The past three weeks have been exciting! We hosted an informative and engaging Bench and Bar conference, with a hot topic as promised, and a fun Holiday Gala, as evidenced by the 100 pictures taken with Santa and props in the photo booth. Yet, there are two moments that I will not soon forget.

On December 4th, after MPS inducted its new school board members and they started their first meeting, the MCBA was first on the agenda. We stood with the MPS Superintendent and presented checks to six schools throughout Montgomery to meet various needs they had. What a statement for our bar association to make during the intervention -- we support our youth, the future of Montgomery, and MPS. Then, a few days later at our Holiday Gala, I was approached by a woman who works at the venue where we held our party. She asked me why our members were bringing in blankets and placing them under the tree. I told her that we were collecting blankets to donate to the homeless. As we talked, her eyes started to fill with tears and she said what we were doing meant a lot because she used to be homeless not so long ago. She shared with me her story of how she has been able to get back on her feet and again reiterated how much our donations would mean to others. Thank you to everyone in our bar association who donated what ended up being 123 blankets to the homeless and over 50 stuffed animals to victims of child abuse.

Before this year ends, please save the date on your 2019 calendar for the MCBA Annual Meeting on January 17th at 12:00 pm at the Alabama Activity Center. Then, feel free to take the rest of the year off and enjoy Bobby Segall’s witty awards. On behalf of the MCBA Board of Directors, we wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season!

’Tis the season,
Felicia Long, MCBA President
JANUARY 17, 2019
MCBA Annual Meeting
12:00 pm at RSA Activity Center

Announcements

On December 3, 2018, Monet Gaines was sworn in as District Judge in Montgomery County, AL.

OFFICE FOR RENT
Contact David at 334-669-5556 at the Law Offices of Vickers and White, PLLC.

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The Montgomery County Bar Association

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, January 17, 2019

At the Alabama Activity Center

11:30—Voting opens

12:00--Luncheon (COST $20—reservation only)

RSVP to SuzanneDuffey@mc-ala.org or call 265-4793 by January 15th

Installation of 2019 MCBA Officers

Election of MCBA Secretary/Treasurer

Election of 2019 MCBA Board of Directors

Presentation of MCBA Awards

Recognition of Deceased MCBA members

2019 Honorees for MCBA Fifty Year Award

Members may vote prior to the election on January 14th, 15th and 16th at the MCBA office 8:30-4:00.
The Montgomery County Bar Association
Award for Service and Achievement

The MCBA Award for Service and Achievement annually recognizes a Montgomery Lawyer who has distinguished him or herself through service to the bar and the community. The Award honors a lawyer who demonstrates the highest standard of professionalism and is respected by his or her peers for their outstanding legal ability.

Nominee: ________________________________

Nominating Attorney: ________________________
Name                                      Phone Number

Description of Nominee’s Qualifications for Award:

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Deadline for Nominations: January 9, 2019

Mail Nominations to: Suzanne Duffey
                     c/o Montgomery County Bar Association
                     P.O Box 72
                     Montgomery, AL 36104
Holiday Gala

Guests mixed and mingled, enjoy some holiday foods, listened to holiday tunes from Cameron Dubois, and received some prizes from Santa. To purchase your photo booth pictures, visit www.dixielandphoto.com.
At the MPS school board meeting, MCBA presented checks to the following schools for certain needs: 1) Chisholm Elementary- Emergency First Aid Kits; 2) Morningview Elementary- Supplies for PBIS Store (Positive Behavior Intervention Support); 3) Seth Johnson Elementary- Supplies for PBIS Store (Positive Behavior Intervention Support); 4) Peter Crump Elementary- School Garden; 5) Wilson Elementary- Makerspace (STEM Education); 6) Johnnie Carr Middle- Makerspace (STEM Education).
TIS THE SEASON — YLS GIVES BACK
The year 2018 was a great year for the Young Lawyers Section. We were committed to creating new and exciting ways to not only network with each other, but to also serve members of our community in a big way. I am proud of the work the Young Lawyers have done for people in our community that need our help. It has been a pleasure to serve as the President of an amazing Young Lawyers Section and I, along with the YLS officers and board members, plan to finish the year off strong with a successful blanket donation to the homeless and a big stuffed animal donation to Child Protect.

BLANKETS FOR THE HOMELESS
On any given night in the River Region, there are hundreds of men, women, and children that are homeless. Homelessness is a serious problem and sleeping outside in the cold is an unfortunate reality for many people in our community. As we are now approaching the cold winter months, the Young Lawyers Section decided for the second year in a row to participate in a blanket drive, raising warm and comforting blankets to be donated to the homeless in our area.

This December, the Young Lawyers Section, with the help of the MCBA, was honored to donate 123 blankets to the homeless. Our YLS officers and board members, along with MCBA President Felicia Long, met with a representative from the Mid-Alabama Coalition for the Homeless where we were delighted to hand over thick, warm blankets. The Mid-Alabama Coalition for the Homeless is an organization that provides support and resources to end homelessness in Montgomery and they will be delivering our donated blankets this winter to all those in need. Thank you to everyone that participated in our blanket drive, and especially those MCBA members that donated blankets at this year’s Christmas Gala. We could not have accomplished this without your help.

CHILD PROTECT DONATION
As in past years, the YLS is celebrating the Christmas season by donating stuffed animals for Child Protect and Child Abuse Services. The YLS had a very successful donation drive, collecting and donating several boxes of stuffed animals this December. Child Protect exists to assist children who are victims of child abuse in our community and to help rebuild their young lives. Our goal is that through our donation of stuffed animals, the Young Lawyers Section will bring a smile back to the faces of these sweet and deserving children. Thank you to all that participated in the YLS stuffed animal drive, and for joining us in this wonderful opportunity to help Child Protect and the children they serve.
Mercifully, 2018 is escaping into history – but its history will be long remembered (by me) as the Year of the-Great Divide. The colorful, if not color blind, law firm of Trump, Trump, & (No) Trump made it that way. The Bridge over troubled waters collapsed – leaving only opposing sides. Apparently folks either loved the Donald this year or loved to not love him. Most in Alabama still did love (if not worship) him – no matter that Mexico still had not paid for the Wall or that Trump trumped (or dumped) Alabama’s first sitting U.S. Attorney General.¹ So devoted was (65% of) our State to the First Trumpeter that the predicted mid-term Blue Wave morphed in Alabama into a blood Red Wave. Straight ticket voting became an art form; Brett Kavanaugh became the most beloved Justice on a Court since Roy Moore; Bobby Mueller (and his “Swinging – and singing – Cooperators”) disappeared from common Alabama concern; and only a few remembered Khashoggi or the children not yet reunited with their parents.² As usual Alabama Democrats fought valiantly (against themselves) and were divided (nationally and in Alabama) as to whom their leaders should be. There were only three saving graces. In the waning weeks of the year, our president (finally) demonstrated his respect for women (well, a woman) by (semi) supporting Melania’s effort to terminate our Deputy National Security Advisor (oops! – another woman!); and he united a large part (but not all) of our country when he presented Elvis and Babe Ruth with the Presidential Medal of Freedom! The final saving grace is that one group – above all others – happily did not divide, but rather remained constant and united in its uniqueness. Yes, in a divided world of ultimate sameness (whatever that means!), Montgomery County lawyers are, and remain, entirely and lovably distinguishable. One among us is particularly so this year.

