



The Citation

Law Day Awards Presented at SBA Luncheon

On May 6, 2021, the Savannah Bar Association held its annual Law Day luncheon at the Savannah Golf Club. Law Day is held on May 1st every year to celebrate the role of law in our society and to cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal profession. The Law Day 2021 theme was “Advancing the Rule of Law Now,” which reminds us that “We the People” share the responsibility to promote the rule of law, defend liberty, and pursue justice. The Young Lawyers Division of the SBA presented 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. The 2021 recipient of the Hester Award was Sheila Phoenix.



Sheila Phoenix

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. The 2021 recipient of the Liberty Bell Award was Alderman Kurtis Purtee.



Alderman Kurtis Purtee

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. The 2021 recipient of the Robinson Award was Judge Herman W. Coolidge, Jr.



Judge Herman W. Coolidge, Jr.

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 2021 recipient of the Miller Award was Trish Murphy.



Trish Murphy

Additionally, the SBA was honored to hear from three distinguished guest speakers: Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrúa of the Supreme Court of Georgia, Judge Elizabeth Gobeil of the Court of Appeals of Georgia, and Judge Verda M. Colvin of the Court of Appeals of Georgia. Thanks to the speakers for their time and for their insightful discussion.



More photos from SBA Luncheon



Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrua



Judge Elizabeth Gobeil



Judge Verda M. Colvin

Judge Michael H. Barker Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award with Award for Excellence

Chatham County Magistrate Court Judge Michael Barker was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Annual Meeting of the Georgia Council of Magistrate Court Judges in Braselton, GA on April 26, 2021. Scott Lewis, co-chair of the Council's Awards Committee presented Judge Barker with this award in recognition of Judge Barker's excellent service. Judge Barker recently served as President for the Council and worked tirelessly on many of the Council's projects over the years, including assistance with re-writing the Abandoned Motor Vehicle statutes to make it easier for all courts to uniformly process those cases. In addition, after these statutes were passed, Judge Barker helped to create forms for the public's use. In 2017 and 2019, Judge Barker received the Workhorse Award by the Council. In 2012, he was honored as Magistrate of the Year due to his work in creating statewide online forms. Judge Barker has served as Chatham County Magistrate Court Judge since 2003.



Pictured in Photo: Judge Scott Lewis (left) presenting award to Judge Barker (right).



Young Lawyers Division Fifteenth Annual Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament

Due to limited availability, we will only be able to accommodate the first 15 teams that sign up. Teams will consist of 4 members, and the entry fee is \$450.00 per team (\$112.50 individually). The entry fee includes green fees, cart, range balls, lunch, beer, and other beverages. The driving range/lunch will be available starting at noon with a prompt 1:30 p.m. shotgun start.

To sign up, please fill out and return the YLD Team Entry form to Gary Tiller (gtiller@forthepeople.com) along with the team entry fee. Please make checks payable to the "SBA Young Lawyers Division" and mail or deliver to Gary Tiller at 25 Bull Street, Suite 400, Savannah, GA 31401. You can also reach him with any questions or concerns at (912) 443-1042.

The YLD is also seeking sponsors for the event! The cost for sponsorship is \$250 and includes a sign with your firm's logo, which will be placed on the tee box of one of the holes. If your firm is interested in sponsoring a hole, please fill out and return the attached sponsorship form to Gary Tiller (contact information above).

This tournament supports an important cause and is always well attended. To ensure your spot, please act quickly as we have limited capacity this year.



The Young Lawyers Division Presents The Fifteenth Annual



Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament

PLAYER ENTRY FORM

- Event Date: July 23, 2021 (Friday)
- Event Time: Please arrive no later than 1:00 for a prompt 1:30 shotgun start. The driving range will open and lunch will be available at 12:00.
- Location: Palmetto Course @ The Landings Club (Palmetto Clubhouse)
- Entry Fee: \$112.50 per player paid individually or \$450.00 per team, which includes green fees, cart, range balls, lunch, beer and other beverages.
Any entries received after the June 15th deadline will incur an additional charge of \$25 per individual and will be subject to availability.

Registration Deadline: June 15 (all player entries must be submitted before this date)

Team Captain/Player 1: _____ Handicap: _____
 Email Address: _____
 Telephone Number: _____

TEAM (please list teammates, if applicable)

Player 2: _____ Handicap: _____
 Player 3: _____ Handicap: _____
 Player 4: _____ Handicap: _____

Make checks payable to: *SBA Young Lawyers Division*
 Please mail or deliver to: Gary Tiller – Tournament Chairman
 Morgan & Morgan Suite 400, Savannah, GA 31401

Thank you. If you have any additional questions, please contact Gary Tiller at (912) 443-1042 or by email at gtiller@forthepeople.com



The Young Lawyers Division Presents

The Fifteenth Annual



Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament

2021 Sponsorship Form

Sponsor Name: _____
 Email address: _____
 Telephone Number: _____

Please email your preferred sign art to gtiller@forthepeople.com

Sponsorship Amount: () \$250.00 sponsorship
 () Donation: Please list amount \$ _____

Make checks payable to: *SBA Young Lawyers Division*

Please mail or deliver to: Gary Tiller – Tournament Chairman
 Morgan & Morgan
 25 Bull Street, Suite 400
 Savannah, GA 31401

Thank you for your generosity. If you have any additional questions, please contact Gary Tiller at (912) 443-1042 or by email at gtiller@forthepeople.com



HunterMaclean Attorney T. Mills Fleming Appointed to Bona Fide Coin Operated Amusement Machine Operator Advisory Board

Attorney T. Mills Fleming accepted a recent appointment by Governor Brian Kemp to serve on the Bona Fide Coin Operated Amusement Machine Operator Advisory Board.

