorneys can develop greater subject matter expertise and provide more effective representation of children in dependency cases. This is an exciting opportunity for an attorney interested in providing enhanced legal representation of children.

CHILD ATTORNEY II Position Description

Do you have your Juris Doctorate Degree, at least two (2) years of experience as an attorney in child welfare law, or at least three (3) years of active post-bar professional legal experience? Then, consider applying for Child Attorney II in the Chatham County Office of Child Advocate.

Job Summary: Under the direct supervision of the Director of Indigent Services, you will perform professional legal work involved in representing the legal rights and best interests of abused and neglected children in dependency matters before the Chatham County Juvenile Court. You will investigate abuse allegations and litigate dependency cases before the Juvenile Court. You will provide legal representation, including case investigation, legal research, evaluation, and strategic preparation for dependency court proceedings. You will represent clients at all stages of their cases. You will provide ongoing case monitoring and advocacy by collaborating with multidisciplinary stakeholders to ensure that clients’ well-being needs are met, and that permanent homes and caretakers are identified. You will regularly visit child clients and communicate with Department of Family and Children Services



case managers, other attorneys, foster parents, educators, and medical and mental health professionals. You may supervise staff. Other duties may be assigned.

Minimum Qualifications: Juris Doctorate Degree from an accredited law school, and at least two (2) years of experience as an attorney in child welfare law, or at least three (3) years of active post-bar professional legal experience. Must be licensed to practice law in the State of Georgia and be a Member in Good Standing of the State Bar of Georgia. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license.

Chatham County, GA Government, offers a competitive compensation and benefits package and the opportunity to work for a leader in the public sector. Some of our key benefits include generous vacation and sick leave, medical, dental, and vision coverage, company-paid life and disability insurance, Employee Health Center, pension plan, 457(b) retirement plan, flexible spending accounts (FSA), professional development, and employee appreciation events. Chatham County, GA Government, is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Note: During emergencies and disasters affecting Chatham County, you may be required to report to work as part of a disaster operations team.

Location : CHATHAM COUNTY CHILD ADVOCATE

Job Family : LEGAL

Posting Start : 01/26/2023

Posting End : 02/15/2023

SALARY RANGE : \$64,058.00-\$99,289.00

Employment opportunities (chathamcounty.org)

If you are interested in joining SACDL we meet for lunch the third Tuesday of every month. Please reach out to Maria Justus at mjustus@laskycooperlaw.com for more information.



Now Open for Submissions

The Savannah Bar Association is always seeking content for upcoming editions of The Citation. Members are encouraged to submit:

- Your professional and personal announcements
- Law-related advertisements,
- Articles or announcements regarding your preferred philanthropies
- Other written submissions.

Suggestions for improving The Citation are also always welcome.

Finally, we love to receive photographs and video to share with our readers!

Bear in mind that our readers include not only current SBA members, but also many judges and law school students.

Please contact us at SBACitation@gmail.com with submissions or inquiries.