I think I’ve known it for a while. But now I’m positive. This guy is officially my hero. And, you know him, or you should. His name is Bryan Stevenson. He is first (not sure about foremost) a great lawyer. He is wondrous in the courtroom – no matter the courtroom. It could be the Circuit Court of Whatever County, Alabama, or the United States Supreme Court where he argued successfully this year – and has several times in the past.

But, that likely is the least of it. He is a transcendent person. Initially, I could not believe he lived in Alabama – or that he was a Montgomery County lawyer – and has been for almost 30 years. But, Martin Luther King, Jr. lived in Montgomery; so did Rosa Parks; and so did Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr.³ Bryan is of that caliber. I’ve heard it told that Nobel Peace Laureate Desmond Tutu called Bryan “America’s young Nelson Mandela”. A few years ago Time Magazine – with an introduction by then tennis world No. 1 Serena Williams – called him one of the 100 most influential people in the World – not Wayne’s World or Water World, but the real, entire global world. One of 100! Being one of 100 in our Bar would be pretty good – certainly of everyone in our City or State or Country – but we are talking about the Whole, Big, Wide World!

¹ That Attorney General, of course, was former (and perhaps future) Senator Jeff Sessions, someone who, depending on your side of the divide, was either the greatest, or worst, Attorney General in the history of the Republic.
² I should probably write something about the year’s increased hate crimes and mass shootings, including in a Pittsburgh synagogue, but I just can’t.
³ So do Morris Dees and Jere Beasley
And, that was before he became a *New York Times* best-selling author – and, most notably, before he dreamed of, and created, and this very year implemented the concept of EJI’s epic Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. Not only do Bryan’s creations hauntingly memorialize lynching victims and bring to life and chronicle slavery, Jim Crow, and the history of lynching in America, but also they have invigorated our City. People from around the globe have visited, and our economy has blossomed. Our mayor glows when he speaks of Bryan.

Simply put, Bryan has galvanized (approximately half) the nation. You should have seen – if you didn’t – the ceremony that commemorated the official opening of the memorial and museum. Celebrities were everywhere. But the biggest was Bryan. When he was introduced for brief remarks, the Standing O was thunderous. Since then, Lester Holt and the president of NBC News have come to pay homage. Even Oprah loves this guy. I suspect Judge Judy does as well.

So, I think we can all agree. For all of his accomplishments – and simply for who he is – Bryan richly deserves this year’s recognition as our Bar’s Most Distinguishable Lawyer.

Now, kick back, do not light up any (hopefully soon to be banned) E-cigarettes, but do partake of your favorite alcohol infused beverage, and pay due respect to those among us who this year have achieved our Bar’s premier recognition – they are Distinguishable Lawyers.

**Awards**

1. “President George H.W. Bush Most Respected Lawyers” Award – Judge Myron Thompson, Tabor Novak, Inge Hill, Dave Boyd, Lewis Gillis, Tommy Keene, Jere Beasley, Delores Boyd, Lee Copeland, Joe Espy, Morris Dees, Spud Seale, Hank Hutchinson, Judge Keith Watkins, and, obviously, Bryan Stevenson (These folks are universally respected within our Bar.)

2. “Sidney Poitier” Award – Bryan Stevenson (He didn’t win an Oscar as Poitier once did – but he was on stage at the Academy Awards for the singing of the nominated song “Stand Up for Something” from the movie “Marshall” about Thurgood Marshall.)

3. “James Taylor’s Everybody Has the Blues” Award – Steve Marshall (Fortunately for Steve, everybody in Alabama has the Reds, and as a result he won the AG’s race by a comfortable margin over Joe Siegelman.)

4. “Fats Domino” Award – Roman Shaul, Judge Jimmy Pool, and Judge Monet Gaines (Roman’s deciding to give up his circuit judgeship to become general counsel of the State Bar, resulted in Judge Pool giving up his District judgeship to replace Roman, and Judge Gaines giving up her position with the Attorney General to replace Judge Pool – just like dominoes.)

5. “Chutzpah” Award – Tom Azar (Tom, whose client was charged with murdering his own parents, pled for mercy on the basis that his client was an orphan, and the charges were dismissed this year – good plea by Tom!)

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4 EJI is the Equal Justice Initiative, a group founded by Bryan in 1994 originally to represent folks sentenced to death in post-conviction proceedings.
6. “Hall & Oates’ You’ve Lost that Lovin’ Feelin’” Award – Peck Fox (Having lost his love for the present leadership of the Ala. Democratic Party, and at the urging of Senator Doug Jones, Peck ran against the incumbent for chair of the party – came close and says he’ll keep trying.)

7. “Antony and Cleopatra Power Couple” Award – Judges JR and Monet Gaines (Given Monet’s elevation to the District Court throne, the Gaines – like Antony and Cleopatra – are an all-time Power Couple.)

8. “Electric Power Couple” Award – Alexia and Judge Gray Borden (Alexia is General Counsel of the Alabama Power Company, and Judge Borden is Judge Borden.)

9. “Landslide Lyndon” Award – Chief Justice Tom Parker (Unlike the case with Lyndon Johnson’s first election, Chief Justice Parker actually did win his office by a wide margin.)

10. “Wilson Pickett’s Ride Sally Ride” Award – Judge Emily Marks (Just as Sally Ride became the first American woman in space, Judge Marks received Senate confirmation to become the first woman US District Court Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.)

11. “George Washington” Award – Judge Charles Coody (Just as George was the Father of our new country, Judge Coody is the Father of our new US District Court Judge.)

12. “Blood, Sweat & Tears’ You’ve Made Me Very Happy” Award – Andrew Brasher (Andrew is thrilled with the mid-term election results – more Republican Senators gives this nominee an excellent chance for confirmation as US District Court Judge.)

13. “Groundhog Day” Award – Congresswoman Martha Roby and (former) Mayor and Congressman Bobby Bright (They repeated their prior run against one another to represent the 2nd Congressional District – with the same result.)

14. “New York Times v. Sullivan” Award – Judge Johnny Hardwick and Judge Charles Price (In a newspaper photograph, Judge Price was identified as Judge Hardwick – the issue is who will claim to have been defamed.)

