President Cody Cooper with wife Lauren, daughter Greer and son Pierce.

2022 Oklahoma Legislative Recap

By: Miles Pringle

The 2022 Regular Session of the Oklahoma Legislature has concluded making it a good time to reflect on what all transpired. More than 400 bills made it through the Legislature; this is in no way an exhaustive review. If there are particular areas of law you are interested in, you can visit the “Session Laws” page of the Oklahoma Supreme Court Network, which sets out the topic upon which each bill is based.

Practitioners should be aware that SB 1596 creates the Oklahoma Health Care Agent Act. Among other things, the bill provides for the execution of power of attorney for health care and establishes effective dates and requirements for revocation.

Sen. Howard, a practicing attorney in Lawton, said: “After updating the Durable Power of Attorney Act during the last legislative session, we’ve had about a seven-month gap with no direct authorization for health care power of attorney. This will ensure Oklahomans will always have the right to designate a family member or friend to have their best interests in mind if they are unable to do so themselves.”

There were a few civil procedure bills as well. HB 3450 requires a party requesting leave to amend a pleading to submit the proposed amendments with the motion for leave of court. HB 3381 updated service requirements to include delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition personally or by leaving copies thereof at an agreed meeting place with some person then residing at the person’s dwelling house or usual place of abode. HB 4077 added to the 12 O.S. § 2011.1 relating to frivolous claims or defenses.

In healthcare news, Senate Bills 1337 & 1396 changed how Medicaid is administered in Oklahoma. This is a compromise after a multiyear battle between the Governor and the Legislature on the subject. Previously, the Oklahoma Supreme Court struck down the Governor’s attempt to privatize Medicaid. OSMA President David Holden, M.D., was quoted in The Journal Record as saying: “While SB 1337 implements managed care, it is vastly different from where we were last January, when the health care authority offered contracts to insurance companies without legislative oversight or guardrails to protect Oklahoma’s tax dollars or our Medicaid recipients.”

See LEGISLATIVE, page 11

BISCONIE NAMED TO BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA LIST

Page 8

JIMMY GOODMAN ELECTED AMERICAN BAR FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Page 4

OCBA Bench & Bar Committee to host Oklahoma County Judicial & District Attorney Candidate Forum

In an effort to inform voters, the Bench & Bar Committee will host a candidate forum for the two Oklahoma County Judicial races and the District Attorney race to be held during the General Election on November 8. The forum will take place at the Ron Norick Downtown Library Auditorium, 300 Park Avenue, Oklahoma City, at 12 Noon on Friday, October 14.

Judicial races included are:

Office 14 – Judge Kathryn Savage v. Judge James Siderias

Associate Judge – Judge Richard Kirby v. Angela Singleton

District Attorney race:

Vicki Behenna v. Kevin Calvey

Each candidate will be given time to discuss their qualifications for the position. The last ten minutes will be used for questions from the audience. There is no charge to attend and this event is open to the public. Please encourage colleagues, friends and neighbors to attend.

From the President ............ 2
Stump Roscoe .................. 3
Bar Observer ................. 10

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From the President

Continuing the OCBA’s Tradition of Excellence

By: Cody Cooper
President, OCBA

My name is Cody Cooper, and I am 2022-2023 President of the Oklahoma County Bar Association. Although I hate talking about myself, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself as I begin my term as President of the OCBA. I am a lifelong Oklahoman born and raised in Norman, Oklahoma. I am a proud graduate of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School followed by the University of Oklahoma for undergraduate and law school. I obtained my undergraduate degree from OU with majors in Management Information Systems and Finance after which I graduated from OU College of Law. Since graduation from law school, I have worked at Phillips Murrah where I am a director and a licensed patent attorney, and my primary areas of practice are commercial litigation and intellectual property. Most important- ly, I am married to my amazing wife Lauren, and we have been together since high school. We have two amazing children and when I am not working or volunteering, I enjoy spending time with my family and watching OU Sooners athletics.

