Give – as Opposed to Receive

By Rhon E. Jones, MCBA President

“In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Acts 20:35. I would say that everyone reading this is familiar with that verse of scripture. I would also imagine that almost everyone reading would agree it is a good thing to serve others — to give as opposed to receiving.

But, as lawyers, do we practice it? More specifically, as Montgomery County Bar members, do we apply it? What have you done, or are you doing, to serve others in your Bar? In your community? Each month I meet with our Board who takes of their time to serve others in their community, in a number of ways. They don’t have to spend countless hours working to serve fellow Bar members, but they do. My law partner and good friend Tom Methvin focused his year as President of the Alabama State Bar on the creation of a statewide Volunteer Lawyers Program, and later helped to organize the Montgomery County Bar’s own local Volunteer Lawyers Program. It has been a great success and lawyers like Kelly McTear, Tim Gallagher, Royal Dumas, Mike Winter, and many others have played a major role in the VLP and serving others. There are a multitude of ways to serve other lawyers and our community through the MCBA.

Let me make this a little personal. As a Montgomery County Bar member, do you practice the act of service, giving as opposed to receiving? If you don’t, or if you want to do more, I would encourage you to contact me or one of our Board members and find a way to serve. If you do serve, I thank you very much and would remind that if you want to do more we will find a place for you!

Speaking of service, we have created a new Section of the MCBA — the Government Section. It will be an asset to the MCBA, as are the Women’s Section and the Young Lawyers Section, both of which have been a tremendous success. Please spread the word to lawyers you know involved in government work. I will be visiting numerous groups more fully explaining what the Government Section is and what we think it can become.

As always, if you have ideas on how to make our organization better or more efficient, just let me know.

Rhon Jones
At the end of a long day at work, it’s time to unwind and have some fun, so come on...

To the MCBA June Social
At The Pine Bar
June 22nd  5:00-7:00

Thanks to these sponsors:

Eagle Court Reporting

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LexisNexis

Jamison Alexander Salon Studio
Meet Douglas McElvy, Alabama State Bar Acting General Counsel

By Bryan Morgan

Recently, MCBA President Rhon Jones asked me to interview the new Alabama State Bar Acting General Counsel J. Douglas McElvy for The Docket, so I called him at his new office at the Alabama State Bar. As has always been the case in my dealings with him, Doug called me back as soon as he could which was at 4:50 p.m. after getting out of court. This gesture highlighted one of the most important things Doug told me during our interview and that is that the practice of law involves relationships more than anything else. As he said, knowing the law is important but the relationships you have, with particularly other attorneys, Judges, courthouse staff and your clients, is the key to a successful and rewarding law practice.

Doug began his law practice after finishing law school at the University of Alabama in 1971 in Lee County with Legal Services before moving to Montgomery. During his many years practicing law, he has found that a young lawyer is best served if they study the rules of Professional Responsibility in conjunction with practicing those character qualities that got them into law school in the first place – returning phone calls, answering emails and responding to all communications professionally and promptly.

He supports the idea of a Mentor as a guide for a lawyer just starting out as someone who can assist a new lawyer in building a quality reputation and advising a new lawyer in managing the complex relationships in today’s cases with witnesses, Judges and other lawyers. As an example, he mentioned the importance of proper management of a Trust Account where an experienced attorney can provide a wealth of knowledge to a beginning lawyer. He stressed the importance of developing your “granite-like commitment” to honesty in all matters in one’s law practice which includes full and frank candor in all dealings with the court and the law as required by the rules.

He noted that following Tony McClain, who was a most popular General Counsel and beloved bar member, is a tall order but that he is assisted by the very capable and able attorneys and staff in the General Counsel’s office. Doug has served as a Bar Commissioner as well as President of the Alabama State Bar and he salutes the hard work and great leadership provided by our retiring Executive Director Keith Norman as well as his predecessor Reggie Hamner. He congratulates our new State Bar Executive Director Phillip McCallum, he enjoys working with President Cole Portis and he welcomes our President-Elect Augusta Dowd. He noted that we have been blessed in the Alabama State Bar with outstanding leaders and stability throughout our history.