15. “Paul Simon’s Boy in the Bubble” Award – Judge Vanzetta McPherson (In her column, she asks whose child is President Trump like – whose child is rewarded and praised in spite of universally condemned deportment, and she concludes: “mercifully, no one’s.”)

16. “Cat Stevens Where Do the Children Play” Award – Allen and Elizabeth Sheehan and Tim Gallagher (Their babies, Webb Sheehan and Margaret Leigh Gallagher – both born this year – are destined to be friends and play at each other’s houses.)

17. “The Beatles’ Can’t Buy Me Love” Award – Daryl Bailey (At least, according to our respected District Attorney, not in Montgomery County.)

18. “Captain America” Award – Wells Robinson (On a day this year when the roads were virtually unpassable from snow and ice, Wells and his Dad drove around in a really big SUV rescuing the unwise – like me – who tried to make it to the office.)

19. “Jim Croce’s You Don’t Mess Around With Jim Kim” Award – Kim Fehl, Stacy Reed, Mickey McLinnish, Chris North, and Rebecca Chambliss (Lot of badass lawyers in our City Attorney’s office)
20. “Fresh Fellas” Award – Judge Emily Marks, Judge Johnny Hardwick, Judge Gene Reese, David Martin, Kendall Dunson, Bruce Lieberman, Eddie Patterson, and Frank Wilson (They were all inducted this year as new (or fresh) Fellows of the Alabama Law Foundation.)

21. “Shrinking Violet” Award – The late Sterling Culpepper and Jere Beasley (In a wonderful eulogy showing his father’s sense of humor, Sterling’s son told of Sterling’s appellate argument in which he told the Ala. S. Ct. Jere’s verdict was outrageously high – “it was more even than Beasley asked for, and you all know, Beasley doesn’t have a shy bone in his body.”)

22. “Walt Whitman’s O Captain My Captain” Award – Felicia Long (Great year as our Captain – superlative President of our Bar)


24. “(Jalen) Hurts So Good” Award – Joe Espy, Mark Bains, Judge Truman Hobbs, Jr., Laura Crum, Gerald Swann, Jeff Blitz, Larry Golston, Jeremy Walker, Mike Brock, John Marsh, Frank Wilson, Paul James, Cowan Knowles, Mose Stuart, Joana Ellis, Lee Copeland, Miland Simpler, Chuck James, Gunter Guy, Richard Broughton, Bill Sawyer, Anne Gunter and Tommy Keene (Alabama fans will be hurt in the pocket book traveling to the Orange Bowl – oh, wait, it’s free on television.)

25. “Donald Trump-Saudi Crown Prince You’ve Got a Friend” Award – Shawn Cole (Shawn has supported Judge Monet Gaines’ effort to become a judge from the beginning – up to and including raising money for, and speaking at, her investiture.)

26. “Katrina” Award – Judge Tiffany McCord (Judge McCord blew through her election like a hurricane – almost 80% of the vote.)

27. “The Beatles You Really Got a Hold on Me” Award – Justice Hugh Maddox (He was honored this year for 50 years of service to the Kiwanis Club and Fair.)

28. “Whistle While You Work” Award – Larry Golston, Lance Gould and Leon Hampton (Obtained a $14.7 million judgment this year in a Whistleblower lawsuit.)

29. “The Hollies’ Just One Look” Award – Richard Cohen (Responding to an article criticizing the SPLC for mistakenly designating a hate group, Richard said anyone can identify a hate group with just one look if it’s wearing sheets – it takes more to identify those who pretend to be more mainstream.)

30. “Martha Stewart Best Organized” Award – Felicia Long and Ashley Penhale (Felicia, as our President, and Ashley, as Board member and Chair of Law Day, are more organized than the Queen of Organization.)
31. “Teddy Roosevelt The Man (and Woman) in the Arena” Award – Phil Ensler and Misty Fairbanks Messick (They both ran good races for the Montgomery County School Board – came up a little short, but should be encouraged.)

32. “My Friend Flicka” Award – Julie Beasley (Julie is such good friends with her horses that she has (mostly) retired from the practice of law to concentrate on breeding, training, and riding – in and out of competition – her horses.)

33. “Sis Boom Bah!” Award – Dennis Bailey (He’s a College boy – inducted this year into the American College of Trial Lawyers.)

34. “Perry Mason” Award – Steve Ganter (This Federal Defender won three “not guilty” verdicts in criminal cases this year – just like Perry Mason who never lost a criminal trial.)

35. “Pretty Boy Floyd” Award – Floyd Minor (He’s pretty, but probably not a gangster.)

36. “Willie (“I rob banks because that’s where the money is”) Sutton” Award – Tommy Keene (The Montgomery Advertiser reported that “Tommy Keene was arrested for trying to rob Regions Bank” – must be a different fellow; our Tommy would have been successful.)

37. “Nick Saban Process” Award – Joe Espy (Not only did Espy help bring Saban to Alabama, but also his process for preparing litigation is as good as Saban’s process for preparing a football team.)

38. “Adele’s I Found a Boy” Award – Claire Burns (Claire got engaged – to a boy – this year.)


40. “Donald Trump Entrepreneur” Award – Greg Allen (Greg has almost as many investments as the President has rooms leased in his DC hotel to Saudis since becoming president.)

41. “Donald Trump – Kim Jong-un Rocket Man (or Woman)” Award – Shannon Holliday, Kendall Dunson, Ben Espy, Grant Sexton, Ali Hawthorne, Lane Knight, Jayne Williams, Jesse Anderson, JC Love, John Marsh, Allen Sheehan, Ben Schoettker, Bill Espy, David Martin, Evan Allen, Chuck James, and Austin Huffaker (Based on their levels of skill and rapid successes, these young and youngish lawyers are Rocket Men and Women – just like, according to the president, the leader of North Korea.)

42. “Elton John’s Rocket Man” Award – Al Agricola (Al suffered a critical health issue, but bounced back to actively practicing serious law quick as a rocket.)

43. “Adele’s Rumour Has It” Award – Judge Charles Price (Rumor has it that Judge Price may be contemplating a run for Mayor upon the end of Mayor Strange’s term in 2019.)

44. “Bruce Springsteen” Award – Riley Roby, Bobby Longshore, David Henderson, Tommy Keene, Ham Wilson, Davis Smith, and Hank Hutchinson (Springsteen is known as “The Boss”, as are each of these award-winning managing attorneys.)
45. “Jackson Browne’s Nothing But Time” Award – Lloria James, Damon Lewis, Sean McTear, Ben McGough, Michele Davidson, Thomas Fields, Scott Green, Shanitra Jackson, Tim Tyler, Michael Caddell, Terri Jones, Ben Gibbons, Alan Dees, Jasmyne Crimiel, John Groos, John Halcomb, Jazmin Standford, Justin Jones, Alan Dees, Madelyn Mauldin, Marianalyn Dennis, Steven Chumbler, and Greg Griffin, Jr. (When these Montgomery County, Chief Deputy and Deputy District Attorneys win a conviction, they want the sentence to be Nothing But Time.)