I am incredibly proud to be serving as the President of the Oklahoma County Bar Association and to follow in the footsteps of so many amazing attorneys that I respect and admire as individuals and attorneys. I am eternally appreciative of those who have helped me along in this process and trusted me to eventually be President. I think the OCBA has a strong foundation to continue its storied history of success and I want to spend this first article to share my thoughts on the uniqueness of the Oklahoma County Bar Association, the individuals that make it special, and why I believe we are uniquely positioned to continue to build upon the excellent tradition of the Bar.

First and foremost, the most important people that keep the OCBA going are Debbie, Pam and Connie. These three are the engine of the OCBA and help everyone to stay on track and focused. We are all eternally grateful for the work they do, and I personally think they are the OCBA’s biggest strength.

Next, we are fortunate to have a community of attorneys and judges that are engaged and enthusiastic to assist the OCBA and serve in the capacity of officers and directors. As a voluntary bar, this is a unique attribute that many bars, involuntary and voluntary, across the country struggle to maintain. This willingness shines through in our community services efforts and social events.

Finally, one of the most unique things the OCBA has is an active Young Lawyers’ Division. Having spoken to many individuals in bar leadership positions across the country, the one question we repeatedly get is how do we get, and keep, young lawyers engaged? We are fortunate to have an active board that truly enjoys each other’s company and strives to set a high standard for the board through its community services and its many social events throughout the years. The fruits of these efforts are evident when many of these same individuals move onto the OCBA board and continue their engagement efforts even after they leave the young lawyers’ board.

Having an excellent staff and engaged attorneys spanning from our young lawyers to our board of directors makes the OCBA a unicorn amongst bar associations. Our members’ willingness to serve and devote their time to the OCBA and its many activities allows the OCBA to have real impact in our community and to build camaraderie amongst attorneys that may not otherwise meet each other. The OCBA also fosters a close-knit group that allows practitioners and judges to engage in social interactions outside the courtroom in order to further the goals of the OCBA. This has formed a strong foundation for the OCBA upon which we can all build to grow and improve the OCBA.

Overall, my goals this year are to continue the tradition of excellence that those before me have cultivated and to look for ways to improve the OCBA to become more beneficial to our members, wider reaching, and inclusive. We have over 2,400 members and while we are thankful for each and every one of them, I would like to see that number grow and I think we can accomplish this by engaging the attorneys that are not yet members to better explain the benefits of membership and understand why that they are not yet members to address potential areas of improvement.

I thank you all for your support and I look forward to serving you all over this next year. If you ever have anything you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me directly.
By: Roscoe X. Pound

Dear Roscoe:

I heard on the news that a certain former President tried to pay his legal fees by giving the attorney and/or his firm a racehorse. Can an attorney legally barter with a client for a fee?

T.B., OKC

Dear T.B.:

In my humble opinion, the answer is “yes” within bounds of reason. Certain forbidden grounds should be fairly obvious: sex, fruits of crimes, or commission of crimes, for example. Also, most jurisdictions have prohibitions regarding literary or media rights to a portrayal or account based in substantial part on information relating to the representation. A lawyer should also bear in mind Model Rule 1.5: A lawyer may not charge or collect an “unreasonable fee.” So make sure your assessment of the value of your service bears a rational and reasonable comparative value to the item received.

A “fee paid in property instead of money may be subject to the requirements of Rule 1.8(a) because such fees often have the essential qualities of a business transaction with the client”. ABA Com. 4 to Model Rule 1.5. The ABA comments further provide that the requirements of Rule 1.8 “must be met when the lawyer accepts nonmonetary property as payment of all or part of a fee.” As noted in an advisory opinion:

The lawyer will need to comply with all the provisions of Rule 1.8(a), including the requirement to advise the client in writing of the desirability of seeking the advice of independent legal counsel, in any agreement to exchange goods or services for legal fees entered into at the outset of legal representation or during the course of such representation. Even if the lawyer strictly complies with Rule 1.8(a), however, the courts may view the transaction as voidable if the client later feels aggrieved by the transaction.