Doug stated that he assumed the position of Acting General Counsel from a phone call “out of the blue” but that he was eager to serve when he was called. He wants all lawyers to remember that the best way to reach him and the General Counsel’s staff is to call him at the Bar at (334) 269-1515 and he will return your phone call – he did mine and we had a great visit. Congratulations, Doug!
NOTICE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

REGARDING CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

The Associated Press recently published an article with the headline “ID Theft Case Reveals Security Weaknesses in Alabama Court System.” Two follow-up articles have been published concerning personal information of crime victims appearing in court records. The initial story reported that prosecutors had charged an Alabama man with aggravated identity theft and conspiracy. The defendant, who has since pleaded guilty, used personal information purportedly gained from alacourt.com to assist in stealing identities. The story pointed out that the federal court system, PACER, “typically” does not include personal information and that PACER posts a notice that it is up to attorneys to ensure that private information is not included in filed documents. The notice posted on that website is no different from Alabama state law.

Under Alabama law, the person filing a document with the court must ascertain that no identifying information is included in that document. Rule 31(I) of the Alabama Rules of Judicial Administration states in part that “[t]he clerk or other official custodian of court records shall not be responsible for identifying information included on any document filed in the clerk’s office.” Rule 31(I) goes on to state that “[a]ny individual filing a document that requires or contains an individual’s personal identifying information may make proper request…to protect the contents of such documents from public disclosure.” Furthermore, Rule 5.1 of the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure provides a process for redacting identifying information in documents filed in civil cases.

In addition to not being charged with the legal responsibility to comb through the hundreds or thousands of documents filed in their offices per day in search of potential personal identifying information, the Circuit Clerks do not have the time or personnel to perform this task. The Administrative Office of Courts has implemented processes that safeguard any identifying information that may be contained in any data that is displayed in any electronic systems. If identifying information is written or typed on a document that is scanned into the system, however, the system cannot identify that information. Therefore, individuals filing documents with the courts need to exercise extreme caution when they include personal identifying information about an individual.

Although Social Security numbers are frequently used to verify the identity of a person, it is not necessary to include the entire Social Security number in a document filed with the court. Although Section 41-13-6, Ala. Code 1975, implements a general prohibition of certain governmental entities from placing a Social Security number on any document available for public inspection, that statute is “not applicable to a document originating with any court...or any record of judgment, conviction, eviction, or bankruptcy.” Rule 5.1 of the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure states that, unless the court orders otherwise, a filer may include only the last four digits of any Social Security number, of any taxpayer-identification number, or of any financial-account number when filing an electronic or a paper document. If a person filing a document is ever prompted to provide a Social Security number on a document to be filed with the court, the filer may enter 999-99-9999.
Information about the victim of certain criminal offenses (defined in 15-23-60(7) as “a felony involving physical injury, the threat of physical injury, or a sexual offense, or any offense involving spousal abuse or domestic violence has been committed”) must also be excluded from documents filed with the courts. Section 15-23-69, Ala. Code 1975, provides that “[t]he address, phone number, place of employment, and other related information about the victim contained in the court file shall not be public record.” Furthermore, Section 15-1-2(b), Ala. Code 1975, provides that “[t]he court records of a child under the age of 18 years who is a victim of sexual abuse or exploitation shall not be open to the public, but shall be kept in the same manner as juvenile offender records are kept.” If the victim information is contained in a document filed with the courts, the filing party should take steps to assure that the information is redacted or to assure that the document is shielded from public view. The filing party can notify the circuit clerk at the time such document is filed.

The Administrative Office of Courts is dedicated to protecting information within court records that could be used for malicious purposes. The courts further intend to protect victims of crime from the display of their identifying information. Please assist the court system in our efforts by assuring that documents filed with the courts are appropriately redacted.

