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Judicial Candidate Profiles Directory Photos Lawyer Referral Service

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The Lexington Lawyer

A publication of the Fayette County Bar Association

The Lexington Lawyer Article Submission Guidelines

Unsolicited manuscripts are accepted on subjects of interest to the legal profession. Manuscripts should be submitted in MS Word or PDF as an attachment emailed to info@fcba.com. Articles should not exceed 6 typewritten double-spaced pages.

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Fayette County Bar Association

219 N. Upper Street Lexington, KY 40507 225-9897 - 225-9898 Fax www.fcba.com info@fcba.com

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How our colleagues see us.

As I sat down to write this President's Message, I learned of the death of Senator John McCain. I bring this up now not because of his politics, but because virtually every tribute to him refers to his character and principles, and even his adversaries consistently refer to him as a trusted colleague and statesman. Sometimes we all need a reminder that we can zealously represent our clients, but still give our adversaries cause to call us trusted colleagues, statesmen and people of character.

Our Judges matter.

Politics and elections seem to dominate virtually every national and local news cycle. Walking downtown or stepping into the courthouse, I am often reminded that we have a number of judicial candidates running for office this November. In my 21 years of law practice, Fayette County has been blessed with incredible jurists who have favorably impacted thousands of lives throughout central Kentucky. The average citizen, however, knows very little about the candidates running for judicial office or how judges substantially impact the lives of citizens every day. If you are like me, your friends and neighbors call you during election season and ask about the judicial candidates. I encourage everyone in the Bar to give some thought to the upcoming judicial election and consider the judicial candidate's responses in this issue. And if you are unfamiliar with any of the candidates, pick up the phone and call them. I am sure they would be happy to chat.

Wow—the calendar is full!

As I embark on a year of serving the FCBA, I am thrilled that we have so many ways for members to engage.

During the summer and fall, we have the annual summer picnic, Justice VanMeter's portrait dedication, a judicial candidate forum, and several CLE opportunities. The annual holiday party at the historic courthouse is right around the corner. I encourage everyone to take advance of these opportunities.

Don't forget the FCBA directory photo shoot on October 22-30, 2018. As I flip through my last print directory from 2014, I see several colleagues that need to update their directory photo. If you have celebrated both your child's first day of kindergarten and high school graduation since taking your last FCBA photo, then you need to join us in October. And if you do not think people can change much in four years, these pictures of my now humiliated

son on his first day of fourth and eighth grade are a good reminder.

President's Message:

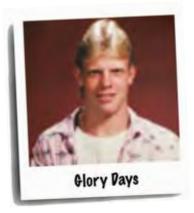
Marshall Hixon



1st Day of 4th Grade



My wife would not let me include these unless I added my own high school mullet picture too.



If anyone has ideas for social events or other FCBA activities, call me anytime. Or you can find me at Keeneland on most Friday afternoons this fall.

Fayette County District Court – Division 3



KIM WILKIE **General Judicial Philosophy:** Apply the law to the facts of each case; treat everyone appearing before me with dignity and respect.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? Thirty years practicing law; eight years on the bench; voluntarily established and presided over Fayette County Heroin Court; voluntarily established and preside over Fayette County Mental Health Court; mentor UK Law and Fayette County Public School "externs" each semester; Board Member, "Lexington Crisis Intervention Team"; Martindale Hubble Preeminent AV rating "5.0/5.0"; by comparison, my opponent was appointed Assistant Secretary of State by Alison Lundergan Grimes on January 3, 2012 and has worked only in that capacity since then.

If elected, what would be your top priority?

Continue to serve in the same manner as I have for the last eight years.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? I ran for, and was elected, Fayette District Court Judge in 2010 in order to bring a change in "judicial temperament" and other judicial qualities to the bench. I have done that. UK Law "externs," in a program supervised by retired Federal Court Judge, Jennifer Coffman, are required to keep daily diaries of their time spent in court. These entries, among numerous others, include: "Judge Wilkie loves his job, and it shows in the courtroom"; "the work that is done in Mental Health Court amazes me."; "I cannot stress enough the care that I observe Judge Wilkie take with not only these young men and women, but also with their families."; "time and time again, Judge Wilkie never ceases to amaze me with how easily he relates to each person in front of him at the podium."

General Judicial Philosophy: I am understanding, but I also expect personal accountability. And while I have been a zealous advocate for my clients throughout my career, I am likewise a fierce champion of justice.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? I have spent my entire career in public service. I am running for District Court Judge because I care about this community, I have the credentials, the work ethic and the commitment to the law.

If elected, what would be your top priority?

A District Court Judge's work really never ends. My top priority will be to make decisions affecting the individual in front of me in a timely manner and to thoughtfully consider and equally weigh all sides of an argument in a sincere effort to reach a fair and legally sound result.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? I am passionate, dedicated and thorough. I have a strong reputation for being respectful of and courteous to all participants in the legal process. I will be a fair and impartial, but tough, judge. I humbly ask for your vote on November 6.

LINDSAY HUGHES THURSTON

Fayette County District Court – Division 5



General Judicial Philosophy: First, review and look at the plain text and meaning of the law as written. Further, if needed, study the history and context in which the law was enacted. In addition, it is important that legal precedent and consequences of the interpretation and application must also be taken into consideration.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? I have both the legal experience and the life experience needed for this office. I've practiced law for the past seventeen years, all as a public servant. I have the life experience necessary that would allow me to approach my time on the bench with the dedication and understanding. I will act fairly, I will uphold the law at all times, I will preside with competence and a sense of compassion for each individual and case before me, giving each the proper respect, and consideration to which they are entitled.

If elected, what would be your top priority? My top priority would be to facilitate a partnership with community leaders, attorneys, and juveniles in criminal court. The goal would be to provide the young people with consistent, intensive and compassionate mentoring.