A third concern arises when you may receive some or all of the goods or services prior to completion of the agreed-upon legal services. In that case, the “fees” may not have been earned yet and will likely be viewed as the client’s property. This implicates Rule 1.15(a) which requires a lawyer to “hold property of clients that is in a lawyer’s possession in connection with a representation separate from the lawyer’s own property.”

I’m sure there are other snare scattered about the Rules ready to snag the unwary. I’m not even gonna attempt to approach potential tax issues. However, the most direct answer to your question is that there is no per se Rule against bartering for legal services. But let’s be careful out there. There are lots of other things that have no per se prohibitions but still could get a lawyer in Dutch with the powers that be.

Dear Roscoe:

As a fan of British television mysteries, I’ve become mindful of the “barrister” and “solicitor” distinction across the Pond. It’s made me curious as to the etymology of “lawyer” and “attorney” over here. P.G., Edmond.

Dear P.G.:

“Etymology” and a British mystery fan. Obviously, I’m dealing with a person of culture and discerning taste. The main mystery I’m puzzling over is why anyone would live in Midsomer County where the chances of meeting a violent end are even greater than in Newark.

Okay, so traditionally, attorney is an abbreviated form of the formal title “attorney at law.” An attorney is a person who has graduated from law school, has passed the bar exam in the state in which they wish to practice law, and is a member of the State Bar Association in the state in which he or she is practicing. Simplified, an attorney is someone who acts as a practitioner in the court of law. On the other hand, here in the Colonies, a lawyer is simply someone who is learned and trained in law. A person who has completed law school, obtained a JD degree and someone who has not yet passed the Bar exam. If a person has not yet passed the bar exam in the state in which he or she wishes to practice, he or she will not be able to represent clients in a court of law.

Kinds confusing and contrary to real world experience, right? Exactly. And so, as of this date, the ABA and most state bars have passed ethical rules designed to eliminate the possibility of such confusion by members of the general public by eliminating these highly technical distinctions and making it against the law for those who are not licensed by the bar to practice law to call themselves either lawyers or attorneys. For that reason, you will often see those who attend law school but do not actively practice simply place a J.D. after their name to note their degree. Only those licensed to practice law can call themselves attorneys (and, in most cases, lawyers) or add the “Esq.” or “esquire” title to their names. The esquire title relates back to the English system of nobility and refers to the minor gentry status attorneys held by virtue of their occupation. Another story for another day.

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I’m often loath to break promises Rae makes for me, often without my knowledge. I do it all the time but, as I said, I’m loath. Anyway, I know she promised last issue that I would recount the Kaleko developments from March to now. Granted, some significant developments came up. However, upon hearing of his passive-aggressive assault at my own place of business caused me some concern. Reports soon came in from various quarters of similar mischief managed in my absence. In fact, it seemed the entirety of the New York metro had become a sort of theatre of the absurd.

A brief recap:

July 23: Bistro-of-the-Sea, formerly a stately yacht turned high dollar restaurant sailing around nighttime Manhattan, is boarded, stopped and disabled. The play pirates removed one passenger: Vincent “Butchie” Sgorran, nephew of Tony Sgar. They took off in speedboats. He was found, naked but unharmed, on North Brother Island two days later.

July 24: Four thugs entered Our Lady’s at the start of the 10 a.m. service, the one my family usually attends. Entering just as the procession made it’s way up the center aisle, they let loose two four-foot alligators for a procession of their own. No reptile-inflicted deaths or injuries, but a number of injuries amid the scramble for the side exits or higher ground.

July 27: Some guys crashed the Belleza Violeta, an upscale beauty salon and day spa in Hoboken. Taking the customers and staff hostage, they compelled to cut the ladies’ hair according to their specifications for thirty minutes, then leave. Perhaps the most horrible coiffed was Rose Sgar, Tony’s wife. Her bodyguards have yet to be found.

July 31: The Children of Lir restaurant and bar received a visit just after its 2:00 a.m. closing. When the staff refused them entrance, they opened up with AK’s and entered where the windows used to be. As the waitstaff and barmen dove for cover, the intruders resumed firing, hosing down the glasses and display bottles behind the bar. Paddy Hughes himself opened fire, killing both shoot- ers and earning a shattered femur in the exchange. To date, law enforcement has yet to identify the late and unlamented vandals, although I’m told that federal authority described their clothing as “of European origin.”