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>8:30-2:00</td>
<td>Basics of Automobile Accidents/ Mike Crow, Jim Rives, Tommy Kirk</td>
<td>5 hr.</td>
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<td>Lunch included— MUST PREREGISTER BY JULY 24TH— NO CHARGE TO MCBA MEMBERS</td>
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<td>$50 per hour for non-members/ At the Montgomery County Courthouse, Third Floor</td>
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<td>Preregister by email: <a href="mailto:suzanneduffey@mc-ala.org">suzanneduffey@mc-ala.org</a> or call 265-4793</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>1:30-5:00</td>
<td>Women in Law: An Evolving Career/ Chief Justice Hon. Lyn Stuart, Suzi Huffaker/ Panel</td>
<td>3 hr.</td>
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<td>Free to members of the MCBA Women’s Section/New members are welcome to join at the CLE ($30) at Faulkner University Jones School of Law</td>
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<td>RSVP to <a href="mailto:MCBAWOMEN@GMAIL.COM">MCBAWOMEN@GMAIL.COM</a></td>
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<td>Aug. 10</td>
<td>9:00-10:00</td>
<td>Recent Trends in Dispute Resolution (Arbitration and Mediation)/ James Walter</td>
<td>1 hr.</td>
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<td>No Charge to MCBA Members/$50 for non-members at the Montgomery County Courthouse, Third Floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td>Five Steps to Build a Whistleblower Case that Gets Government Attention/ Speaker Eileen Leslie</td>
<td>1 hr.</td>
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<td>Free to MCBA members/$50 non-members fee at the Montgomery County Courthouse, Third Floor</td>
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<td>Preregister by email: <a href="mailto:suzanneduffey@mc-ala.org">suzanneduffey@mc-ala.org</a> or call 265-4793</td>
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Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel and former Judge Advocate Harold Howell of Prattville was honored at the May 9 CLE at Bass Pro for his well-over 50 years in the practice of law. Mr. Howell graduated from the University of Alabama Law School in 1949 and began his law practice in Prattville after serving in many countries with the U.S. Air Force JAG Corps on active duty. He practices with Howell, Sarto & Howell in Prattville. (Bryan Morgan)

Harold Howell, born 1-31-1922, graduated from Phillips High School, Birmingham AL in the class of 1940. He then attended Birmingham Southern College until 1942 when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. In the Navy, Harold served as a torpedo man on two destroyers, the USS Wilson and the USS Gregory. He received a Purple Heart after surviving a kamikaze attack off the coast of Okinawa, Japan while serving on the USS Gregory.

After the war Harold married Junetta Severson in San Francisco, 1945. He finished college in 1946 and entered University of Alabama Law School where he graduated in 1949. He then was commissioned as an officer in the United State Air Force and began a 28-year career as a Staff Judge Advocate. While in the Air Force he served in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Pusan, Korea; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Dayton, Ohio; Tokyo, Japan; Trenton, New Jersey; and Montgomery, Alabama. He received a Masters of Business Administration Degree from the University of Dayton, and taught Business Law classes for the University of Maryland while in Japan and for Troy University of Montgomery.

Harold retired from the Air Force and went into private practice in Prattville with his son, George Howell. He and fellow WWII veteran, Joseph Sarto, joined the practice a few years later.

Harold Howell has devoted his life to spreading the gospel and helping others. He has been instrumental in starting missions and churches in New Mexico, Japan and Prattville. He taught Sunday school for 70+ years. He is an active member Glynwood Baptist Church, the Alabama Bar Association, the Rotary Club and the Gideons International. He served on the Board of Directors of the Louisville Baptist Seminary.

He is the father of 4 girls, and one boy Linda, George, Naomi, Rebecca, and Patricia. He has, 12 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

Pictured Left to right:
MCBA President Rhon Jones, Kyle Shirley, Bryan Morgan, Chris McKay, and Col. Harold Howell seated.
I would be remiss if I didn’t start out by saying how appreciative we are for the continued great response we receive from members of the Montgomery County Bar when we ask for volunteers at our twice-monthly Advice and Counsel Clinics or when we seek to place a referral of a pro bono client in need of extended representation. In the words of the younger generation, “Y’all Rock!”

We got some good news recently with a ruling from the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals that effectively returns Alabama’s wage exemption rule in consumer collection cases to that which has been in effect for over one hundred years, i.e., that any wages of less than $1,000 per paycheck are protected from garnishment under the Alabama Constitution. Several years ago, the Court, in *Alabama Telco v. Gibbons*, decided the $1,000 exemption could be claimed only once; however, when Legal Services Alabama and the Southern Poverty Law Center appealed a lower court ruling against their clients, the court revisited the ruling in Gibbons and opined that as long as you can show you are spending your wages on necessary living expenses, you get to hold a minimum sum of $1,000 from your paycheck at any given time. This is a huge victory for the working poor in Alabama, who can already barely make it from one check to another.