MELISSA MOORE MURPHY Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? I am qualified for the position. I love the practice of law. I am compassionate, dedicated and I am a change agent in our community. I am driven to serve the public, and my time on the bench would be no different. District Court is the people's court, and if elected, I will strive to make it a place where everyone continues to feel that they are treated fairly, a place where everyone has confidence in our legal system, and a place where each of the members of the Bar will be proud to serve.



JOHN

TACKETT

General Judicial Philosophy: My general judicial philosophy is that judicial independence is the foundation for judicial integrity. I believe fiercely in an independent judiciary safe from the biases of politics. I believe in performing judicial duties impartially and diligently. I also believe that upholding the law for the benefit and safety of all citizens is sacrosanct.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? I have practiced in every field of the District Court; criminal, civil, probate, forcible detainer, mental health and juvenile. Because several persons are unrepresented, it is important that the judicial candidate be experienced and have practiced law in every field of the District Court. I have practiced in Federal Court and have been admitted to practice in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Division. I have observed jurists in several different venues adjudicate cases and apply the law and I believe I know what it takes to be a very effective judge.

If elected, what would be your top priority?

The District Court dockets are voluminous and time consuming and citizens of Fayette County have complained about how inefficient the courts can be in some circumstances. I would like to pursue creative ways to make our court more efficient while continuing to guarantee the Due Process Rights of litigants. I have had success making some changes when serving as a Hearing Officer in Code Enforcement cases which increased the efficiency of those proceedings.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? Thankfully I am honored by a great number of members of the Fayette County Bar Association who already support me as listed through my campaign website Tackettforjudge.com. I am also honored that many of my listed supporters have practiced against me in court. I am inquisitive, creative and a hard worker. I believe I have a good temperament for this position and I am not easily upset or angered. I literally and figuratively grew up around the Fayette District Court consider it a second home. I would be honored and humbled to serve the members of the Fayette County Bar Association and the citizens of the Commonwealth as Fayette District Judge for the Fifth Division.

Fayette County Circuit Court – Division 1 FAMILY



General Judicial Philosophy: I am dedicated to furthering the best interests of children in Family Court. As judge my role is to apply the law fairly, consistently, and efficiently, to find to practical solutions, and to ensure all families and parties have equal access to justice.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? My professional and life experience. Most of a Family Court Judge's time is spent in areas where I have unparalleled expertise - Juvenile, DNA, and Domestic Violence. These cases require you to know the law and community resources available to make real-time decisions (often in the middle of the night) that have immediate, life-altering consequences. As a wife and mother, when looking at issues of child custody, timeshare, child support, etc. I have the requisite life experience to make empathetic decisions.

If elected, what would be your top priority? I will continue my career's work to further the best interests of children, improve outcomes for families, and promote justice and equal access to the courts.

 Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? I have the most relevant experience, and a record as a fair, compassionate, and effective Family Court Judge. My career has been dedicated to public service and working to improve our legal system and community. I hope to continue my service to this Court and community for years to come as Family Court Judge.

General Judicial Philosophy: I want to emulate the judges I worked for in college and law school who were scholarly, calm, patient and respectful to everyone who came before them.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? Family law today is complex and challenging, calling for both practical experience and legal expertise which I have developed.



If elected, what would be your top priority?

To insure that cases do not become back-logged and to see that the docket is handled efficiently and promptly. In this area of practice in particular, delay and lack of guidance I have always found were the hardest things for my clients to deal with.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? I hope that I have established myself as ethical and trustworthy as well as knowledgeable. We are all best served when our judges exemplify these qualities.

ELLEN O'BRIEN

Fayette County Circuit Court – Division 3



JOHN REYNOLDS **General Judicial Philosophy:** I am a strong constitutionalist and am firmly committed to rigorous application of law while hearing each case with respect and compassion for those before the Bench.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? Courtroom experience that was broader and more diverse than other applicants separated me from the others when initially appointed to the Bench. Extensive experience with over 2,000 cases as a sole practitioner in addition to current experience of hearing 100's of cases as the Circuit Judge, provide me the best qualifications to remain serving as your Fayette Circuit Judge.

If elected, what would be your top priority? My continued priority is efficiency for litigants and respect for all individuals who participate in our courts. While diligently applying the law and constitution and providing the highest level of compassion for defendants and victims are top priorities for me.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? An extensive range of cases have come before me as your presiding Circuit Judge from, \$5,000 civil clams to capital murder cases. My previous 20 plus years of broad-based courtroom trials, have prepared me to rule on each case.

As a sitting judge, an experienced attorney, and an active member of our community, I will proudly serve the Fayette County in an exemplary fashion.



LUCY

General Judicial Philosophy: Having practiced in nearly 50 counties, I have seen different judicial approaches. The best judges apply the law as it is written in a prompt, consistent manner.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? I have practiced at all levels of Kentucky's state and federal court system and tried civil and criminal jury trials. I am peer review rated AV Preeminent[®] which is the highest rating by Martindale-Hubbell[®] for legal ability and ethical standards.

If elected, what would be your top priority? The top priority is to approach each case in an impartial manner, treat everyone with courtesy and respect, and apply the law as written to reach a prompt decision after giving all concerned a fair opportunity to be heard.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? I believe I have broad support among our legal community because I have lived and worked in Lexington for nearly twenty years. I have served as an active member of our bar including as the President for 2017-2018. I hope our bar knows that I will approach each case in an impartial and fair-minded way and bring the same work ethic demonstrated in private practice to the Fayette Circuit Court.

VANMETER

Kentucky Court of Appeals – 5th Dist., 1st Div.



ROB

JOHNSON

General Judicial Philosophy: My guiding principle as a judge is to respect the U.S. and Kentucky Constitutions and interpret laws as written, not how I, or any other person or party, would "like" to see them be. Every person, regardless of gender, race, religion, or minority status, deserves equal justice and equal treatment under our laws, and that is how I conduct my courtroom.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? I am the most qualified candidate because I am the only judge on the ballot with proven success at both the appellate and trial levels. In my 1.5 years on the Court of Appeals, I have had numerous cases published, contributing to Kentucky jurisprudence. I interact productively with the other Court of Appeals judges and issue timely, well-written, thoughtful opinions.