46. “Starbucks” Award – Dean Mooty (In college, Dean had a cup – or maybe a sip – of coffee in the Major Leagues when his Univ. of Alabama baseball team played the NY Yankees – Dean hit a hard grounder to Willie Randolph for an out.)

47. “The Jeffersons’ Piece of the Pie” Award – Evan Allen, Stephanie Monplaisir, and April Wise (They all became principals (effectively partners) this year in their respective law firms.)

48. “Donald Trump Nationalism” Award – Pat Harris (Like other of our very successful members, Pat, Alabama Senate Secretary, thinks nationally – this year he was elected president of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries.)

49. “Donald Trump I Cheat the Hangman” Award – Leslie Smith, John Palombi, Kacey Keeton, Anne Borelli, Crinesha Brooks, Matt Schulz, Natalie Olmstead, Spencer Hahn, Keisha Stokes-Hough, Bill Blanchard, Tommy Goggans, Richard Keith, Jeff Duffey, Susan James, and Nick Wallace (Just as our President opposes capital – or any – punishment for the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, some of these lawyers defend capital cases at trial, and all fight capital sentences through collateral attacks.)

50. “Good Behavior” Award – Andy Birchfield, Joe Espy, Gibson Vance, Judge Tiffany McCord, and Bobo Gilpin (Because of their good behavior over a period of years, they made Trustee – fortunately of universities.)

51. “Donald Trump Drain the Swamp” Award – Zoe Savitsky (This So. Pov. Law Ctr. Deputy Legal Director made clear this year in a letter to the Advertiser that the Ala. Accountability Act does not, as we were told by legislators, provide school choice, but rather steals public education dollars under the fraudulent guise of charity and gives that stolen money to private schools.)

52. “Elvis Presley’s Double Trouble” Award – Amanda Senn (While retaining her role as General Counsel, Amanda was this year appointed Permanent Deputy Director for Enforcement of the Ala. Securities Commission.)

53. “Carly Simon’s No one Does it Better” Award – Gibson Vance (Gibson, who has served as President of the Alabama and American Associations of Justice, was elected this year as President of the Southern Trial Lawyers Association – rumor has it Trump’s job is the next target.)

54. “Innkeepers” Award – Mike Winter, Eileen Harris, Chris Weller, and Claire Burns (With Mike doing a super job as president – while receiving considerable help from Eileen, Claire, and Chris – Inn of Court had a great year.)
55. “Cat Stevens Hard Headed Woman (or Man)” Award – John Palombi (This Federal Defender was fired by his death row client who then asked for an expedited execution date – John, refusing to stand down, petitioned the US S.Ct. for a stay of execution on the basis that his former client was mentally incompetent at the time he asked to expedite his execution.)

56. “Gladys Knight’s Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me” Award – Christine Freeman, Spencer Hahn, and Anne Borelli (Their representation of Walter Lee Moody, the person convicted of murdering 11th Circuit Judge Robert Vance, is the best thing that ever happened to Moody.)

57. “Carpetbaggers” Award – Ben Baker and Chris Glover (These two outstanding lawyers received a $12 million verdict against Toyota in South Carolina – Chris now lives in Atlanta, but for $12 million, he deserves a mention.)

58. “Rafa” Award – Clay and Cindee Torbert (Their sons have won more State Tennis titles than Rafa has won open titles.)

59. “Vegetable” Award – Judge Monet Gaines (Our new judge played squash in college.)

60. “Hall & Oates Maneater” Award – Judy Bargainer (She feasts in the courtroom on her male – and female – opposition.)

61. “O.J. Simpson” Award – The late Robert Huffaker (Robert joined, or soon will join, O.J. as a member of a Hall of Fame – in Robert’s case, it’s the Alabama Lawyers Hall of Fame.)

62. “(Jalen) Hurts” Award – Andrew Skier (Andrew also hurts – the pain of representing some of the Pill Mill defendants sometimes makes defense lawyers – like Andrew – need their own opioids.)

63. “Tua Most Offensive Lawyer” Award – Chip Nix, Kenny Mendelsohn, Jere Beasley, Lee Copeland, Greg Allen, Chris Sanspree, Cole Portis, Tyrone Means, Dee Miles, Scott McArdle, Ben Baker, Mark Englehart, Kendall Dunson, Misha Whitman, Evan Allen, Jay Aughtman, David Byrne, David Allred, LaBarron Boone, Chip Cleveland, Andy Birchfield, Stewart Vance, Leigh O’Dell, Laura Eubank, Mike Crow, Wesley Pitters, Kenny Shinbaum, Mike Andrews, Joe Hubbard, Graham Esdale, Grif Sikes, Danielle Mason, Greg Davis, Ted Meadows, Dan Talliaferro, Dana Taunton, Craig Allred, Ben Locklar, Chuck James, Chris Boutwell, Frank Hawthorne, Stephanie Monplaisir, Randy Myers, Parker Miller, Frank Wilson, John Tomlinson, Will Barfoot, Andrew Brashier, Terry Luck, Lewis Gillis, Steve Feaga, Wallace Mills, Walter McGowan, Valerie Russell, Christy Crow, Ben Schoettker, Steve Floyd, William Gill, Mike White, Rhon Jones, Connie Murray, and Matt Teague (They are the most offensive lawyers, i.e., they sue people and entities – and do so very well.)

64. “Kirby Smart Most Defensive Lawyer” Award – Mike Brock, Tabor Novak, Tommy Keene, Ham Wilson, Lister Hubbard, Joe McCorkle, John Bolton, Kelly Pate, Dennis Bailey, George Parker, Erika Tatum, Jim Byram, Bill Brittain, William Haynes, Charlanna Skaggs, Dave Boyd, Peyton Chapman, David Martin, Randall Morgan, John Smith, Tim Gallagher, Brooke Reid, Brett Garrett, Chuck Stewart, Joe Seawell Moore, Joe Espy, Shannon Holliday, David Henderson, Chalankis Brown, Pat Shegon, Dorman Walker, Austin Huffaker, Jayne Harrell Williams, Pete Cobb, Frank Stakely, Chris Waller, Mai Lan Isler, Fred Tyson, Jesse Anderson, Saxon Main, Liz Carter, Ben Espy, Winston Sheehan, Richard H. Allen, Robert Sasser, Lane Knight, Spud Seale, Richard Broughton, Bill Espy, Ashley Freeman, Gerald Swann, Barbara
Wells, Pat Sefton, Ashley Penhale (They mostly defend people and entities – and do so very well.)