Not so good news is coming from Washington, where the Trump Administration has offered up a budget proposal that seeks to eliminate funding for Legal Services Corporation, one of MVLP’s major grant funders. The de-funding of LSC could mean millions of low-income Americans would be without civil legal representation, as this agency is responsible for supporting hundreds of civil legal aid organizations nationwide. Please take a moment to write, email or call your U.S. Representative and Senators and ask them to protect LSC from the budget axe. Our work, and that of the other VLPs in Alabama and across the country, depends on it.

In addition to our regular clinics, we recently held two successful events away from our normal setting, one at the Rufus A. Lewis Public Library on Mobile Highway and another, for veterans, at the VA Clinic on Chantilly Parkway. Response to our requests for clinic volunteers continues to be great, and we want to salute the following, who gave of their time and expertise to assist our clients over the past two months: **Allen Sheehan** (Capell & Howard), **Joana Ellis** (ADLA), **John Charles** (The Anderson Firm), **Liz Eiland** (Beasley Allen), **Brannon Booth**, **Royce Wadsworth** (Wadsworth Law Office), **Kelly McTeard** (Faulkner-Jones Law), **Amanda Hines** (Rushon, Stakely), **Stephanie Montplaisir** (Beasley Allen), **Aigner Kolom** (Beasley Allen), **Sonny Wills** (Beasley Allen), **Tim Gallagher** (Sasser, Sefton & Brown), **Laurel Crawford** (Crawford Law Office), **Kia Scott** (K. Scott Law), **John Bradley** (Faulkner-Jones Law), **Mike Winter** (Winter Legal Strategies), **Lakesha Shahid** (Shahid & Hosea), **Philip Sellers II** (Rushon, Stakely), **Leigh Haynie** (LSA), **Barr Younker, Kaasha Benjamin, Jeff Duffey, Russ Russell** (Capell & Howard), and **Grant Sexton** (Rushon, Stakely).

I invite you to consider joining with us, if you are not already a volunteer or, if you are and haven’t taken a case referral in a while, by calling our office at 265-0222 and let us know you would like to help those less fortunate in our community facing civil legal issues. You’ll be glad you did.
The following attorneys recently accepted Pro Bono Cases Through the MVLP:

John Charles
The Anderson Firm, LLC

Tamika Miller
Miller Smith, LLC

Liz Eiland
Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, & Miles, P.C.

Russ Russell
Capell & Howard, P.C.

Jeffery Duffey
The Law Office of Jeffery C. Duffey

Kelly McTear
Faulkner University—Jones School of Law

John Craft
Faulkner University—Jones School of Law

Tim Gallagher
Sasser Sefton & Brown, PC

LaKesha B. Shahid
Shahid & Hosea LLC

Royce Wadsworth
Wadsworth Law Office, LLC

Future Volunteer Opportunities with the MVLP

Tuesday, June 6th, 3-5 p.m. at 1100 Adams Avenue (Community Action Building)
Tuesday, June 20th, 3-5 p.m. at 1100 Adams Avenue (Community Action Building)
Tuesday, July 18th, 3-5 p.m. at 1100 Adams Avenue (Community Action Building)
Thursday, July 20th, 10 a.m.—1:00 p.m. at 1276 Rosa Parks Avenue, Public Library
Thursday, July 27th, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. at the River Region Connects Homeless Resource Fair at Cramton Bowl Multiplex
Thanks for the Memories (and friendship)

As I edit this issue of The Docket, I think how grateful I am for the past eight and a half years that I have been privileged to be the MCBA Administrative Assistant and the editor of The Docket. I am retiring from my regular schedule June 30th. While I will still be helping Suzanne a few hours a month and editing The Docket a while longer, I will not be in my usual place each morning. It has been the perfect part-time job. (The coffeemaker lasted almost as long as I did!)

Coming to work at the MCBA was an unexpected blessing. Suzanne and I taught at Brewbaker Elementary and Primary Schools for many years and had developed a close friendship and working relationship. Being able to work with Suzanne has been a joy. It’s a bit scary to be leaving, because we finish each other’s sentences so often. My husband hasn’t quite mastered that ability.