The board is composed of ten members, including two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two members by the Lieutenant Governor, and five members by the Governor. The chief executive officer of the Georgia Lottery Corporation also serves as a member of the board.

In 2013, the Georgia Lottery Corporation began regulating the coin-operated amusement machines (COAM) business in Georgia and, since then, the industry has thrived. Georgians spent more than \$3 billion during the last fiscal year playing the machines located primarily at convenience stores and restaurants throughout the state, making the COAM industry a cornerstone of the Georgia Lottery program.



T. Mills Fleming

As such, the Bona Fide Coin Operated Amusement Machine Operator Advisory Board provides regulatory oversight to COAM businesses and prevents unauthorized cash payout. The board's oversight helps protect the state's fiscal stability, supports educating Georgia's children through the HOPE scholarship program and pre-kindergarten funding, and improves public welfare.

Kevin M. Crouch Named Partner to Meyer and Sayers, LLP

Meyer and Sayers, LLP would like to announce that Kevin M. Crouch was named partner to the firm on January 1, 2021. Kevin's practice focuses on estate planning, business succession planning, and estate administration. His practice also specializes in the representation of physicians and physician groups. Prior to joining Meyer & Sayers, Kevin practiced as in-house counsel for Memorial Health University Medical Center.

Kevin received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Valdosta State University. He received his law degree from the University Of South Carolina School Of Law where he was a member of the Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Journal as well as the International Legal Honor Society of Phi Delta Phi.



Kevin M. Crouch

Kevin, a native to Savannah, is a member of the Savannah Bar and the Young Lawyers Division of the Savannah Bar Association. He is a Member of the merging Leaders Committee of the Savannah Community Foundation. He is also is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association. Kevin is currently serving on the Board of the Matthew Reardon Center for Autism and is a graduate of the United Way Board Readiness Program. Kevin is licensed to practice in both Georgia and South Carolina.



HunterMaclean Listed in Prestigious *Chambers USA 2021* Guide

HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, was recently ranked in the exclusive *Chambers USA 2021*. *Chambers USA* is compiled through a research-based review that evaluates the multiple practice areas of hundreds of law firms through investigative research and interviews with attorneys and their clients.

HunterMaclean received rankings in Labor and Employment and Litigation: General Commercial. Attorneys highlighted for their work within Labor and Employment include Wade Herring, Shawn Kachmar, and Sarah Lamar. HunterMaclean is the only law firm in Savannah with practice areas and attorneys ranked by *Chambers USA*.

“To be recognized year after year by this prestigious publication is an honor to our attorneys and our firm,” said HunterMaclean managing partner Brad Harmon. “This achievement further exemplifies our attorneys’ commitment to their individual practices, the firm’s clients, and our community.”

Considered the most trusted law resource guide worldwide, *Chambers* is the result of thousands of in-depth interviews by the largest research team of its kind that is trusted across the globe to objectively rank the world’s best lawyers and law firms.



Wade Herring



Shawn Kachmar



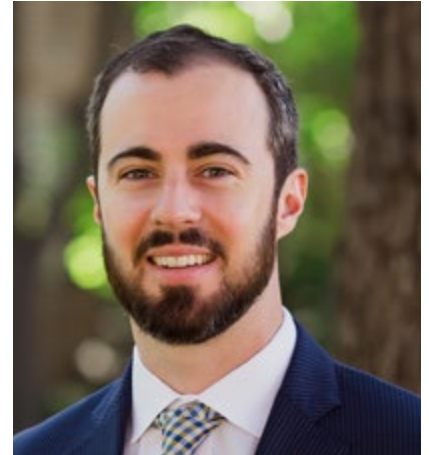
Sarah Lamar



Attorney Justin G. Guthrie Joins HunterMaclean

HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, recently welcomed Justin G. Guthrie as an associate in the firm's admiralty and maritime practice group.

Justin has experience litigating marine insurance coverage and defense matters across the United States, representing both insurers and insureds. He advises individuals and businesses in connection with maritime personal injury and property damage, vessel finance, logistics, and commercial fishing and aquaculture related disputes. Justin also assists clients in the navigation of certain regulatory concerns involving the U.S. Coast Guard, the National Vessel Documentation Center, the Federal Maritime Commission, and Customs and Border Protection.



Justin G. Guthrie

Justin graduated from the University of Virginia with a degree in Foreign Affairs & International Relations and received his J.D. and Certificate of Specialization in Maritime Law from Tulane University. During law school, he was a notes and comments editor on the Tulane Maritime Law Journal, and he clerked for both the U.S. Department of Justice – Aviation & Admiralty litigation division and the Federal Maritime Commission in Washington, D.C.