65. “Molly Ringwald’s Pretty in Pink” Award – Stewart Vance (Joining the fight against breast cancer, Stewart was the second highest fundraiser in the Real Men Wear Pink competition.)

66. “Copperhead” Award – Jonathan Ross and Josh Wendell (These federal prosecutors caught a motion to dismiss from defense lawyers for allegedly telling the Grand Jury that the diabetes treatment defendants provided was snake oil.)

67. “Montgomery Lawyers’ Got (Non-Lawyer Related) Talent” Award – Royal Dumas, Brad Everhardt, John George Archer, Brooke Reid, Raley Wiggins, Chris Baldwin, Bryan Morgan, Brian Mann, and Judge Jimmy Pool (With Judge Pool as emcee, these lawyers showed off their significant singing and magic talents at the Montgomery Bar Charity Event this year.)

68. “The Copperfield Rock” Award – Chris Baldwin (Chris was an amazing combination of magician David Copperfield and comedian Chris Rock in sweeping to victory in the “Montgomery’s Got Talent” competition.)

69. “Abracadabra Soufflé” Award – Ben Espy (In addition to being a great lawyer, Ben is both a magician and a master chef.)

70. “Jimmy Kimmel” Award – Judge Jimmy Pool (Ok, so Jimmy was not quite Academy Award host material, but he did an outstanding job as emcee of the “Montgomery’s Got Talent” charity event.)

71. “Marvin Gaye & Kim Weston Best Duet” Award – Melissa Isaak and Julian McPhillips (During the recent election for AG, they went on TV singing the Blues about a big donation received by Steve Marshall from the Republican Attorneys General Association.)

72. “Brooke Shields” Pretty Baby” Award – Effie and Charlie Hawthorne (Twenty-five years from now, their baby will be on the Distinguishable list of Cutest Montgomery Lawyers.)

73. “Richard Dreyfuss’ Mr. Holland’s Opus” Award – Eddie Patterson (After having trained over a decade of the Alabama Bar’s young leadership, Eddie is retiring as Programs Director of the Bar.)

74. “Ray Perkins” Award – Ashley Penhale (Just as Perkins replaced a legend – Bear Bryant – Ashley is replacing State Bar legend, Ed Patterson.)

75. “Jubilee” Award – Samarria and Kendall Dunson (They co-chaired a fundraising drive for a school-wide dining facility at St. James School that will feed 1,000 people daily – like at Jubilee Seafood, this is cozy dining.)

76. “Roma Downey’s Messiah” Award – Judge Vanzetta McPherson (In her newspaper column, Vanzetta says: evangelicals accept President Trump’s behavior from the Word as though he, not Jesus, arose on the Third Day.)
77. “Steph Curry” Award – Kendall Dunson and Evan Allen (A machine without a good guard is no better than an NBA team without a good guard – Kendall and Evan this year got a big verdict against the manufacturer of a machine with no guard.)

78. “The Beatles’ Roll Over Beethoven” Award – Samaria Dunson, Tommy Goggans, Ted Hosp, Richard Keith, Mitch McGuire, Kelly Pate, Andrew Skier, Jayne Williams, LaShandra Warren-Barnes, and Ham Wilson (They serve on the Federal Defender Board to assure federal criminal defendants have lawyers so they don’t always have to “roll over”.)

79. “America’s You Can Do Magic” Award – Ted Hosp (Ted’s skills as a legislative lawyer are so magical that Blue Cross has convinced him to disappear from Maynard Cooper and reappear in-house with Blue Cross.)

80. “Annie Oakley” Award – Joel Connally (Joel represents former Auburn and NBA basketball star, Chuck Person, who, as a result of his great outside shot, was known as the Rifleman.)

81. “John McCain Straight Talk” Award – Daryl Bailey (Our DA told convicted felons: “If you have a gun, we are coming after you . . . We’re going to make sure you’re . . . sent away for a long, long time”.)

82. “The Beatles’ We Can Work it Out” Award – Geron Gadd (As legal director of the Ala. Disability Advocacy Program, Geron helped work out an Agreement requiring Ala. to provide faster and expanded treatment for people in jail for court-ordered mental health evaluations or treatment to restore competency.)

83. “Chief Justice Lynn Stuart’s Queen and her Court” Award – John and Jennifer Hagood and Jeff Webb (John and Jennifer’s daughter was Queen of MOR, and Jeff’s daughter was in the Queen’s Court.)

84. “Saturday Night Live’s Point-Counterpoint” Award – Kacey Keeton and James Houts (Kacey, a Federal Defender, and James, an Assistant AG, presented a very civil and cogent debate at Inn of Court covering bail reform and capital punishment.)

85. “Ricardo Montalban’s Fantasy Island” Award – Susan James (Her client’s defense to a rape charge was that the couple had often engaged in fantasy and roll play, and the sex was consensual – the jury found that to be a Fantasy Defense.)

86. “Kenny Loggins’ The Rest Of Your Life” Award – John Davis (This Assistant AG assured he would live the rest of his life in marital bliss when he arranged for his wife to unveil at Auburn University her outstanding painting of a Marine Captain killed in Vietnam.)

87. “Most Wanted Lawyer” Award – Fred Bell (Although Fred had represented AEA members against the Montgomery Board of Education and was then suing two Board members, the Board voted to hire him to represent it generally – until the State Superintendent said “Maybe Not”.)

88. “Bruce Springsteen’s Glory Days” Award – Judge Charles Price (Judge Price, who served this year as President of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, and is, or will be, Chair of the Ethics Commission, was honored by the Sunrise Rotary Club at its Annual Roast and Recognition program.)
89. “Robert Penn Warren’s All the King’s *Men* Women” Award – Tatiana Bertsch, Jacqueline Jones-Peace, Alicia D’Addario, Charlotte Morrison, Sia Sanneh, Angie Setzer, Jennifer Taylor, and Aaryn Urell (They all work at EJI under the King, Executive Director Bryan Stevenson.)

90. “Adele’s Don’t You Remember” Award – Richard Cohen and Martha Roby (Speaking at a wreath-laying ceremony associated with the Selma to Montgomery March, Richard remembered martyred civil rights workers – ceremony attended by John Lewis and other members of Congress, including our own Martha Roby.)

91. “Family Feud” Award – Bryan Morgan, Ashley Penhale, Terrie Morgan, Allen Sheehan, Steve Dodd, James Ward, and Angela Parks (Bryan played Steve Harvey, and the others fought enthusiastically – answering questions on Alabama law for their team during an Inn of Court program this year – Steve, James and Angela won!)