I love lawyers. My late brother, his first wife, their two sons and my son are all lawyers. I have a cousin who is an attorney, also. So, in my family you either love them or get a new family. Getting to know so many of you has been a joy. I may not have met you, but I know the names of the members and feel as if I know you. Those who come by our office frequently have enriched my life. You have been an encouragement to me many times, brightened my days, and helped me remember that this office was a mission field. Working in the courthouse has been interesting and often sad. I have seen former students prosecuted and sentenced to prison. I have wept with the parents. I have tried to comfort and encourage victims and their families. I have prayed for so many of you as you have faced difficult times and controversial trials. Attorneys are under-appreciated, which is ironic, as you are out there helping people in their most difficult situations.

Please keep in touch with me, share your joys and prayer requests, and keep Suzanne on her toes. Thank you so much for allowing me to serve you.

Dot Robinson (mamadot3g@yahoo.com)

“I thank my God every time I remember you.” Philippians 1:3 (New International Version)
The Women’s Section is ready for a busy summer! In May, Vice-President Salem Afangideh led us in a morning yoga session on the Green out at The Shoppes at Eastchase. Taking care of our bodies and our health is so important for not only women, but lawyers in general. After the class, we enjoyed breakfast with some of our members at Panera. Let us know if you would like to see more of these events throughout the year.

Upcoming Events:

A GREAT CLE OPPORTUNITY

The Women’s Section will be presenting a CLE for our members and any potential members on July 27th. A flyer including the CLE schedule can be found in this month’s Docket. The CLE is called “Women in the Law: An Evolving Career” and will feature several attorneys and elected or appointed officials on both the local and state level. We are pleased to announce Chief Justice Lyn Stuart as our opening speaker and Suzi Huffaker as our keynote speaker. We will also feature two panel discussions called “Women in Practice” and “Women in Power” that will be exploring the different careers possible with the practice of law and what challenges and advice these women have to offer. You do not want to miss this event! We will also have a social for our members and participants that evening following the program. More information about this event will be emailed to our members. Many thanks to our sponsor, Hill Hill Carter!

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY THIS SUMMER

The Women’s Section will be participating in a summer service project at the end of July. We will be volunteering in the Montgomery Public School’s Back to School Clean Up. The Women’s Section will be getting Halcyon Elementary ready for students by completing yard work (spreading pine straw, planting flowers, trimming bushes, etc.) to get the school in shape. More information about this event, including the date, will be emailed to our members.

As always, be kind.

Effie Hawthorne, President
THE WOMEN’S SECTION OF THE MCBA PRESENTS

WOMEN IN LAW: AN EVOLVING CAREER

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2017
1:30 - 5:00 PM
JONES SCHOOL OF LAW AT FAULKNER UNIVERSITY
SPONSORED BY HILL HILL CARTER

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:
1:30-2:00 PM: OPENING SPEAKER - LYN STUART
CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT

2:00-2:50 PM: “WOMEN IN PRACTICE” PANEL DISCUSSION

2:50-3:00 PM: BREAK

3:00-3:50 PM: WOMEN IN THE LEGISLATURE — SUZI HUFFAKER
LOBBIYST FOR THE ALABAMA STATE BAR

3:50-4:00 PM: BREAK

4:00-4:50 PM: “WOMEN IN POWER” PANEL DISCUSSION

4:50-5:00 PM: CLOSING REMARKS - EFFIE HAWTHORNE
WOMEN’S SECTION PRESIDENT

5:00-7:00 PM: SOCIAL AT THE GIN

THIS PROGRAM IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL WOMEN’S SECTION MEMBERS AND ANY MEMBER OF THE MCBA WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE MCBA WOMEN’S SECTION THE DAY OF THE PROGRAM.

TO RSVP FOR THIS EVENT OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL MCBAWOMEN@GMAIL.COM.

*THIS PROGRAM IS PENDING CLE APPROVAL FROM THE ALABAMA STATE BAR.

