President’s Article

Usually at this time of the year we are all getting ready for Labor Day weekend, getting our children settled in school, scheduling work related matters throughout the fall, and gearing up for another season of high school and college sports. Unfortunately, 2020 has been a most “unusual” time for most people. At this time last year, no one could have predicted that a global pandemic would drastically change how we live, work, and socialize.

Although we all have had to make changes to the way we do things in our personal and professional lives, we at MCBA are moving forward into uncertainty with an unwavering commitment to support our members and the community during these difficult times. For example, we have engaged in virtual social events designed to foster a sense of togetherness and support local restaurants in the Montgomery area. In addition, during the month of May, MCBA hosted our Wellness Month Challenge. During this time of working from home, missing time with family and friends, we focused on the positives such as eating healthier, daily exercise, and engaging in activities to de-stress.

While there are some “silver linings” of working more from home and/or remotely (e.g., spending more time with your family, spending less time commuting, etc.), we realized that fellowship and solidarity among bar members is vital for a successful law practice. Consequently, we are moving forward with the implementation of MCBA’s inaugural Mentoring Program. The Mentoring Program will consist of three components that will allow MCBA members with varying degrees of legal experience and knowledge to come together and support one another.

The Bar Buddies component will involve lawyers with at least 10 years of experience partnering with lawyers who have less than 10 years of experience to create an opportunity to foster professional growth and career development. The View From the Bench component will involve a regularly scheduled 1-hour CLE program involving the judges of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Alabama in Montgomery County and the participants in the Mentoring Program. The goal here is to take the wealth of knowledge and experience of our judges and provide wisdom and insight that will hopefully help us become better lawyers and avoid certain pitfalls and mistakes. Lastly, the Essential Skills component will involve CLE hours brought to you by skilled and seasoned lawyers, who will cover how to operate with competence in the practice of law and the “best practices” with respect to various legal areas or concentrations.

It is our hope that the information and the tools provided by these programs will help enhance and improve the quality of both your work life and your personal life. I hope you will support in these efforts by applying to be either a Mentor or a Mentee. The Mentoring Program application is now available here on MCBA’s website. As we look ahead to the fall, please take time to do three things: (1) set aside time to take care of your spiritual, emotional, and physical well being; (2) spend quality time with your family; and (3) go vote and encourage everyone you know and have influence with to go vote! Thank you.

-Larry
IN MEMORIAM

NELSON BURNETT

(November 13, 1927–December 22, 2018)


Nelson attended Pikeville College and graduated from Cumberland Law School at the University of Tennessee. He maintained Bar membership in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama throughout his lifetime. Nelson joined the U.S. Army Air Corps at the end of WWII and mustered out of the newly created U.S. Air Force.

He worked for many years for the Home Insurance Company in Montgomery before striking out in the practice of law on his own and in partnership including several years in Bayou La Batre with the Honorable Ned Nelson, Biloxi, Mississippi. Nelson also worked with the U.S. District Court of the Middle District of Alabama during the period of Chief Judge Frank M. Johnson’s tenure and some of the most historic Civil Rights legislation of that court. He became a well-known figure in legal circles and interested in Democratic party politics. In 1974, he ran unsuccessfully for the 35 District Alabama Senate seat.

For a period, Nelson went back with the Home Insurance Company in Tampa, Florida and Charlotte, North Carolina in the legal department, but the state of Alabama kept calling him back “home.” He became House Counsel to Governor Jim Folsom. He was Chief of the Receivership Division of the Alabama Department of Insurance from 1986–1993 and again from 1995–1996. He retired to Mobile and immediately enrolled in Springhill College, Mobile when he obtained a M.A. in history, a lifelong interest.

Nelson was always a joiner and a doer. He was a life-long Toastmaster, a Gideon, president of his children’s elementary school PTA, a deacon and Sunday School teacher, a member and officer of the Alabama AARP. He was a voracious reader and passed that on to his children and grandchildren.