92. “Elton John’s Philadelphia Freedom” Award – Kevin Blackburn, Morgan Beckman, Juliana Dean, and Lyn Head (These lawyers for the Department of Pardons and Paroles help determine who wins their Freedom.)

93. “James Taylor’s Shed a Little Light” Award – Louis Franklin, Bryan Morgan, Leon Hampton, Aigner Kolom, Larry Golston, Mandy Lynn, Wallace Mills, Clay Teague, Kelly McTear, Felicia Long, Sancha Howard, Ashley Penhale, Frank Snowden and Winston Sheehan. (They gave Law Day talks on Separation of Powers at Montgomery middle schools.)

94. “Star Wars” Award – Cole Portis, Bobby Rives, and Chris Simmons (Their children, seniors in High School, are all stars who were nominated for the Jimmy Hitchcock Award.)

95. “Nepotism” Award – Lauren Miles and Dee Miles (Dee used family ties to persuade Lauren, his outstanding daughter, to join his law firm.)

96. “Tom Cruise’s Mission Impossible” Award – Spud Seale (Spud represents both Montgomery Public Schools and the State Board of Education, something that has been impossible since the State took over supervision of Montgomery’s schools.)

97. “Monopoly” Award – Leon Hampton, LaBarron Boone, Kendall Dunson, Larry Golston, Navan Ward, and Danielle Mason (Leon was elected VP of the Alabama Lawyers Association – following in the leadership footsteps of his law partners.)

98. “Restless Heart” Award – Clay Barnett (Clay is another Beasley lawyer who has moved to the Atlanta office.)

99. “Oligarchy” Award – Judge Monet Gaines, David Martin, Pat Sefton, Karen Laneaux, Jeff Duffey, Flynn Mozingo, and Gibson Vance (This tightly knit group of Bar Commissioners secretly control our professional lives.)

100. “Harry Chapin’s Shooting Star” Award – Rachel Miller and Evan Allen (As president and secretary of the Young Lawyers Section of the Bar, Rachel and Evan have already begun shooting toward the top of State Bar leadership.)

101. “The New Republic(ans)” Award – Steve Marshall and Bobby Bright (These former Democrats switched parties and ran as Republicans – turned out better for Steve than for Bobby.)
102. “Marilyn Monroe’s Some Like it Hot Cold” Award – Daryl Bailey (Our D.A. has opened a cold case unit.)

103. “Billy Joel’s Just the Way You Are” Award – Julian McPhillips (He represents people under the Americans with Disabilities Act – and believes folks with disabilities should be accepted in the work place just the way they are.)

104. “Jason Momoa’s Acquaman” Award – Robert Sasser (He’s been representing Montgomery’s Water Board since before there were moving pictures.)

105. “Gal Gadot’s Justice League” Award – Brandon Bates, Kacey Keaton, and Don Bethel (Brandon, as Assistant US Attorney, determined shortly before trial that reasonable doubt existed as to the guilt of Kacey and Don’s client and moved to dismiss the indictment – in league with one another, these lawyers did justice.)

106. “Alfre Woodard’s Remember My Name” Award – Bilee Cauley (Bilee this year helped present the W. Wendell Cauley Award – named for her late husband, a wonderful member of our Bar – the award is presented to an individual who has contributed significantly to the success of the electric Cities of Alabama.)

107. “Paul Giamatti” Award – Bryan Stevenson (If a movie were being made of my (nonexistent) book, Giamatti would play me; a movie actually is being made of Bryan’s book “Just Mercy”, and Bryan is being played by major film star Michael B. Jordan of Black Panther fame, with Jamie Foxx also in the movie.)

108. “Eddie Redmayne’s Early Man” Award – Rick Neal (When Rick announced his retirement from Hyundai this year, he was its longest serving employee.)

109. “Jose Feliciano’s We Couldn’t Get Much Higher” Award – Jonathan Ross (Jonathan this year headed up the United States’ prosecution of the Pill Mill-opioid cases.)

110. “The Four Seasons’ Oh What a Night” Award – Felicia Long and Tim Gallagher (They did their usual tremendous job organizing and implementing our Bar’s Charity Event.)

111. “Papa Tua” Award – Daniel Lindsey, Jr. (Like the real Papa Tua, Daniel has a son who’s an excellent quarterback – named football player of the week twice by the Montgomery Advertiser.)

112. “Hillary Clinton Vast Right (or Left) Wing Conspiracy” Award – Melissa Isaak (Defending Roy Moore against claims by women that he was sexually inappropriate when they were young, Melissa said the women engaged in a political conspiracy to derail Moore’s campaign for the US Senate.)

113. “Thomas Wolfe’s You Can’t Can Go Home Again” Award – Ashley Penhale (Although Ashley is leaving Copeland Franco to replace Eddie Patterson at the State Bar, if she suffers Bar Burn-Out, she is welcome to go home again.)

114. “Creedence Clearwater Revival’s I Put a Spell On You” Award – Ben Maxymuk, Shannon Holliday, Lee Copeland, David Martin, and John Henig (Shannon, Lee, David, and John put a spell on the very talented Ben to induce him to join Copeland Franco.)
115. “Three Dog Night’s One is the Loneliest Number” Award – Dave Boyd (David argued to the Ala. S.Ct. that the state employees insurance Board – PEEHIP – met not once, but twice, when it increased premiums and did not, therefore violate the Open Meetings Act.)

116. “Al Pacino’s ‘Attica, Attica!’” Award – Theron Stokes (Outside the S.Ct. Building – before Dave Boyd argued – Theron led a chant by 400 educators: “We want our (premium) money back! We want our money back!”)

117. “Credence Clearwater Revival’s Long As I Can See the Light” Award – Theron Stokes, AEA Associate Director and lawyer, told the Montgomery Board of Education that the process of selecting a Superintendent must be transparent.

118. “Mark Twain’s ‘Go to Heaven for the climate, Hell for the company’” Award – Jamie Johnston (Representing a Mark Twain scholar, Jamie this year sued other Mark Twain scholars for defamation – they accused her client of plagiarism.)

119. “Kitty Wells Louisiana Hayride” Award – Jamie Johnston (Jamie just celebrated the 20th anniversary of her engagement party – it was a hayride.)

120. “Carole King’s Will You Love Me Tomorrow” Award – Katie Britt (After Billy Canary’s recent experience, Katie, the new President and CEO of the Business Council of Alabama, might want to ask the Power Company “but will you still love me tomorrow.”)

121. “Horse Shoes” Award – Clay Teague (Rumor has it that Clay was a close second for appointment as District Court Judge – but, as Clay knows well, this ain’t horseshoes.)

122. “James Taylor’s Handy Man” Award – Ben Schoettker (With his partner – Will Barfoot – having been elected to the State Senate, Ben will have to take care of office building problems alone and as they arise – good thing he’s a handy man.)