Hill Hill Carter
Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole & Black, P.C.
Shoot For A Cause

The Young Lawyers Section successfully hosted its Fourth Annual Charity Clay Shoot on Friday, May 12, 2017 at the Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club. We had 29 local businesses sponsor this event this year, and 14 teams signed up to compete. Everyone came together for a great cause, raising more money than we ever have in past years. The Young Lawyers Section hosted the charity clay shoot for the benefit of Common Ground’s Mercy House ministry, which provides a safe home, nutritious food, and donated clothes to those in need. All proceeds from the clay shoot will help provide the comforts of home to those individuals in our community that are in great need of our help and support. For additional information about Mercy House, see pages 14-15.

Pictured (left to right): YLS Board of Directors—Landon Eley, Elliott Lipinsky, Brannan Reaves, Ali Hawthorne, Charlie Hawthorne, Beau Darley and Jesse Anderson

The charity clay shoot was followed by a celebration that included the presentation of over $450 worth of top team and individual shooter awards, a free Yeti cooler, and other great raffle items, as well as food and beverage provided by Chris’ Hot Dogs and Pine Bar.
The Young Lawyers Section would like to give special recognition and a big THANK YOU to the following sponsors of the 2017 charity clay shoot:

If you would like to learn more about Common Ground’s Mercy House ministry, visit http://cgm.life/community-ministries/. Mercy House is an amazing ministry right here in our own community, and the Young Lawyers Section was honored to have been able to raise money to further their tremendous efforts.

For those of you not receiving our Young Lawyers Section emails or if you are wanting to become a member of the Young Lawyers Section, please contact our Secretary/Treasurer at elliottlipinsky@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Ali Hawthorne
President
Thanks to Common Ground Montgomery, a ministry that focuses on holistic community transformation, Washington Park will soon have a house that is a food pantry and clothes closet serving people in need. This building will be called the Mercy House. Because of this new establishment, we are able to serve the emergency food needs of about 50 families of five per week.

The opportunity to serve doesn't stop there. Daily, we distribute hot meals to both the elderly and homeless in our community, and we make availability for many latchkey kids after school each day to have the same. The house has two full bathrooms with showers available for the homeless and those in need. Washing machines and dryers are also available for them every Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 7 PM, and Saturdays from 10 AM to 2 PM. The clothes closet is available with the intent to help those people in need of proper attire for job interviews, work, or school attendance. We will also offer access to computers with Wi-Fi and printers for school needs, job searches, and for online business needs.

The Mercy House is one of the tools we are using to redirect lives in our community. Not only are we located in a food desert, but we are also in a low-income, poverty-stricken, disenfranchised, and marginalized community. We find that most people are either unemployed or underemployed, and the food supply in homes usually runs out between pay periods. As a result, the children and the elderly are often affected by this food scarcity in the home. Hunger usually keeps children from focusing and learning at school, and it can deteriorate the mental and physical health of the elderly. There is no other emergency food help in our community. The need for food is often met from outside of the community. Transportation is one of barriers that hinder the ones in need of the help the most.

In 2016, the Mercy House served over 1500 nutritional boxes of food to families with emergency
food needs. Each box contained enough food for an average family of 5 members to provide breakfast, snacks, and dinner for a week. In addition, we served five families each week through the Montgomery Public School Backpack program.

Over 200 families in the city received boxes of food for Thanksgiving dinner and over 100 families enjoyed the same for Christmas dinner.

We partnered with several churches and the Maxwell Air Force Senior NCO Academy to get five families adopted for Christmas. Local agencies are also an avenue we use to bridge people in need with groups offering help, such as: Family Guidance, Parenting Assistance Line (P.A.L), Alabama Coalition on the Aging, One Place Justice Center, Lighthouse Counseling, Motherly Care, C. O. P. E, Job Corps, Dress for Success, Hope Inspired Ministries, and Community Action.

We try to position ourselves in the lives of people through relationships where we can pray for their needs and counsel those who are looking to redirect their lives and connect them to the help that can launch them forward in life.