The phone rang. Rae announced that Mr. Sgar “really wanted to talk to me.” I’d have gotten more out of the conversation if he did more talking and less screaming. Think of what Donald Duck might sound like if he chainsmoked and caught an appendage in his zipper. Bottom line: I was to join Tony and his brothers at the Luna Restaurant in Jersey City. I heard a car door shut and saw Junior behind the wheel of my car.

“Where we going?” he said.

“I’m going to Luna. I’ve no idea where you’re going.”

“Great, we can carpool. I’ll drive.”

“When you have an invitation?”

“Unspoken.”

“You think I’m in danger?”

“If we have to pick up our own tab there, it’ll be murder for sure.”

Quote of the MONTH

“Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors.”

African Proverb
Jimmy Goodman elected American Bar Foundation president
Crowe & Dunlevy Attorney to Lead National Organization

By: Charlie Price

OCBA member and Crowe & Dunlevy attorney Jimmy K. Goodman has been elected president of the American Bar Foundation (ABF).

Goodman, who previously served as vice president of the ABF Board of Directors, will lead the organization for its 2022-24 term. As ABF president, Goodman will supervise efforts in fundraising and, in conjunction with the ABF Board of Directors, provide oversight to the foundation’s empirical and interdisciplinary research and programming.

“I am both humbled and excited by the opportunity to serve the American Bar Foundation Board of Directors as its president,” said Goodman. “Our board is actively engaged with the tasks of enlarging the public profile of the ABF, as well as ensuring it will raise the funds needed to continue to increase its role as the world’s leading institute for the empirical and interdisciplinary study of law and its relationship with society.”

A former Crowe & Dunlevy firm President, Goodman is a senior trial attorney specializing in high-stakes business litigation, product claims and disputes involving tribal compacts, economic development, gaming enterprises and federal Indian law.

He received his law degree from Stanford Law School and his undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Goodman’s legal achievements and philanthropy have led him to receive multiple honors and awards including Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma’s William G. Paul Oklahoma Justice Award, Oklahoma Bar Association’s (OBA) John E. Shipp Award for Ethics, Oklahoma County Bar Association’s Leadership in Law Award and Bobby G. Knapp Bar Leadership Award. He is a former President of the Oklahoma County Bar Association and the Oklahoma Bar Foundation.

Goodman co-founded Crowe & Dunlevy’s Diversity Committee to highlight the strength that women, minority and LGBTQ lawyers add to the fabric of the firm. The committee focuses on how to best foster the recruiting, retention and professional development of attorneys, regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation. He is also actively involved with the American Bar Association’s (ABA) commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, having been on the ABA’s Council on Racial and Ethnic Justice, Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity, Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Commission on Hispanic Rights and Responsibilities.

An active community volunteer, Goodman was among the team of volunteers that drafted the mission statement for the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum. He is a fundraiser, volunteer attorney and board member for Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma and past president and longtime counsel to Planned Parenthood of Central Oklahoma. Goodman is a founding board member of Citizens League of Central Oklahoma, Myriad Gardens Foundation and Central Oklahoma Childbirth Education Association.

“Jimmy Goodman has a distinguished record of service to the American Bar Association and the American Bar Foundation—with its distinct mission of intersectional research in law and society,” said Interim Executive Director Bryant Garth. “His energy, enthusiasm, and judgment make him ideal to lead the Board. We are lucky that he has taken on this position, and I look forward to working with him.”

About Crowe & Dunlevy
For 120 years, Crowe & Dunlevy has been a leader in innovative and effective legal solutions for businesses and individuals. With offices in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Dallas, and Houston, Crowe & Dunlevy offers comprehensive transactional and litigation services from early mediation to complex commercial litigation to alternative dispute resolution. Through our 30 practice groups, we work with diverse clientele and industries to achieve the most challenging legal objectives and solve our client’s complex legal issues. For more information, visit crowedunlevy.com.