123. “James Taylor’s Walking Man” Award – Richard White (The Grand Jury let Richard’s client walk – police officer accused of felony sodomy for having sex while on duty with a woman with mental “delays”.)

124. “The Four Seasons’ Big Girls (and Boys) Don’t Cry” Award – Matt Hart (After a successful – and controversial – time as the head of Special Prosecutions for the AG’s office, Matt was reportedly offered, and he accepted, the opportunity to resign.)

125. “New Sheriff in Town” Award – Clark Morris (After a long time career in the US Attorney’s office, including serving as Acting US Attorney and First Assistant US Attorney, Clark has moved to the AG’s office to head up Special Prosecutions.)

126. “Musical (prosecutor) Chairs” Award – Stephanie Billingslea and Megan Kirkpatrick (While Clark Morris moved to the AG’s office, two outstanding prosecutors in the AG’s office moved this year to the U.S. Attorney’s office.)

Kristen Gillis, Allison Ingram, Elizabeth Bressler, Tamika Miller, Pam Slate, Jamie Kidd, Virginia Reeves, Shawn Cole, Rachel Miller, Tamika Reed, Carrie McCollum, Vania Hosea, Misha Whitman, Rebecca Bryan, Ashley Smith, Connie Walker, Juliana Dean, Kelly Pate, Judge Pam Higgins, Jamie Johnston, Jaffe Pickett, Reed Morgan Coleman, (In addition to being outstanding lawyers, they are – incidentally – Hot!)

128. “Boy on Fire” Award – Steve Marshall, Troy King, Judge Virgil Ford, Allen Sheehan, Leon Hampton, Rick McBride, Ben Schoettker, Kendall Dunson, Grant Cofer, Lewis Gillis, John Marsh, Josh James, Peyton Chapman, Mike Jackson, Judge Calvin Williams, Randall Morgan, Judge David Vickers, Wallace Mills, Judge Bob Bailey, Ron Wise, Chris North, Mark Englehart, Judge Myron Thompson, Jay Aughtman, Bill McGowin, Jesse Anderson, Mark Sabel, Cole Portis, Jim Williams, Fred Tyson, Mitch McGuire, Joseph VanZandt, Mark Wilkerson, Dean Mooty, Judge Les Hayes, Steve Feaga, Judge Truman Hobbs, Jr., Tim McCollum, Judge Gene Reese, Mark Baines, Judge James Anderson, Judge Gray Borden, David Martin, the Espy boys (Joe, Ben, and Bill), Frank Woodson, Bobby Poundstone, Randy James, Judge JR Gaines, Grif Sikes, Charlie Anderson, Marvin Campbell, Mitch Henry, Rob Reynolds, Charlie Hawthorne, William Haynes, and Jim Hampton. (In addition to being outstanding lawyers, they are – incidentally – Hot!)

129. “Bradley Cooper’s A Star is Born” Award – Stephanie Monplaisir, Kyle and Stephanie Shirley, Mary Ann Geir, Elizabeth Brasher, Kimberly Waldrop, and Rachel Miller (Their children - who greeted the World for the first time this year – cannot help but be Stars.)

130. “Robin Williams Dead Poet’s Society” Award – Judge Keith Watkins, Judge Emily Marks, Judge Susan Walker, Christine Freeman, Jonathan Ross, Amanda Senn, Greg Bordenkircher, and Roman Shaul (Although maybe not as great as Robin Williams’ character in the movie, they were outstanding in teaching us at our Bar’s Bench and Bar seminar.)

131. “Ed Bridges History” Award – Judge Keith Watkins and Trey Granger (Like our great former State Archivist, Judge Watkins and Trey have great hearts for history, and are preserving the memory of Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr. for whom our federal courthouse is named.)

132. “The Eagles’ New Kid in Town” Award – Greg Bordenkircher (Greg came from the U.S. Atty’s office in Mobile to become Chief Litigation Counsel for the Alabama Securities Commission.)

133. “Blood, Sweat & Tears’ And When I Die” Award – Alan Rothfeder, Jo Parr, Helen Wells, Tommy Mancuso, Sarah Johnston, Daniel Lindsey, Jr., Kyle Johnson, Stan Gregory, Laura Crum, Ted Jackson, Rick McKenzie, Bobo Gilpin, Rick McBride, Debra Spain, Robert Ritchey, April Wise, Russ Russell, Riley Roby, Chris Simmons, and Hank Hutchinson (And, when you die, these excellent estate lawyers are who your family should contact.)

134. “John Krasinski’s A Quiet Place” Award – Tim Lewis (As Director and Librarian of the Alabama Supreme Court Library, Tim works in a Quiet Place.)

135. “Bruce Springsteen’s Born to Run” Award – (State Auditor) Jim Zeigler and (Senator) Will Barfoot (Jim has run so much he must have been born to it; Will grew up campaigning in political races run by his uncle – both Jim and Will won this year.)
136. “Course Correction” Award – Stephanie Smithee (Stephanie changed her career path when she moved from the City Attorney’s office to the Department of Corrections.)

137. “Bert Reynolds’ Apple of My Eye” Award – Archie Grubb (Archie is keeping his eye on Apple – he was appointed to the plaintiffs’ steering committee for litigation regarding Apple’s allegedly having slowed down old iPhones.)

138. “David Bowie’s Golden Years” Award – Jacqui Austin, Bob Hill, Tommy Mancuso, Joe Marston, Bob Thetford, George Wakefield, and Ken Wallis (They celebrated this year their 50th anniversary as Alabama lawyers.)

139. “Tom Brady” Award – Jere Beasley (Beasley has scored as many touchdowns over his legal career as Brady has thrown in his.)

140. “Al Pacino’s And Justice for All” Award – Louis Franklin (After convicting a police officer for assaulting a handcuffed arrestee, our US Attorney said “This office will strive to support . . . law enforcement . . ., but will also prosecute those . . . officers who abandon their oath to protect and serve and choose to engage in criminal conduct that they are sworn to oppose.”)

141. “Drew Brees Free Agent” Award – Samarria Dunson and Schuyler Espy (Samarria and Schuyler rejected continued employment with the State, and as prize free agents recently signed with Balch & Bingham and Burr Forman respectively.)

142. “Snoop Dogg” Award – Layne Keele (This Associate Dean and professor at Faulkner Law occasionally raps in class.)

143. “House of Cards” Award – Judge Johnny Hardwick, Judge Truman Hobbs, Jr. Judge Greg Griffin, Judge JR Gaines, Judge James Anderson and Judge Jimmy Pool (The Phelps-Price Courthouse is a house of funny, witty cards – namely these award winning judges.)