JOSEPH BRADY LEWIS

(November 27, 1946–February 19, 2019)

Joseph Brady “Jay” Lewis, a longtime resident of Montgomery, departed this life on February 19, 2019, at the age of 72.

Jay was a transplant to Montgomery, having been born in 1946 in Shreveport, Louisiana, to Joe and Gwen Lewis. He grew up in Louisiana and Mississippi, and attended college at Southern Mississippi University. After graduating, he worked for several years in the broadcast radio and television business in Texas and other western states before coming to Montgomery. It wasn’t long after he had arrived here before his voice and face became familiar to many in this area.

Jay joined the staff of WSFA-TV in the early 70’s in the Editorial Department. During the mid-70’s he was the station evening anchor and went on to be the Editorial Director. He also hosted a Saturday morning magazine, “Composite.” He was a household name and face during this time. Bob Howell, a WSFA anchor, colleague and friend, recalls working with Jay as a pleasure and remembers Jay as a true professional in the broadcast arena. Following his television career, Jay joined June and Ben Collier in Collier Industries for a number of years as an essential member of the management team.

As his final career, Jay became a member of the legal profession. Admitted to the Bar in 1992, Jay practiced in a variety of areas and was a diligent and devoted litigator. He was a member of the Alabama State Bar, the Montgomery County Bar Association, the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, and the Hugh Maddox Chapter of the American Inns of Court, among numerous other legal organizations. He retired from practice in 2012, remaining a member in good standing until this death.
IN MEMORIAM

Barbara McBrayer Montoya

Barbara McBrayer Montoya, age 76, a resident of Lake Jordan in Titus, died Thursday February 21, 2019, at her residence surrounded by family and friends following a courageous and determined battle with cancer.

Barbara was born on November 22, 1942, in Montgomery, the daughter of Grady Hayden McBrayer and Issa Mae Brown Crutchfield. She received her B.A. from Huntington College, majoring in Art with a minor in Social Work. Her thirst for knowledge and desire to be constantly challenged, led her to pursue a M.A. in Guidance and Counseling from Troy State University. She received her doctorate degree in law, beginning her studies at age 50. She was dearly loved and highly respected by many.

Barbara began her career as a social worker moving quickly into a juvenile probation officer position in Montgomery. She established Central Alabama Juvenile Justice Program based in Selma. She returned to Montgomery as Chief Juvenile Probation Officer and finished her career as the Personnel Director for the City and County of Montgomery. She received numerous awards and accolades from her professional associates.

Barbara loved people, her family, her God and serving others. Her greatest treasure was her family and will be missed every day.

Robert Graham Esdale, Sr.

Robert Graham “Bob” Esdale, Sr., of Birmingham, Alabama was born on August 18, 1927, and died on April 16, 2019.

Bob was the son of the late James and Willie Winfield Esdale of Birmingham. A graduate of Gulf Coast Military, Bob also attended the University of Alabama where he received a B.S. degree and L.L.B. degree in 1953. He served in the United States Army with the 167th Infantry. Bob practiced as a trial lawyer for twenty years before becoming Vice President and General Counsel of Moore-Handley, Inc., a subsidiary of Union Camp. He served as Municipal Judge of Pelham, Alabama. Bob also served as Clerk of the Supreme Court of Alabama holding the position for thirty years.

Bob enjoyed memberships of the American, Alabama and Birmingham Bar Associations, the American Judicature Society, the Alabama Association for Justice, the Association of Corporate Counsel, the Alabama Municipal Judges Association, the Appellate Clerks Association, the Institute of Court Management, as a Fellow of the Alabama Bar Foundation, and the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Bob was a faithful friend and trusted confidant. He had compassion for his co-workers. To quote a former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama, “his sense of balance and fairness allowed the Court to accomplish its mission of providing a fair and just tribunal to all the litigants that came before us.” Bob was quick to smile, give a great hug and his sense of humor was contagious.
IN MEMORIAM

JAMES BERNARD BRANNAN, JR.  
(August 27, 1951–June 1, 2019)

J. Bernard "Bernie" Brannan, Jr. (also known as "Bosco P. Brannan," "Fat Man," "Hot Dog," "Big Bern," "Pop," "Padre," or "Coach," depending on who you asked), a man of many nicknames and the bestower of many more, passed away peacefully on Saturday June 1, 2019, in Auburn, home to the community and University he loved.