Crowe & Dunlevy is the exclusive member firm in Oklahoma for Lex Mundi, the world’s leading network of independent law firms with in-depth experience in 125+ countries worldwide. For more information, visit lexmundi.com.

About the American Bar Foundation
The American Bar Foundation (ABF) is among the world’s leading research institutes for the empirical and interdisciplinary study of law. The ABF seeks to expand knowledge and advance justice through innovative, interdisciplinary, and rigorous empirical research on law, legal processes, and legal institutions. To further this mission the ABF will produce timely, cutting-edge research of the highest quality to inform and guide the legal profession, the academy, and society in the United States and internationally. The ABF’s primary funding is provided by the American Bar Endowment and the Fellows of The American Bar Foundation.
At the last Board meeting of 2021-22, the following people were recognized:

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

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Authorized and Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Judge Richard Kirby 2022
Raising The Bar 2022 Highlights

Outgoing President Shanda McKenney with Incoming President Cody Cooper

Outgoing YLD Chair Cami Ruff Dombrowski with Incoming YLD Chair Randy Gordon

Lauren Cooper, Andrea & Miles Pringle, Cody Cooper

Jessica Dark & Shea Bracken

Ivan & Randy Gordon

Helen Stakem & Adra Cheek

Marc & Nikki Edwards

Judge Sheila Stinson & Angela Ailles Bahm

Ron Stakem, Joe Biscone, Bryce Johnson & James Biscone

Preston & Sheila Stinson
2022 Annual Gold Tournament Sponsored by InstaScript

1st Place Championship Flight: James Biscone, Zachary Walls, Emily Biscone & Grady Parker

2nd Place Championship Flight: Nick Merkley, Robert McCampbell, Jeff Curran & Leo Portman

1st Place First Flight: Andy Gunn, Clay Raun, Gessica McLanahan & Bryan Goodpasture

2nd Place First Flight: Nick Merkley, Robert McCampbell, Jeff Curran & Leo Portman

1st Place Second Flight: Jay Dobson, Wyatt Swinford, Jack Bornhoff & Michael Brady

2nd Place Second Flight: Billy Croll, Russ Woody, Katy Colclazier & John Robertson

Closest to the Pin #4: Karsten Kenworthy with Gary Chilton & Cody Cooper

Longest Putt: Jeff Curran with Gary Chilton & Cody Cooper

Straightest Drive: Kevin Blaney with Gary Chilton & Cody Cooper

Rebecca & Wesley Cusher representing Oklahoma Lawyers for Children

McKenzie MacMillan with the Central OK Association of Legal Assistants
Joe Biscone Named One of the Best Lawyers in America
Group honors ‘Cowboy Lawyer’ for workers’ compensation expertise

By: Ally Glavas

OCBA member Joseph C. Biscone, II, of Oklahoma City’s Johnson & Biscone, has been listed as one of the Best Lawyers in America for his work on behalf of workers’ compensation claimants.

Since it was first published in 1983, Best Lawyers has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. For the 2023 edition of The Best Lawyers in America, more than 12.2 million votes were analyzed, which resulted in more than 71,000 leading lawyers being honored.

“I believe working people deserve excellent representation when they are injured and facing huge, well-funded organizations,” Biscone said. “It’s a battle every day, and I appreciate this recognition from colleagues who understand and respect the work my firm does to help people heal and get the compensation they deserve.”

For over 40 years, Biscone has served his clients with integrity. He has a caring heart, abiding respect for the legal system and enduring commitment to hard work.

About Johnson & Biscone

Johnson & Biscone, P.A., is one of the premier law firms in Oklahoma City. For over 30 years, Johnson & Biscone has represented injured Oklahomans. The team focuses on personal injury, medical malpractice, workers’ compensation and Social Security disability. For more information, visit oklegal.com.

ATTENTION OKLAHOMA COUNTY & CLEVELAND COUNTY LAWYERS

LOOKING FOR CLE AT A NICE PRICE WITH LUNCH INCLUDED?