If elected, what would be your top priority?

Once elected, my top priority will be continuing to ensure **every** case before me is given the thought, time and attention it deserves. I am fully aware that every case that comes before me is **the most important case** in **someone's** life. I take that solemn responsibility seriously.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? Every attorney should support my candidacy to remain on the Court of Appeals because resolving appellate cases correctly and expediently benefits every attorney and every attorney's client in Kentucky.

I have **proven** over the past 1.5 years that I appreciate the importance of this job, can effectively do this job, and will continue ensuring every attorney who appears before me on the Court of Appeals gets a "fair shake" and equal justice.

I humbly ask for your vote on November 6.



General Judicial Philosophy: The role of judges is to interpret the law fairly and administer justice consistently for all. I do that in my courtroom and remain committed to upholding the laws of the Commonwealth and applying the law equally while serving on the Court of Appeals. Political affiliations should not enter into judicial rulings and do not enter into mine.

Why are you the most qualified candidate running for this office? Serving as judge for 19 years, I have tried more cases than any judge in the 5th Appellate District, including more capital murder cases than any judge in Kentucky, giving me the ultimate breadth and depth of knowledge and experience to rule on all cases on the Court of Appeals. As Chief Regional Circuit Judge for Fayette County, I have enhanced the skills to manage administrative responsibilities within the judiciary with increased efficiency and effectiveness.

If elected, what would be your top priority?

Many attorneys express concerns regarding contradicting opinions from the Court of Appeals, leaving little or no guidance on how to proceed, and not being published. Serving on the Court of Appeals, I would suggest an improved system of communication among the judges and a repository for issues and rulings.

Why should the Fayette County Bar Association support you? My continued reputation for being tough but fair earned me Outstanding Young Lawyer Award from Fayette County Bar Association in 2001 and Trial Judge of the Year from Kentucky Justice Association in 2012. I strive for continuous improvement and am hardworking and conscientious in my knowledge and preparedness for every aspect of judicial proceedings and the law, ensuring efficient and effective proceedings for all involved.

PAMELA

GOODWINE

Pro Bono Program



Having a Senior Moment If you are anything like me, there are

times when you cannot recall where you placed your keys or perhaps the name of opposing counsel or even where you placed a file (if my malpractice insurer is reading this, the last one is purely hypothetical). Some people refer to these as "senior

Josh Fain, ro Bono Coordinator, LABG

moments." We all encounter these types of situations from time to time. However, several members of the Fayette County Bar Association recently had true "senior moments" by volunteering and providing much needed legal representation to local seniors.

On July 3, 2018, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass in partnership with the FCBA hosted a free Wills Clinic at the Lexington Senior Center. Volunteer attorneys helped local seniors prepare their will, living will, POA and other necessary end of life documents that establish medical and financial plans for their future. The seniors were fortunate to have the skill and expertise of Attorneys: Mary Patton, Melissa Gayheart, Sara Johnston, Melissa Palmer, Lisa Oeltgen, Melissa Stewart, Taylor Stuckey, Dustin Beard, Jonathan Hall, Peter Brown and John Tackett. The event was such a tremendous success that we plan to make it an annual occurrence.

If you are interested in volunteering for our program but lack expertise in a particular area of civil law, then Legal Aid of the Bluegrass can help. With funding from the Kentucky Bar Foundation, we are hosting a series of Legal Aid University sessions on civil legal topics. Each session provides substantive training but also information on local expectations and procedures. This is a great opportunity to learn about civil legal practice areas, meet other legal professionals, and sign up to volunteer.

As many of you already know, we thank and acknowledge the work of our volunteer attorneys every year during our Pro Bono Event Series. This year's event will be on Thursday, November 1st at The Mane on Main starting at 5:00 pm. Please join us in celebrating the FCBA Pro Bono Program and the impact our pro bono panel has on the poorest and vulnerable among us. Subscribe to our FCBA Pro Bono Invite list to ensure you receive the invitation and future updates. If you are looking for yet another opportunity to connect with and support Legal Aid of the Bluegrass you may be interested in our Pappy for Pro Bono raffle. We are raffling off three bottles of Pappy Van Winkle Bourbon 10 year, 12 year, and 15 years aged. All proceeds benefit LABG's Pro Bono efforts. Tickets can be purchased at the links on our social media pages such as Facebook and Twitter or at https://labg.rallyup.com/pappyforprobono. Don't delay in buying tickets as we sold out in record time last year.

Interested in attending any of our events, trainings or volunteering at any of our new or existing opportunities? Call me at (859) 254-1141 or e-mail me at jfain@lablaw.org. I am confident that by using your knowledge and expertise to help the less fortunate that you will gain as much from the experience as the client will. Helping others in need is truly a life-changing experience.



FCBA members helping seniors at the Wills Clinic.

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- Select "Fayette County Bar Association" from the dropdown menu and complete enrollment.

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FCBA Directory Photos

The FCBA has partnered with **RCL Portrait Design**, who specializes in "Executive Portraits" to photograph all the members for the online directory and possible print directory.

The photographs will be taken at the *Circuit Courthouse Multi-Purpose Room, October* 22-30, 2018. There is no cost for you to participate. A professional photographer will photograph you in several poses. You will then be able to view your proofs immediately and choose your picture for the directory. Additional portraits will also be made available to those wishing to purchase them. However, there is no obligation.

For professional quality and best presentation, appropriate dress is suggested. We recommend the following:

Ladies: Suit jacket or long sleeved blouse Gentlemen: Dark jacket and tie

Please contact RCL Portrait Design at 512-266-8921 to schedule your appointment. You can also schedule your appointment online at

www.goRCL.com, choose "Schedule" from the menu on the left side of the website, and then choose "Guest Account" to get to the calendar. Follow instructions from there. RCL will contact your office by phone to schedule an appointed if you do not call or schedule an appointment online.