Born in Montgomery on August 27, 1951, he was sixty-seven years old. He graduated from Montgomery Catholic High School, then Auburn University, where he joined the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. After Auburn, he went to the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law. Out of law school, he clerked for the Honorable Joseph Phelps on the Circuit Court of Montgomery County. He also represented the City of Montgomery and Mayor Emory Folmar for nineteen years. Mr. Brannan had a distinguished and successful career in private practice, when he relentlessly and zealously advocated for his clients and never shied away from challenging an injustice, often pro bono.

Bernie was devoted to selfless service, and volunteered his time to the Montgomery Lions Club, the YMCA of Greater Montgomery Youth Football Leagues, AUM Dixie Baseball, and served on the Board of Directors of Baby Steps.

While living in Montgomery, Bernie was a member of St. Peter’s Catholic Church, where he served on the parish council. After moving to Auburn in 2011, he became a member of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church. He deeply loved his parish and its community.

Bernie will be dearly missed by many, but he will forever be remembered by all he met for his selflessness, service, storytelling, quick wit, and his ability to make all around him know how important they were to him.

LISA LYNN MELVIN  
(February 20, 1959–September 13, 2019)

Lisa Lynn Melvin passed away on September 13, 2019.

Lisa’s earthly journey began on February 20, 1959, when she was born to Bruce (deceased) and Mary Kathryn Hagood, affectionately called “Dear.” At the young age of eighteen, Lisa married her soul mate, Gregory D. Melvin, and together they shared forty-two years of laughter, love, and adventure.

Lisa lived her life demonstrating strength and compassion in every area of her service; Lisa loved “BIG.” She loved the Lord with all her heart and loved her family and church family just as much. Lisa was passionate about being the “hands and feet of Jesus” and gave unselfishly of her time and love to others. She was known for sending random texts of encouragement and prayer and always carried a handful of $20 bills to follow the Holy Spirit and bless others. In addition to serving her husband in his thirty-eight years of ministry, Lisa decided later in life to add more excitement and was admitted to the Alabama State Bar on April 25, 2003. During her sixteen years as an attorney, Lisa served her clients and legal community with integrity and grace; Justice with Grace.

Lisa did a great job during her time on earth and will be remembered fondly for her smile, her warmth, her amazing sense of humor, stylish wardrobe and interior decorating skills. She will not however, be remembered for her cooking. Lisa worked hard all of her life and made a difference in the lives of many. She poured her heart and the love of the Lord into everyone she met and wouldn’t hesitate to pray with someone, no matter the location. Lisa is now expecting and encouraging all of you to “pour-forward” into others.
IN MEMORIAM

Herman Hardy Hamilton, Jr. (February 4 1928–April 30, 2019)

Herman Hardy Hamilton, Jr., Colonel USMC (Ret.), died peacefully on April 30, 2019.

Born in Russellville, on February 4, 1928, Herman was the son of Delma Ferguson Hamilton (later Warner) and Herman Hardy Hamilton. At age 10, Herman moved to Montgomery with his mother and sister, attending the Montgomery public schools and graduating from Sidney Lanier High School in 1946 as president of his Senior Class.

Herman was a scholar, earning his college degree at Notre Dame University (Mehan Scholar, B.A. magna cum laude, 1950) and then winning the coveted Rhodes Scholarship to attend Exeter College at Oxford University (B.A. 1952, M.A. 1954), where he encountered great figures of his generation in Britain’s post-WWII rationing and rebuilding environment. After completing a military tour in the Mediterranean, Herman completed his legal studies at University of Alabama School of Law (J.D. 1955).

Following his graduation from Notre Dame, Herman was commissioned in the United States Marine Corps. He served two years of active duty in the Korean War, then 30 years in the U.S.M.C. Reserves, retiring as Colonel in 1982. His posts included Commander of the Marine Unit in Montgomery and Head of the Selective Service Reserve Unit for the State of Alabama.