CONTACT THE SOUTH OKLAHOMA CITY LAWYERS ASSOCIATION!!
SOCIAL405@GMAIL.COM

LUNCH IS SERVED AT 11:30 AM ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT HIDDEN TRAILS COUNTRY CLUB ONE HOUR CLE PRESENTATION BEGINS AT NOON YOUR FIRST LUNCH AND CLE IS ON US!!
The OBA Annual Convention was a good one this year and a particularly good one for the lawyers of Oklahoma County. For the second straight year the Oklahoma County Bar was chosen by the OBA as the recipient of the Outstanding Bar Association award. Congratulations are in order to each of the 1,503 OCBA members that made this recognition possible and well deserved.

In a surprise move, the House of Delegates unanimously enacted a change in OBA bylaws requiring vacancies in the office of President Elect be filled through election by the House. This amendment had been supported by unanimous resolution of the OCBA Board of Directors. It had been anticipated that this bylaw change would be tabled.

In the race for OBA Governor from Judicial District #3, immediate past President Robert J. Turner was elected. The OCBA could not have “lost” this election since the other contenders were distinguished OCBA members Jerry Dunlap and James Hall, Jr.

Ben T. Owens from Miami was elected as President Elect and Shirley Collier from Taloga as Vice President. The following were elected to the Board of Governors: Michael W. Mitchell from Woodward; Harry L. Bickford, Ardmore; David K. Petty, Guymon.

All officers and Board of Governor members will assume office on January 1, 1980.

IN MEMORIAM
FLOYD W. TAYLOR

By: Kevin Taylor


Floyd was born in Ft. Stockton, Texas in 1943 to Dorothy Johnston (née Smith) and Orville Laverne Taylor. The family later moved to Enid, Oklahoma, where Floyd graduated from high school in 1961. He attended the University of Oklahoma, where he pledged Phi Sigma Kappa.

He obtained his undergraduate degree in 1965 and graduated from the University of Oklahoma School of Law in 1968.

Floyd began his career as a trial attorney for the Department of Highways. He met his wife Micki in 1975, marrying her after just a 90-day romance. After serving as general counsel for the Department of Highways, he accepted an invitation to join Attorney General Jan Eric Cartwright as his First Assistant. Shortly after leaving the Attorney General’s office, Floyd accepted a position as a Judge for Oklahoma County. Following that, he was an Attorney in private practice for nearly forty years, the last fifteen years of which he practiced with his son, Kevin, founding The Taylor Law Firm.

He accepted his 50-year pin from the Oklahoma Bar Association in 2018 and retired from the practice of law in 2019.

Floyd was an avid fisherman, baseball coach, and lover of classical music. He survived by his wife, Micki, his three sons and their wives, Kevin and Kelli, Eric and Lacey, all of Edmond, and Chris and Rachel of Knoxville, TN. He is survived by his sister, Toni, and her sons, Stephen Latham of Houston and David Morrow of Edmond and nephew Brett Thomas and niece Kristen Vaticano. He is survived by his four grandchildren, Brooke, Addilyn, Evelyn, and Lane, with a fifth granddaughter, Navy, on the way. A memorial was held over Labor Day Weekend.
CROWE & DUNLEVY CELEBRATES 120 YEARS

Crowe & Dunlevy is celebrating the 120th anniversary of the firm. Crowe & Dunlevy was founded on Aug. 26, 1902, five years before statehood, when Charles Dunlevy organized his law office in the Oklahoma Territory. Within a year, Albert Crockett joined the firm, creating Crockett & Johnson, one of the earliest law partnersh ip in the Oklahoma Territory. They were soon joined by other lawyers, including John Embry, United States District Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma, and Benjamin Burwell, Justice of the Oklahoma Territorial Supreme Court.

The firm is currently named for Vinnci P. Crowe and Fred W. Dunlevy, who joined in 1920 and 1937, respectively, both instrumental in transforming the firm into a leading law firm in Oklahoma, and a strong supporter of the local community. The firm now has offices in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Dallas and Houston.

During its history, members of the firm have served as judges of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, as well as federal magistrates and state court judges. Two members of the firm have served as President of the American Bar Association and the firm has provided several presidents of the Oklahoma Bar Association and county bar associations.