If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office.



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Palmer Gene Vance II Takes the Reins of the American Bar Association's Largest Section



Palmer "Gene" Vance II, a partner with Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC ("SKO") has officially accepted 'the gavel' as the 2018-19 Chair of the American Bar Association Section of Litigation. In this role, Vance leads the nearly 50,000 litigators, judges and arbitrators who comprise the largest section of the ABA.

A native of Paintsville, Ky., Vance acknowledged in remarks at the ABA's Annual Meeting in Chicago, being the first attorney from a small city to lead the Section: "It really is humbling to stand in front of you and to take on this role. When I look at the list of my 45 predecessors, it is very easy to wonder why someone who grew up in a town of 5,000 people in the Appalachian coalfields, graduated high school in a class of 57 and was the first person in his family to attend college, is now adding his name to a roster that includes some of the foremost trial lawyers in our profession, name partners in some of the most prominent firms in the country, a former Attorney General of the United States, two United States District Judges, four presidents of the American Bar Association), and the holders of countless other leadership positions."

Vance continued. "I am keenly aware that there has never been a Chair of the Section of Litigation from a place as small as Lexington, KY—and 300,000 people is not really that small. But, it calls to mind that most litigation in this country does not occur on the coasts, in the cities or within the halls of the AmLaw100. Most litigation is conducted by solo and small firm lawyers in smaller cities and towns. As a few of you have heard me say, many of the best trial lawyers in this country are in places like Riverton, Wyo., Lincoln, Neb., Evansville, Ind., and yes, London, Ky."

Vance's initiatives as chair include focusing on delivering member benefits to solo and small firm litigators, continuation of the Section's Children's Rights Litigation Committee, and improving lawyer well-being through its Mental Health & Wellness Task Force.

During Vance's term, the Section will host its second LGBT Forum focusing on issues relating to the community and LGBT litigators, as well as the Professional Success Summit, a conference focusing on networking and advancement for racially and ethnically diverse litigators.

He will also stress the group's commitment to diversity and inclusion as reflected in its sponsorship of the ABA Initiative on Achieving Long Term Careers for Women in Law and the Judicial Intern Opportunity Program designed to place diverse law students with judges for summer clerkships.

"What Gene has achieved in this leadership role with the ABA is noteworthy and remarkable on many levels," said SKO Managing Director P. Douglas Barr. "People generally don't think of Kentucky as the most obvious place to look for exceptional leaders and lawyers. In the 23 years I've known him, he's proven himself to be both. He's earned this honor, and we could not be more proud of his accomplishments as our friend and partner."

100% CLUB

The FCBA has established the 100% Club, to designate those firms who have made a commitment to have every member join our association. Call or email our office to make sure your firm is recognized. The following firms have joined and shown their commitment to improve our profession by supporting the Fayette County Bar Association.

Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP Bluegrass Elder Law, PLLC Boehl, Stopher & Graves LLP Casey, Bailey & Maines, PLLC Clark Law Office, Inc. Dickinson Wright PLLC Fowler Bell PLLC Frost Brown Todd LLC Gess Mattingly & Atchison, P.S.C. Golden Law Office PLLC Green Chesnut & Hughes, PLLC Hare, Wynn, Newell, & Newton, LLP Kentucky League of Cities Kershaw and Baumgardner Kessinger Law Group, PLLC Kinkead & Stilz, PLLC Landrum & Shouse LLP Legal Aid of the Bluegrass LFUCG-Dept. of Law Littler Mendelson, PSC Mattmiller Crosbie, PLLC McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie & Kirkland Mehr, Fairbanks & Peterson Trial Lawyers Miller Edwards Rambicure, PLLC Miller, Griffin & Marks, PSC O'Brien Batten and Kirtley, PLLC Rose Grasch Camenisch Mains, PLLC Stites & Harbison, PLLC Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC Walters Meadows Richardson, PLLC Walther, Gay & Mack, PLC Ward, Hocker & Thornton, PLLC Williams, Kilpatrick & True, PLLC Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP

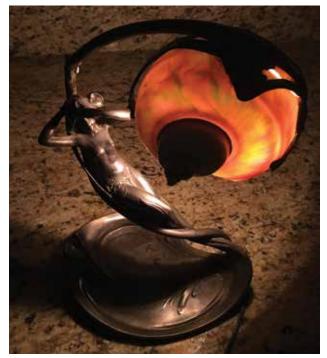
The History of Belle Breezing's Lamp

As told by Gilbert L. Mooney

My father, Grover Mooney worked for the local telephone company in the 1930s. Grover's brother and my uncle, Bill Mooney, began working along with my father around 1940. Being new to the telephone company Bill was assigned the task of collecting the telephones from the residence of Belle Breezing, who died on August 11, 1940.

Bill's inventory of the telephones took place just prior to Belle Breezing's estate auction, which took place over a three day period and was to benefit Belle's daughter, Daisy May. Bill was invited by the caretaker to take any memorabilia that would fit into a telephone box. He chose a brass lamp with a green shade. The lamp was a prized possession of Belle, as it sat on her bedside table.

Bill kept the lamp in his room while he lived with his sister, Henrietta and brother-in-law, Virgil Griffieth. He gave the lamp to Henrietta when he moved to Florida in the 1950's. When Henrietta passed away she left the lamp to her nephew, Gilbert Mooney.



Gilbert then gave the lamp to Fred Peters in January 2011.

ELEC LUCYFERGUSON VANNETER FAYETTE CIRCUIT JUDGE

17 Years Legal Experience in Fayette Circuit Court Equity Member of Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC President, Fayette County Bar Association (2017-2018) Highest AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell® Handled Cases in Over 50 Counties in Kentucky - Trying Both Civil and Criminal Cases Practiced Before All Levels of Kentucky's State and Federal Court System J.D., University of Kentucky, Cum Laude & B.A., DePauw University, with Honors Member, Christ Church Cathedral Owner and Operator of a Small Family Business Family: Husband Larry and Four Step-Children

LucyVanMeter.com 🚯 💿 🕥 @LucyVanMeterKY

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Lucy Ferguson VanMeter. Lindy Karns, C.P.A., Treasurer.