For anyone looking to get involved with the Mercy House, you can contact Pastor Ken Austin, director of community ministries projects for Common Ground Montgomery.

ken@cgmlife.org
(c) 334.398.0467
(w) 334.593.5803

www.cgmlife

@cgmlife
New Members

MCBA welcomes these newest members:

**Ryan Beattie**  
Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, & Miles, P.C.

**Audrey Jordan**  
Office of the Attorney General

**Othni Lathram**  
Alabama Law Institute

**Brian Mann**  
Brian D. Mann LLC

**Carrietta Pritchett-Stallworth**  
Attorney at Law

**Ross, LaWanda Dian**  
The Anderson Law Firm, LLC

**Caitlyn Sandley**  
Southern Poverty Law Center

News

The Alabama Law Foundation has announced 23 new Fellows, State Bar members who have shown outstanding dedication to their profession and their community. MCBA congratulates our members **R. Austin Huffaker, Jr.** (Rushton Stakely Johnston, & Garrett) and **C. Gibson Vance** (Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C.) who were nominated as Fellows and were accepted into membership.

*Barr Younker,* professor in the Department of Justice and Public Safety at Auburn University Montgomery, authored an article, “Collateral Legal Issues and the Military Client, A Short Primer”, which was published in *The Alabama Lawyer* May 2017 issue. Barr is a retired Air Force Colonel who has been a licensed attorney for more than 25 years. In addition to teaching, he practices criminal and family law.

Congratulations to **Jeffery Duffey** for being re-elected as a State Bar Commissioner.

Congratulations to **Felicia A. Long** who is the new President –Elect of the Montgomery Junior League.

The National Law Journal has recognized Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, & Miles, P.C. on its annual list of the nation’s Top 100 Verdicts for three separate trial victories on behalf of cancer victims. In 2016, the firm secured jury verdicts of $72 million, $70 million, and $55 million against Johnson & Johnson for ovarian cancer claims related to the use of talcum powder. These were the third, fourth, and fifth largest personal injury verdicts of the year. Attorneys recognized are **Jere Beasley, Ted Meadows, Danielle Mason, David Dearing,**
Member News Continued

Jere L. Beasley has been named to the Lawdragon Hall of Fame. He is among 45 top lawyers in the nation who were selected for this honor. The Lawdragon Hall of Fame “celebrates lawyers whose mark on the legal profession is indelible.”

Beasley Allen lawyer Ted Meadows has been selected for inclusion in the 2017 Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America list which annually represents the “most elite distinction in the profession, covering the best of the best in all practice areas.”

Congratulations to Jeremy Cobb, formerly with Chambless, Math, and Carr, and his wife, Bonnie. They have a new daughter, Hannah, born May 19.

Law Students in Need of Summer Internships

If your office would like to hire a student for a summer internship or clerkship, please contact Bryan Morgan or his assistant, Autumn Bailey, at Jones School of Law.

https://www.faulkner.edu/law/faulkner-law-career-development/employers
bmorgan@faulkner.edu

In Memory of
William “Bill” Edward Skinner, Sr.
November 23, 1929—May 2, 2017
The Montgomery County Bar Association offers a CLE

**Professional Ethics and Bar Membership Benefits**

**June 8, 2017**

**9:00-11:00**

With Mark Moody
And Karen Laneaux

At the Jury Assembly Room, 3rd floor
Montgomery County Courthouse

Preregister with dotrobinson@mc-ala.org
Or call MCBA office 265-4793

1 hour ethics + 1 hour professionalism approved by the AL Commission on Mandatory Continuing Legal Education

The Montgomery County Bar Association deeply appreciates the following sponsors for the May 9th social at the Bass Pro Shop:

**McDowell, Faulk, and McDowell**

Bryan Morgan
Chris Waller
The Montgomery County Bar Association presents a CLE

Americans with Disabilities Law: Guiding Clients And Parents of Children with Special Needs

June 23, 2017

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m

At the Montgomery County Courthouse, 3rd floor

8:30-9:30 Autism Spectrum Disorders: What Parents Need to Know About Their Children’s Rights—Michael Braun

9:30-10:30 Disciplinary Procedures for Special Needs Students—Susan Crowther and Tina Sanders, State Dept. of Ed.

10:30-11:30 Panel Discussion and Q&A

11:30-12:30 Alabama Family Trust: How to Avoid Legal Malpractice Utilizing a Special Needs Trust—Melanie Bradford, Alabama Family Trust (1 hr. ethics)

You may register for/attend any or all sessions. You must sign in for each session to get credit.

Pre-registration: dotrobinson@mc-ala.org or 265-4793

Free for MCBA members; $50 per hour for non-members