The theme for the firm’s celebration is “Upon Whose Shoulders We Stand – Reflecting on 120 Years of Legal Excellence.” In recognition of the firm’s clients and more than a century’s support from Oklahoma communities, Crowe & Dunlevy and its attorneys and staff will continue their time and money to charity, diversity, pro bono and community events over the next twelve months.

The firm has a long history of civic and nonprofit involvement. Since just 2018, Crowe & Dunlevy Diversity Scholars and staff have donated more than $3.78 million in civic and charitable contributions, and pro bono legal services to causes and organizations that support the communities in which they live and work.

The Crowe & Dunlevy Foundation provides financial support to a wide variety of deserving charitable and nonprofit organizations. To date, more than 500 arts, education, social services, health care and civic organizations have benefited from the foundation’s giving.

Recognizing the strength that women, minority and LGBTQ lawyers add to the fabric of the firm, the firm is committed to fostering an inclusive environment that focuses on recruitment, retention and professional development of attorneys, regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation. It also seeks to retain and advance the careers of women and minority lawyers within the firm. As part of its diversity efforts, the firm created the Women’s Initiative and Professional Development Program, which has awarded more than $400,000 in financial assistance to law students at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, the University of Tulsa College of Law and Oklahoma City University School of Law.

HBS WELCOMES ASSOCIATE ANAMAYAN NARENDRAKIN OKLAHOMA CITY

HBS welcomes Associate Anamayan Narendran to its Oklahoma City office as the firm continues to strengthen its presence in the state of Oklahoma.

Anamayan focuses his practice on aging services, business transactions, general liability, health care, insurance coverage, labor and employment, medical malpractice, premises liability, and professional malpractice and ethics matters. Prior to joining HBS, he worked in Tulsa, Oklahoma, representing clients in insurance coverage, general liability, and bad faith litigation.

While earning his J.D. at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, Anamayan was an Articles Editor for the Oklahoma Law Review and a research assistant to Professor Stephen Henderson. He also competed as a member of the Thurgood Marshall Moot Court team and the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition team, winning several regional championships and best brief awards. In addition, he worked as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Judge Thad H. Balkman, and for the Oklahoma Attorney General’s Office. Anamayan also received his B.A. in Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Law from the University of Arizona.

PHILLIPS MURRAH WELCOMES FOUR NEW ATTORNEYS TO LEGAL TEAM

Phillips, murrah, is pleased to welcome Austin T. Ray, Camille N. Burge, Jake A. Seidel, and Jonna Vanderslice to our Firm as associate attorneys.

Austin Ray is a litigation attorney who represents individuals and both private- and public-held companies in a wide range of civil litigation matters.

While maintaining outstanding scholastic achievement at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, Austin carried leadership responsibilities in respected student organizations, served as Articles Editor for the Oklahoma Law Review, Problem Writing Director for the Board of Advocates, President for the Business Law Society, and Treasurer for the Federal Bar Association Student Division. Additionally, Austin accepted an administrative nomination to serve on the Council on Academic Responsibility during his final year of law school.

Austin’s commitment to the study of law afforded him esteemed career-building opportunities, including Professor Emerald’s Honorable Judge Robert E. Bacharach of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and the Honorable Justice Noma D. Gurch of the Oklahoma Supreme Court. He currently resides in North Oklahoma City with his beloved wife, McKinlea, who is from Canyon, Texas. Outside the office, Austin enjoys time spent with his family or behind a camera or piano.

Camille Burge is a litigation attorney who represents individuals and both private- and public-held companies in a wide range of civil litigation and family law matters.

Camille attended the University of Oklahoma College of Law where she served as Class President and President of Black Law Student Association. She was selected as a member of the Order of the Barristers, Dean’s Honor Roll, Dean’s Leadership Fellows, Board of Advocates, and Board of Governors. In law school, Camille served as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Judge David B. Lewis of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals. She also obtained certification in Early Settlement Mediation through the Supreme Court of Oklahoma.