Collins Named Lawyer Referral Service Coordinator

Caitlin Collins took over as the Central Kentucky Lawyer Referral Service Coordinator in June 2018.

She has added a CKLRS Instagram (@lexington_lrs) and Twitter account (@Lexington_ LRS), along with running the LRS Facebook page. Be on the lookout for a quarterly LRS eNews in October. She has also set up an information table and photo booth at the September Night Market and will also be there in the coming months.

Caitlin prides herself in creating funny, yet informative, social media. She also likes to consider herself Dana's protégé when creating in-house graphic designs.

She looks forward to adding new attorneys to the service as well continuing to educate the public about the Lawyer Referral Service. She plans to add a law podcast to inform the public about the basics of law as well as specific areas. With a positive outlook and enthusiastic attitude, Caitlin hopes the LRS will continue to grow!

Caitlin is a graduate of Morehead State University. She lives in Mount Sterling with her dog, Fenway, and cat, Wednesday. To contact her, please call 225.9897 or email caitlin.collins@fcba.com.





MothersEsquire Fights to Improve Gender Equality in the Legal Profession

Research shows that once women have children, they are perceived as not only less committed to their work, but actually less competent. And for those mothers who try to fulfill the "ideal worker" role, working double-time to prove their commitment and competence – they are viewed as not being "good mothers," as less likable, selfish, arrogant, dominating, and less warm, and as a result, they are less likely to be promoted or given other leadership opportunities. This is truly a double-bind for women that they simply cannot win.

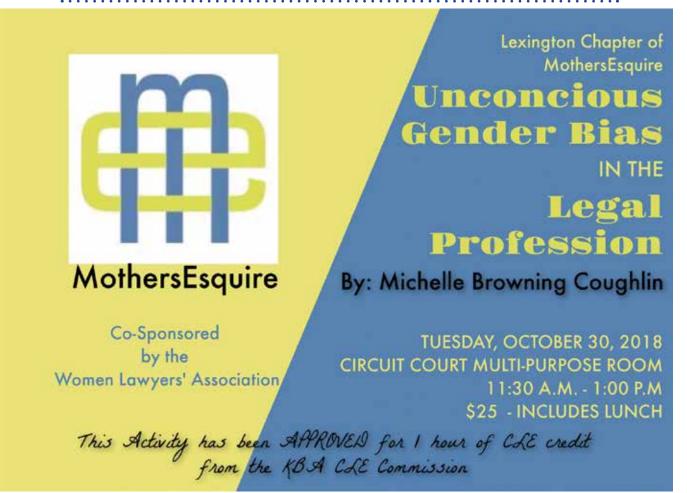
The unconscious bias against mothers, often referred to as the "motherhood penalty," severely impacts the trajectory of women lawyers' careers (even for women who do not have and never plan to have children). At MothersEsquire, we are determined to change that dynamic.

At MothersEsquire, our Mission is to achieve gender equality in the legal profession by improving promotion and retention rates of women in the law, along with championing equal pay and transparency regarding compensation practices in the legal profession.

In 2013 MothersEsquire set out to change the narrative for women lawyers who were also moms. That small Facebook community has now developed into a national advocacy organization, support network, a repository for articles and research relevant to our members, and referral network. Some examples of systemic barriers for which MothersEsquire is working to address include: (i) pay and promotion equity in light of motherhood penalty research; (ii) breastfeeding spaces in courthouses, and other supportive breastfeeding polices, for women attorneys, (iii) the importance of paternity leave and reducing stigma for mom-lawyers associated with maternity leave, (iv) the disproportionate impact of licensing reciprocity rules on mom-lawyers, which often require several years of full-time work, and (v) automatic continuances for gender-neutral parental leave in litigation.

MothersEsquire also advocates for women – and especially women with children – to have a seat at the table, whether that's serving in bar governance, on a firm's executive committee, as panelists at a convention, in judicial and political roles, or any other decision-making bodies.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg once said, tongue in cheek, that there will be enough women on the Supreme Court, "when there are nine." At MothersEsquire, we stand with the Notorious RBG in seeking a seat at the table and equal representation for women, including moms, in all sectors of the legal profession. *Michelle Browning Coughlin*



When (and How) Should a Mediator Evaluate the Case?

In today's complex business environment, occasional disputes are inevitable. It's no secret that protracted disputes can distract management, destroy relationships, and damage the bottom line. Mediation can help resolve business disputes quickly and cost-effectively while minimizing damage to relationships. Selecting the right mediator can significantly increase the likelihood of a successful mediation.

As a young litigator in the late 1980s, I was taught to screen potential mediators by asking whether they were "facilitative" or "evaluative" in their approach. Facilitative mediators focus on the mediation process and the parties' underlying interests (think "win/win" and "expanding the pie"). Typically, facilitative mediators guide the communications, ask questions, and shuttle the parties' offers and counter-offers back and forth but do not evaluate the strengths and weaknesses, or dollar value, of the claims. By contrast, evaluative mediators, sometimes called directive mediators, focus more on the substance of the case and the parties' competing legal rights. Evaluative mediators will provide substantive feedback on the issues and may even offer predictions regarding likely outcomes at trial.

While the "facilitative versus evaluative" question is still a valid one, a deeper dive may be helpful when considering potential mediators. Many mediators will employ both facilitative and evaluative techniques. Since some evaluating by the mediator is probably expected and necessary in most mediations of business disputes – especially typical disputes involving money claims – it may be useful to ask proposed mediators when, how and under what circumstances they typically offer their opinions during the mediation process.