144. “The Maze Runner” Award – Tom Albritton and Cynthia Raulston (For this Executive Director and General Counsel of the Ethics Commission, interpreting the Ethics Act to respond to the myriad questions they receive can be as complex as running through a maze.)

145. “BB King’s The Thrill is Gone” Award – Laura Calloway (This former private practicing lawyer in Montgomery and long-time outstanding employee of the State Bar retired this year – far from real retirement age – I guess BB King was right, the thrill is gone.)

146. “Anti-Vampire” Award – Justin Aday (We can be assured our State Bar’s Membership Director is not a Vampire – he’s A day person.)

147. “Slade’s Do You Believe In Miracles” Award – Bob Bradford (Bob’s amazing daughter had a sudden, life-threatening illness this year, but has made a miraculous recovery.)

148. “Jalen Hurts Comeback” Award – John Henig (John this year had some health challenges – similar to a quarterback sack – but like this Aub’s beloved Jalen, he’s made a great fourth quarter comeback.)
149. “Don Rickles Mr. Warmth” Award – Tommy Gallion (Representing a doctor allegedly mistreated by a local hospital, Tommy filed suit, raised his customary hell, and used Rickles-like insult comedy to abuse antagonists and amuse his client.)

150. “Jingle Bell Rock” Award – Frank Hawthorne and Randy Meyers (Frank and Randy will this year hold their wonderful, annual Christmas party for the umpteenth time.)

151. “Jackson Browne’s Lawyers in Love” Award – Kelly and Sean McTear, Holly and Cowan Knowles, Hendon and Judge Charles Coody, Anne and Bill McGowin, Alyce and Billy Addison, Tommie and Judge Johnny Hardwick, Anne and Chuck Stewart, Congresswoman Martha and Riley Roby, Jenny and Bill Garrett, Judge Emily and Rick Marks, Casey and Brandon Bates, Doh Ah Kim and Soo Seok Yang, Angela and Jeff Bradwell, Suzi and Austin Huffaker, Sabrina Comer and Clint Daughtrey, Scarlett and Jay Tuley, Alice Ann and David Byrne, Leura and Billy Canary, Morgan and Kyle Beckman, Laura and James Eubank, Julie and Chris Weller, Michelle and Kevin Davidson, Megan and Tom McCarthy, Susan and Paul Copeland, and Judge Susan and Dorman Walker (These married – to each other – lawyers appear to be in love – of course, one never knows.)

152. “Donald Trump Jobs” Award – Jimmy Williams (Jimmy serves on the Montgomery County Personnel Board – dealing with jobs is his (volunteer) job.)

153. “Wall Street” Award – Judge Johnny Hardwick (During this horribly down market Judge Hardwick reserves his investing for new judges – he officiated at Judge Monet Gaines’ investiture.)

154. “James Taylor’s Sweet Baby James” Award – Judge James Anderson, Jimmy Hawthorne, Jim Edwards, Jimmy McLemore, Jim Rives, James Dickens, Jim Byram, and Jimmy Walter (These tough lawyers are sweet people.)

155. “Eric Clapton’s Forever Man” Award – Richard Gill (Richard has been with Copeland Franco from the beginning of his law practice until forever thereafter.)

156. “Grand Funk Railroads Possession Obsession” Award – Jeff Blitz, Mark Franco, Lanier Branch, Bill Eskridge, Jim Edwards, Inge Hill, Palmer Smith, Charles Edmondson, and James Dickens (These excellent real estate lawyers believe obsessively that possession is nine tenths of the law.)

157. “Cat Stevens If You Want to Sing Out, Sing Out” Award – Randall Marshall, Charlanna Skaggs, Baron Coleman, Mark Montiel, Al Agricola, and Dean Allen Mendenhall (These Montgomery lawyers are happy to share their political, religious, and other opinions with you and anyone you know.)

158. “Top Gun” Award – Meridith Barnes (Meridith, who has moved from Chief Legal Counsel at the Board of Pardons and Parole to General Counsel of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, is the top gun wherever she is.)

159. “Oscar” Award – Roy Goldfinger (He deserves an Oscar for his convincing acting in a television truck commercial.)

160. “President George HW Bush Best Resume” Award – Judge Stephen Doyle (Judge Doyle’s Bush-like, i.e., amazing, resume resulted in his selection as our new US Magistrate Judge.)
161. “Sherlock Holmes” Award – Rachel Riddle (Appointed this year as the head of the Examiners of Public Accounts, Rachel will use a spyglass to find accounts that are amiss.)

162. “Sargent Shriver Best Recruiter” Award – Laurel Crawford (Laurel recruits for our Volunteer Lawyers Program with the same enthusiasm as Sargent Shriver did for the volunteer Peace Corps.)

163. “Joy to the World” Award – Cole Portis (Cole and his saint-like wife, Joy, have adopted – and brought joy to – children around the world.)

164. “BJ Thomas’ Another Somebody Done Someone Wrong Song” Award – Maria Morris (This Southern Poverty Law Center lawyer says the Alabama Department of Corrections has done mentally ill inmates wrong and should be held in contempt of court.)

165. “Distinguishable” Award – Judge Joel Dubina, Ben Pool, Jimmy Garrett, Alex Holtsford, Charlie Anderson, Knox Argo, Monica Arrington, Bill Azar, Doyle Fuller, Mike Beers, Noel Barnes, David Belser, Dennis Nabors, Kenny Thomas, Dana Billingsley, Matt Bledsoe, Bernie Brannan, Evans Brittain, Kathy Brown, Shirley Brown, Kent Garrett, Chad Bryan, Billy Carter, Florence Cauthen, Faith Cooper, Greg Davis, Richard Shinbaum, Chris Smith, Rosa Davis, Bill Gunter, Terry Davis, Cathy Donohoe, Jim Vickrey, Jacob Dubin, Ben Farrow, Robin Laurie, Winston Edwards, Michael Fritz, Judge Bill Gordon, Gunter Guy, Tommy Kirk, Dan Taliaferro, Les Pitman, Alva Lambert, Pat Mahaney, Will Webster, Jarred Kaplan, Cliff Slaten, Judge Randy Thomas, Judge Sharon Yates, and Ramadanah Jones (For many and varied reasons, these great folks are just distinguishable.)

166. “Gee, We’re Going to Miss You” Award5 – Chaya Bell, John Bowman, Buddy Branch, Judge John Capell, Ron Clark, Sterling Culpepper, Winston Durant, Wade Hartley, Douglas Hester, John Holloway, Jack Norton, Rick Pyper, Judge Randy Reaves, Wayne Sabel, and Walter Turner.

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5 The title of this award comes from a song memorializing Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper written shortly after their deaths in a plane crash in 1959. The song is about their transformation into three new stars in the sky. The principal lyric in the song is “Gee we’re going to miss you. Everybody sends their love.”
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