Justin is an active member of several professional organizations including the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section and the Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee for the American Bar Association. He is a member of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, the Defense Research Institute, the Maritime Law Association, and the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute. Justin also serves as an alumni mentor for the Tulane Maritime Law Journal.

Prior to law school, Justin was a collegiate sailor, a sailing instructor, and an oyster farmer for one of the largest oyster companies on the Chesapeake Bay.



Geiger Selected As Dean Of Business & Professional Services Division

Savannah Technical College has selected Debra R. Geiger, Esq. as its Dean for Business & Professional Services division. As dean, she will manage division initiatives, programs, courses and instructional services. She had previously served as STC’s department head for Paralegal Studies since 2012.

Geiger is also the immediate past president of the American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE), having served a two-year term as president, and a prior three-year term on its board of directors as associate programs director. She is admitted to practice law in the State of Georgia and has over 18 years transactional law practice experience. Geiger earned a Bachelor of Arts in in English from the University of South Carolina, law degree from the Levin College of Law at the University of Florida and MBA from Mercer University. In 2016, she was named STC’s instructor of the year. She is an active Girl Scout troop leader, as well as member of the State Bar of Georgia, Savannah Bar Association, Port City Bar Association and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



Debra R. Geiger

The Business & Professional Services division prepares students for careers in the following fields: accounting; barbering; basic law enforcement (Peace Officer Academy); business management; business technology; cosmetology; criminal justice; culinary arts/baking & pastry arts; cyber and related programs; early childhood care and education; fire science; hotel, restaurant and tourism management; and logistics management. To learn more about these programs visit: www.savannahtech.edu/academics/business-and-technology/.

Savannah Technical College serves Coastal Georgia with quality, market-driven technical education with campus locations in Chatham, Effingham, and Liberty Counties. Serving more than 10,000 credit and non-credit students annually, Savannah Tech offers nearly 150 different instructional programs in Aviation Technology, Business and Professional Services, Industrial Technology, and Health Sciences in addition to Adult Education classes, industry-specific training, and continuing education. The College serves as an economic and community development partner for the region, offering corporate and customized training and assessment programs for business and industry.

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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.symplicity.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!



Georgia Legal Services Program: Fighting the Justice Gap

Founded in 1971, GLSP is a nonprofit law firm whose mission is to provide civil legal services to low-income Georgians, creating equal access to justice and opportunities out of poverty. We serve the 154 counties outside the Metro-Atlanta area through ten regional offices.

1



Did you know . . .

70% of all Georgia attorneys practice in five Metro-Atlanta counties.

30% of all Georgia attorneys practice in the 154 counties outside of Metro-Atlanta.

2

There are 2.5 million low-income Georgians eligible for legal services.

About 68% of those people live in the GLSP service area.

There is 1 GLSP staff attorney per 21,000 Georgians eligible for legal services.

Everyday GLSP has more people who apply for assistance than we can help. We are forced to turn away people in need, creating a justice gap.

The justice gap is the difference between the civil legal needs of low-income Georgians and the resources available to meet those needs.³ When private attorneys volunteer with GLSP, we are able to help more people and close the justice gap.

To volunteer or to learn more about the GLSP Pro Bono Project, contact Pro Bono Project Staff Attorney Sarah Anderson at (912) 651-2283, ext. 2184 or sjanderson@glsp.org.



¹ ABA Profile of the Legal Profession 2020. July 2020. Prepared by the ABA Media Relations and Strategic Communications Division. State Map of Georgia, Page 17, last accessed 1/13/2021 [potlp2020.pdf \(americanbar.org\)](https://www.americanbar.org/potlp2020.pdf)

² Id. Portion of State Map of Georgia, focusing on the 11 counties covered by GLSP-Savannah Regional Office. 1 dot = 10 lawyers.

³ Legal Services Corporation. 2017. The Justice Gap: Measuring the Unmet Civil Legal Needs of Low-income Americans. Prepared by NORC at the University of Chicago for Legal Services Corporation. Washington, DC., last accessed 12/29/2020 [TheJusticeGap-FullReport.pdf \(lsc.gov\)](https://www.lsc.gov/TheJusticeGap-FullReport.pdf)



Professionalism Meets Cultural Humility: Effective Pro Bono Representation

June 8, 2021 | 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

1 Professionalism + 1 General CLE Hour Available



Hosted by five civil legal nonprofits, this virtual training will lay a foundation of **new awareness, language, and understanding** when working with pro bono clients. Attendees should cultivate curiosity about how systems affect clients and how to improve client-advocate relationships, and attendees will be able to better apply the Lawyer’s Creed and professionalism ideals to their practice broadly and specifically to their work with pro bono clients.

Register at <http://bit.ly/culturalhumilityCLE>

Office space available in downtown Savannah on E. Oglethorpe, 1625 sq. ft, parking, three offices, lobby, conf room, break room.

Gene Brooks
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gbrooks@brooks-law.com



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.