Benefits and Risks of Evaluation

In my experience, most parties and attorneys want and expect the mediator to provide some evaluative feedback on the merits of the dispute. That is the main reason parties and attorneys often seek mediators with substantive experience in the industry or subject matter involved such as construction, employment, medical malpractice or divorce. Also, many parties, especially those new to litigation, feel a need to tell their story and have their "day in court." This psychological need can often be satisfied through a more evaluative mediation process, particularly one that includes an opportunity for the parties to present a brief summary of their "case" to the mediator and the other side in the opening joint session.

When there is an overly-optimistic case assessment by the parties and their attorneys, a mediator's objective evaluation can also be a "reality check," influencing them to adjust their settlement positions. An evaluative mediator can also help "take the heat off" an attorney by helping convey difficult assessments to a stubborn client without fear that the attorney will look "weak" or less committed to the client's cause. Finally, the mediator's evaluation can help the party's representative at the mediation "sell" or justify the settlement to management and other constituents who did not attend the mediation.

Evaluation by the mediator also carries risks. By evaluating, mediators risk alienating one of the parties, damaging their credibility as neutrals, or appearing to undercut the advice provided by counsel. Once an evaluation is presented, it almost always becomes the focus of the mediation and may practically become a take-it-or-leave it proposition that stifles further negotiation. These risks can be mitigated if the evaluation is done effectively and at the right time.

When to Evaluate

While evaluations are often expected and helpful, they are not always necessary. In some cases, the parties may assess the case similarly but simply need the structure and "motivation" of a mediation to negotiate a settlement. This is especially true with experienced parties like insurance adjusters and attorneys who regularly handle similar types of claims; they know what the claim is "worth" and may not need a mediator's evaluation.

More broadly, if the parties are making good progress, there is no reason for the mediator to give an evaluation. My experience is that while parties and their attorneys appreciate receiving a thoughtful mediator's informed evaluation after negotiations have bogged down, they can be turned off by mediators who jump to an early or premature conclusion, then spend most of the mediation trying to drive the parties to their number. I have found the best mediators give the parties reasonable time to argue their cases, exchange information, and do some haggling before offering explicit opinions on pivotal issues in the case. Of course, a mediator also needs to

Mediation, continued

keep an eye on the clock -- if it's getting late and the parties are still far apart, the mediator is probably going to have to put on the evaluator's hat or propose extending the mediation.

How to Evaluate

The most effective mediators treat evaluation as a progression. Early in the mediation, they reserve judgment as they guide the process, listen to the parties, learn about the case, and build rapport. After the initial phases or when the negotiations lose momentum, they begin to pivot subtlety toward evaluation, often first by questioning the parties and their counsel about the strength and weakness of both sides' cases. They may begin to challenge those assessments by calling attention to key omitted points or by questioning overly-optimistic assumptions. At an appropriate time, they may lead the parties and counsel through an analysis of the likely outcomes and costs of each stage of litigation if the case is not settled. These steps are typically done one-on-one in private caucus sessions to avoid embarrassing a party or its counsel in front of the other party and to prevent appearing biased.

If the subtler evaluation techniques do not result in a settlement, the mediator may consider suggesting a narrower "bracketed range" for further negotiations, a more direct evaluation of key issues or, perhaps, a prediction of the likely results at trial. Most mediators will check with both parties before offering an opinion on the overall case since it likely will have a big impact on the mediation. I have been in mediations where the parties asked the mediator to delay providing an evaluation while the parties jump-started their bargaining.

There are many formats for evaluations. A mediator may provide a simple settlement figure, a range of potential outcomes at trial, a decision-tree analysis, or a more comprehensive written analysis of the case. Another common technique is to provide a "mediator's proposal" after an impasse is reached. There, the mediator proposes settlement terms to both parties that they must either accept or reject in-full. Each party responds to the mediator confidentially without knowing the other side's response. The mediator then determines if there is a settlement or, if not, whether the matter could either benefit from further mediation or is at an impasse and should therefore be terminated.

If done effectively, thoughtful evaluation by a skilled mediator at the right time can help break an impasse during mediation and increase the likelihood of a settlement.

Scott Gurney is a construction attorney, mediator and arbitrator with Frost Brown Todd LLC.

Justice VanMeter Portrait Unveiling

Justice Laurance VanMeter's Portrait unveiling ceremony was September 28, 2018 at the Fayette Circuit Courthouse Multi-Purpose Room. The portrait was presented to the Fayette Circuit Court by President Marshall Hixson and the ceremony was followed by a short reception.



Left to Right: Jennie VanMeter, Justice VanMeter, Lucy VanMeter, John Thomas VanMeter, Clare VanMeter, Browning VanMeter and Charles Edward VanMeter

DeFlorio Given 2018 Fayette County Crime Victims' Right Week Award

Catherine DeFlorio, an Attorney with Legal Aid of the Bluegrass (LABG) since 2000, was celebrated at the Crime Victims' Rights Week luncheon and ceremony. DeFlorio was chosen to receive the 2018 Fayette County Crime Victims' Right Week Award for her outstanding service and dedication to victims of violence. This is the first year that the award will be given to a single individual, a true testament to the reach of her work and commitment to her clients.

"Catherine's tireless intensity for her work and her client's has made Kentucky, our advocacy community, and Fayette County a more responsive, educated, and safe environment for victims of violence" says Brandie Ingalls, Special Populations Unit Manager for Legal Aid of the Bluegrass (LABG). She continues "I cannot think of any advocate more appropriate or deserving to receive this award."

Joshua Crabtree, Executive Director of LABG adds "Catherine's special expertise not only affords her clients protection from abuse but it gives them their lives back. Her work restores victims to wholeness, empowering them to participate in their lives and in society as they choose."

Fayette County Crime Victims' Rights Week is a collaboration of the Fayette County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, The Fayette County Attorney's Office, the Office of the Fayette County Sheriff, The Lexington Police Department and the US Attorney's Office- Eastern District of Kentucky.