Herman met Kathleen Campbell (Kitty) at the Marine Corps Ball at Camp Lejeune, and they married in 1954. The couple moved to Montgomery where Herman clerked for Mr. Justice Simpson of the Supreme Court of Alabama, joined Walter J. Knabe (then Montgomery City Attorney), partnered with Dean, Hamilton, and King, and then practiced more than forty years as a partner of Capell Howard Knabe and Cobbs, PA. He was active in the early civil rights cases involving the City of Montgomery, including the Rosa Parks and Tuskegee Syphilis Cases. In addition to his corporate law work, Herman helped establish the Alabama Medicaid Agency which extended healthcare to the elderly and disabled; there he served as General Counsel a played a pivotal role in landmark cases involving Medicaid entitlement and reimbursement.

While in Montgomery, the Hamiltons raised their children and enjoyed visiting their beloved Lake Martin cabin. In 1996, they moved to Lake Norman, North Carolina to be near family and relocated subsequently to The Pines in Davidson, North Carolina.

Throughout Herman’s life, he was an active churchman-Baptist, Presbyterian, United Methodist, and even studying under Catholic priests at Notre Dame. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Chairman of the Young Lawyers Section of the State Bar, and President of the Montgomery County Bar Association. He supported Habitat for Humanity and was an advocate for Children’s Harbor, an organization that serves seriously ill children and their families.

William Walton Sellers (December 11, 1939–June 3, 2019)

William Walton Sellers, age 79, a resident of Ramer, died Monday, June 3, 2019. Mr. Sellers loved being involved and was very active in his church and community.

John Calvin Cason

John Calvin Cason, a native of Montgomery, graduated from Jones School of Law in 1985.
CALENDAR

Alabama Census Deadline
30 September 30, 2020

Mentoring Program Deadline
29 October 29, 2020

Election Day
03 November 3, 2020

Mentoring Program Begins
12 November 12, 2020
**MCBA MENTORING PROGRAM PARTICIPANT APPLICATION**

The MCBA Mentoring Program pairs mentors and mentees for a 24-month session beginning in the fall that is designed to provide young lawyers with guidance in all aspects of the practice of law. The application deadline is October 29, 2020. The Mentoring Program will begin November 12, 2020.

### Applicant Information

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<td>ASB No.:</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Mentor</td>
<td>☐ Mentee</td>
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### Participation Requirements

**Mentors**

Please indicate that you meet **ALL** the following requirements:

- ☐ I am an attorney or judge licensed to practice law in Alabama;
- ☐ I have been practicing law for at least 10 years **OR** I am a current member of the judiciary in Alabama;
- ☐ I am a member in good standing with the Alabama State Bar and have no history of complaints and/or disciplinary actions within the last 10 years; &
- ☐ I am a member in good standing with MCBA.

**Mentees**

Please indicate that you meet **ALL** the following requirements:

- ☐ I am an attorney licensed to practice law in Alabama **OR** I expect to become licensed during the Mentoring Program;
- ☐ I have been practicing law for less than 10 years;
- ☐ I am a member in good standing with the Alabama State Bar and have no history of complaints and/or disciplinary actions within the last 10 years; &
- ☐ I am a member in good standing with MCBA.
# Matching Criteria

## Practice Areas

Please list your main three practice areas:

1. 
2. 
3. 

## Field of Employment

Please choose the best description of your field of employment:

- [ ] Law Firm
- [ ] Government
- [ ] Judiciary/Clerk
- [ ] Corporate/In-House
- [ ] Legal Aid
- [ ] Public Interest
- [ ] Alternative/Non-Legal
- [ ] Other

## Employer Size

Please choose the number of attorneys in Montgomery at your employment:

- [ ] Solo
- [ ] 2–9
- [ ] 10–39
- [ ] 40–100
- [ ] 100+
- [ ] 0 (Alternative)

Please choose the **TOTAL** number of attorneys at your employment:

- [ ] Solo
- [ ] 2–9
- [ ] 10–39
- [ ] 40–100
- [ ] 100+
- [ ] 0 (Alternative)

## Additional Information

Please provide any other information that you would like the Mentoring Program to consider when matching you with a mentor/mentee (e.g. practice area, employment history, personal life, alma mater, military service, sexual orientation, race, gender, etc.):
**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

By signing below, I affirm as follows:

1. I understand that this application does not guarantee me participation in the Mentoring Program (unpaired mentees, if any, will have their application fee returned).
2. I wish to participate in the Mentoring Program and will devote the time and energy necessary to participate fully and effectively in the Program.
3. I meet the appropriate criteria for participating and the information on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.
4. I understand that participation in the Mentoring Program does not provide any confidentiality to the conversations that occur as a result of participation.
5. I understand that I am expected to meet in-person with my mentor/mentee a minimum of 4 times during the 16-week program.
6. I understand that all pairings are made at the discretion of the Mentoring Program Committee and that the Mentoring Program Committee will attempt to honor pairing preferences when they are made known.

Signature: ______________________

( electronic signatures are acceptable )

Date: ______________________

**SUBMISSION**

Please submit applications to Suzanne Duffey (SuzanneDuffey@mc-ala.org).

Please submit any questions to the Mentoring Program Committee Co-Chairs:
- Aigner Kolom (aigner.kolom@beasleyallen.com) or
- E. Peyton Faulk (pfaulk@familysunshine.org)
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Space Available—East Montgomery

Established group of lawyers have office space available for the right lawyer(s). We have a prestigious location near the corner of Taylor and Vaughn Road. There is ample parking for both employees and clients in separate lots, a shared conference room, client reception areas, a full kitchen, private bathrooms, and wireless internet.

Shared receptionist service, telephone, and/or copy center are available for additional fees.

We are seeking lawyer(s) who complement our practice areas and fit in with our office dynamic.

One room (no window) $550/month; One room (with window) $600/month; both rooms $1,100/month. All utilities are included.

This space is perfect for a solo practitioner with a paralegal or for two lawyers. Contact Andrew Skier at amskier@skierlaw.com or (334) 263-4105 to inquire.

Jones School of Law Graduates & Students Available for Interviews

Thomas Goode Jones School of Law graduates and students are readily available for Montgomery area lawyers to interview for any open Clerk or Associate positions.

For more information, contact Bryan Morgan, Director of Career Development, at (334) 386-7905 or bmorgan@faulkner.edu.
CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

▶ EVERYONE COUNTS.
   The census counts every person living in Alabama once, only once, and in the right place.

▶ IT’S ABOUT FAIR REPRESENTATION.
   Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats Alabama gets. We stand to lose a representative without an accurate count.

▶ IT’S ABOUT $13 BILLION.
   The distribution of $13 billion in federal funds, grants, and support to our state’s, counties, and communities are based on the census data. That money is spent on schools, healthcare, hospitals, roads, and other vital programs.
CENSUS DATA IS BEING USED ALL AROUND YOU.

Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life, and consumer advocacy.

Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices, and stores, which create jobs.

Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.

Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.

YOUR PRIVACY IS PROTECTED.

It’s against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household.

By law, your responses cannot be used against you and can only be used to produce statistics.

2020 CENSUS IS EASIER THAN EVER

You can complete your census online at my2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020, or by completing the traditional paper form.

MY2020CENSUS.GOV
ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

The Docket, the official publication of the Montgomery County Bar Association, Inc., is published six times a year.

MCBA is happy to offer its vendors and sponsors a variety of advertising opportunities that reach hundreds of attorneys and legal professionals across the Montgomery area. There is no better way to advertise or share with the legal community in Montgomery than MCBA.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Advertisement Options</th>
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- All advertisements are subject to approval by MCBA’s Board of Directors.
- All advertisements must be paid in advance.
- All payments for advertisements must be submitted to MCBA’s physical location.
- Please contact MCBA for any questions or additional information.

For more information, click here to visit the Advertising page on our website.