Camille was born and raised in Oklahoma City, OK, and received a Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Oklahoma where she also competed on the Track and Field team. In her spare time, she enjoys cheering on the Oklahoma Sooners, traveling, and spending time with her friends and family.

Jake Seidel is a litigation attorney who represents individuals and both private- and public-held companies in a wide range of civil litigation matters.

Jake attended the University of Oklahoma College of Law where he earned the American Jurisprudence Award for Civil Pretrial Litigation, Evidentiary, Civil, & Gender, and Selected Issues in Antitrust Practice.

He served as an Articles Editor for the Oklahoma Law Review, Treasurer for the Federal Bar Association OU Chapter, and was a member of the Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity. As a member of the firm’s Sports Law Practice Group, he competed in the Comfort “Top Ten” Scholarship, the Frank and Edna Asper Elkouri Scholarship, and graduated with Highest Honors.

While pursuing his law degree, Jake had the opportunity to work as a judicial intern with the Honorable John E. Hopple of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit as well as Justice Noma D. Gurch of the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

Born and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jake currently lives in Oklahoma City. He enjoys all sports and spending time with friends and family.

Jonna Vanderslice is a corporate attorney who represents clients in a wide range of commercial and business matters.

A 2022 honors graduate of the Oklahoma University School of Law, Jonna was a Harlot W. Summers Foundation Scholar and received the CALI Award for Excellence in Constitutional Law II and Children in the Law. While in law school, she published her Comment, You’ve Hit Your Boiling Point, in the Oklahoma Law Review.

While pursuing her law degree, Jonna took the opportunity to work as a judicial intern with the Honorable Allen H. Holmes, with the Office of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma.

Born and raised in Oklahoma City, Jonna currently lives in Oklahoma City. She enjoys all sports and spending time with friends and family.

She is a sports enthusiast, amateur landscape artist, and ice cream connoisseur, and in her spare time, she enjoys traveling with friends and family and training for her next race.

BECKY BRYAN ALLEN JOINS CROWE & DUNLEVY

Crowe & Dunlevy is pleased to announce Becky Bryan Allen has joined the firm as an associate in the Oklahoma City office. Allen is a member of the firm’s Healthcare Practice Group where she represents health care institutions and practitioners in a broad range of transactional and regulatory matters. She also has experience defending hospitals, surgery centers, long-term care and skilled nursing facilities, hospices, physicians and other health care professionals in medical liability actions.

She earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Oklahoma College of Law and completed her undergraduate education at Tabor College. Allen will receive her L.M.M. in health care law from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in December 2022. As an active participant in the legal community, Allen is a member of several professional associations including the American Bar Association, Oklahoma Bar Association, Oklahoma County Bar Association, Oklahoma Health Lawyers Association, and the American Health Law Association. In 2020, she was awarded the Maurice Merrill Golden Quill Award for an article she co-wrote for the Oklahoma Bar Journal.

HALL ESTILL WELCOMES THREE ASSOCIATES AND A SPECIAL COUNSEL, ADDING TO ITS TULSA, OKLAHOMA CITY AND DENVER OFFICES

Hall Estill has announced the addition of four new attorneys.

Bailey Betz has joined the Tulsa office, while Alyssa Gillette and Alexandria (Allie) Crawley have joined the Oklahoma City office, all as associates. In addition, Joel Kirk McGill has joined the Hall Estill Denver office as Special Counsel.

Betz focuses his practice in the corporate services and litigation arenas. Within his practice he also assists clients in the cannabis law industry. Betz earned his Juris Doctorate, with highest honors, at the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2020. He holds also a 2016 bachelor’s in economics, with a minor in finance, from Oklahoma State University.

During law school, he served as the Executive Articles Editor of the Oklahoma Law Review, was awarded the Comfort “Top Ten” Scholarship, and received the Salem Civil Liberties Award. Upon graduation, he was inducted into the National Order of the Barristers. Betz was also selected as one of the top ten students in her graduating class, and was a recipient of the Distinguished Undergraduate Research Award.

Born and raised in Weatherford, Oklahoma, Jonna now calls Norman home.

See OBSERVER, page 11
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