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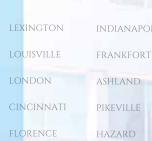
- Listed as Top 10 KY Super Lawyer
- 2017 KY Bar Association Distinguished Lawyer of Yr.
- 2014 & 2016 Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers in America - Mediation Lexington
- Mediated 10,000+ Civil & Medical Malpractice Cases
- 2015 University of KY Army ROTC Hall of Fame
- 2014-2015 Fayette Co. Bar Association President
- 2006 University of KY College of Law Hall of Fame
- University of Virginia College of Law, Army JAG

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www.gmalaw.com

Of Counsel:

Benjamin D. Allen William W. Allen Samuel G. Carneal Guy M. Graves John T. Hamilton J. Thomas Rawlings Lori B. Shelburne Stephen P. Stoltz Donald M. Wakefield Jeffrey R. Walker Richard A. Whitaker M. Katherine Bing Stefan J. Bing

C. Timothy Cone William R. Hilliard, Jr. Bernard F. Lovely, Jr. Spencer D. Noe

William B. Gess (1906 - 1985)John G. Atchison, Jr. (1924 - 2002)Jack F. Mattingly (1921 - 2006)

Founded in 1954, GESS MATTINGLY & ATCHISON, P.S.C. is a mid-size law the firm located in the heart of downtown Lexington. The firm offers a broad range of legal services and represents clients throughout Kentucky and the region. Some of the firm's practice areas include:

- Appellate Law
- Bankruptcy & Financial Restructuring
 Health Care Law
- Business & Commercial Law
- Commercial & Residential Real Estate
 Mediation
- Criminal Defense

- Family Law
- Litigation
- Tax, Trust & Estate Planning

Equine Law

The Firm is committed to providing high value legal services which will contribute to the success of our clients and the betterment of our community. We pride ourselves on our long-term relationships with our clients and honor our clients' trust and loyalty by endeavoring to ensure that each matter is handled in an expeditious and economical manner and to our client's satisfaction.

Let our tradition of excellence continue with you.

ENTUCK

Will, Amelia and Eloise Adams enjoying Lake Toxaway in the mountains of western North Carolina.



Justice VanMeter and Lucy VanMeter went hiking in the mountains.



Ross Ewing and his husband, David Cupps in Tierra Fuego National Park at the southern typ of Argentina.



Christine Stanley and her husband enjoy "Familymoon" June 2018 - honeymooning with family and friends; celebrating all things including our October wedding, birthdays, accomplishments and anniversaries.

Ross Ewing, Attorney & Mediator

Ross Ewing is pleased to announce the opening of his own firm in Lexington. Ewing practices in the areas of family law, estate planning, and mediation. He is a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law, and in 2017 he earned an advanced certificate in Divorce and Family Mediation from Northwestern University. In his ten years in practice, Ewing has served in several leadership roles in the Kentucky and Fayette County Bar Associations. He currently chairs the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning and also serves as KYLAP volunteer.

Gess Mattingly & Atchison

The law firm of GESS MATTINGLY & ATCHISON is pleased to announce that the following attorneys from the Taylor Law Group have joined in practice with Gess Mattingly on July 1, 2018. Joining as a Member is **James W. Taylor** - Business and Commercial Law, Litigation and joining as an associate is **Blake C. Nolan** – Litigation.

Goode Law Office

Christopher Good is pleased to announce the opening of **Goode** Law Office, PLLC a personal injury law firm that provides attentive and client-focused representation to individuals who have suffered injuries after the negligent acts of others. Goode is nationally recognized for his commitment to quality advocacy and has also taken on leadership positions within the legal community as past president of the Fayette County Bar Association, past chair of the LFUCG Ethics Commission and district vice president of the Kentucky Justice Association. Goode Law Office is located at 710 East Main Street, Suite 3 in Lexington Kentucky.

Green Chesnut & Hughes

Green Chesnut & Hughes is pleased to announce that **Jacqueline Nelson Graves** has joined the firm, practicing primarily in insurance defense litigation. Jacqueline is a graduate of Campbellsville University and the University of Kentucky College of Law. Prior to joining the firm, Jacqueline interned for Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge Glenn Acree and worked at another insurance defense firm. During law school, Jacqueline was a member of the Intrastate Trial Team, Kentucky Journal of Equine, Agriculture & Natural Resources Law, participated in the Legal Clinic and served as outreach coordinator for StreetLaw. Jacqueline is a member of the Kentucky Bar Association, Fayette County Bar Association, Kentucky Defense Counsel, Claims and Litigation Management Alliance and the Central Kentucky American Inns of Court.

McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie & Kirkland

It is a great day at McBrayer as we welcome back **Virginia "Ginny" Lawson** to our real estate practice. Ms. Lawson has been in private practice since 1984, spending most of that time as the owner of a small law firm. She also spent time working in two local firms, one of which was McBrayer, and she is a hard-hitting addition to our real estate team, which includes **Mary Estes**



Haggin, Chris Richardson, Brittany Roethemeier, and Jacob Walbourn.

Ms. Lawson began her career as a REALTOR®, and later moved into the practice of law. In addition to representing real estate brokers and their companies, she practices in the areas of creditor's rights and professional liability defense, as well as estate settlement and probate. She also serves as a mediator.

Morgan Pottinger McGarvey

Morgan & Pottinger, P.S.C. announced that the firm name is changing to **Morgan Pottinger McGarvey**. The new name honors attorney **John McGarvey** and his contributions to the firm, legal community and banking industry. This is the first time the name has changed in the firm's nearly 45-year history.

McGarvey joined Morgan & Pottinger on Jan. 1, 1975, shortly after the firm was founded in Louisville in 1974. He is a member of numerous legal organizations, including multiple Uniform Commercial Code task forces and advisory committees. He has held a position on the UCC's Permanent Editorial Board since 2015. Best Lawyers in America® named him the 2019 Lawyer of the Year for Litigation - Banking and Finance Law in Louisville.

"We're adding McGarvey to the firm name in appreciation of John's dedication to both the firm and our clients over the years," said Managing Director Mindy Sunderland. "We are a better firm because of John and his leadership, and it's a privilege to recognize him in this way."

McGarvey is also an adjunct secured transactions professor at the University of Kentucky College of Law. He has taught hundreds of seminars on legal issues involving financial institutions and other lenders.

Stites & Harbison

Stites & Harbison, PLLC's Construction Service Group is pleased to announce the addition of two construction attorneys: **Megan George** and **Aaron Klein**. George will join the Lexington, Ky., office while Klein will join the Louisville, Ky., office.

George counsels clients on construction matters and routinely drafts, negotiates and reviews contracts for clients. Before joining Stites & Harbison, George was an attorney at a Lexington law firm. She also served as Assistant Attorney General in the Kentucky Attorney General's Office of Criminal Appeals. George is active in the community where she serves as a member or board member of many organizations including, Lexington Public Library Board of Advisors, Kentucky Conservatory Theatre Board of Trustees and Junior League of Lexington. George earned her J.D. from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 2013.

Leadership Lexington has selected Stites & Harbison, PLLC attorney **Rebecca Wichard Sherman** as a member of the 2018-19 Leadership Lexington program. Through the eleven-month program, participants are provided with opportunities to gain a better understanding of Lexington and the challenges it faces by

Names in the News, cont.

meeting with and learning from today's leaders.

Sherman is an attorney with Stites & Harbison in the Construction Service Group based in the Lexington office. Her practice focuses on advising clients throughout all phases of construction projects including planning, contract drafting and negotiation, project administration and disputes. She represents owners, contractors and subcontractors in construction disputes and litigation. Additionally, Sherman routinely represents professional athletes and entertainers in contract negotiations, business advice and litigation matters. She has also handled a variety of business and litigation matters for national corporations and local business.

Blue Grass Community Foundation has selected Stites & Harbison, PLLC attorney **Richard Wehrle** as a member of its Board of Directors.

Blue Grass Community Foundation is a public charity managed by a volunteer board and led by professionals experienced in local philanthropy. The foundation's mission is to enhance the quality of life in Central and Appalachia Kentucky through philanthropy and civic engagement.

Wehrle is a Member (Partner) of Stites & Harbison based in the Lexington, Ky., office. He is the Chair of the Trusts & Estate Planning Service Group. His practice focuses on trusts and estate administration, estate planning and charitable giving, charitable and nonprofit organizations, estate and gift taxes, probate and fiduciary law.

Sturgill Turner Barker and Moloney

Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC is proud to announce that attorney **L. Scott Miller** has been selected for the Leadership Kentucky Class of 2018. Scott, a retired trooper and legal counsel for the Kentucky State Police, now helps police departments and police officers by defending them against claims of excessive use of force, malicious prosecution, unlawful search and seizure, and other federal civil rights actions. He also provides expert review of police policies and makes recommendations for best practices.

Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC welcomes two associates to the firm's Employment Law and Education Law practice groups. Jessica R. Stigall graduated with a J.D. from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 2012, and a B.A. in political science from Eastern Kentucky University in 2009. Her litigation experience comes from her time in private practice and as an assistant county attorney. Jessica is a member of numerous legal organizations, including Central Kentucky American Inn of Court, the Kentucky Defense Counsel, the Kentucky and Fayette County Bar Associations, the FCBA Women Lawyers' Association, the National School Board Attorneys/Kentucky Council of School Board Attorneys, and the Defense Research Institute. Jessica gives back to her community as a member of the Junior League of Lexington and the Board of Directors for Dress for Success Lexington. **Donald C. Morgan** graduated with a J.D. from the Wake Forest University School of Law in 2016, and a B.B.A. from the University of Kentucky in 2013. He has extensive

experience helping clients achieve regulatory compliance with various government entities. Don is a member of several legal organizations, including the Central Kentucky Inn of Court, and the Kentucky, Fayette County, and American Bar Associations. Don is a Lexington native who enjoys serving his community as an active member of the Rotaract Club of Lexington.

Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC is proud to announce that attorney **Stephanie M. Wurdock** has been appointed the Second Vice-Chair of the DRI Young Lawyers Committee for the 2018-2019 term, effective Oct. 20, 2018.

Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs

Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP is pleased to announce that **Jeff A. Woods** has been appointed by Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin as a member of the Mine Safety Review Commission for a four year term. The Mine Safety Review Commission is a three-member commission that conducts hearings and issues orders relating to alleged violations of mine safety laws by coal operators, licensees and other persons involved in the mining of coal.

Mr. Woods is a member of the firm's Natural Resources & Environmental Service Team. For most of his career, he has concentrated his practice in complex litigation matters and has extensive experience litigating and arbitrating coal supply agreements, construction contracts, mineral property disputes and other claims affecting the coal industry.



The Lexington Law Softball League concluded the 2018 season with its annual post-season tournament on August 28, 2018. Congratulations to Hicks & Funfsinn, which defeated Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs in the championship game to win the coveted league trophy! The softball league is open to any law firm or legal professional practicing in Central Kentucky and runs from approximately late May through late August each summer. Contact Justin Ross at jross@ wyattfirm.com or 859-288-7474 for information about playing in 2019!



Fayette County Bar Associat 219 N. Upper Street Lexington, KY 40507



October 2018

- 22-30 Directory Photos Sessions, Fayette Circuit Courthouse
- 30 Mothers Esquire CLE

November 2018

- 12 Veteran's Day (Observed) Courts and FCBA Offices Closed
- 22-23 Thanksgiving Courts and FCBA Offices Closed

December 2018

- 7 Blood Drive
- 13 FCBA Holiday Party
- 24-25 Christmas Holiday Courts and FCBA Offices Closed
- 31-Jan. 1, 2019 New Year's Holiday Courts and FCBA Offices Closed

Calendar of Events