

A PUBLICATION OF THE ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE

Journal

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2023-2024
ALAJ President

Wesley Laird
and Family

MESOTHELIOMA

For 33 years, I have handled nothing but asbestos cases in Alabama and other states. I have litigated thousands of Lung Cancer cases, hundreds of Mesothelioma cases, and Ovarian Cancer cases. I have been awarded 18 verdicts against asbestos defendants.

Thank you,

Pat Keahey

US ARMY, 1970-1976

Sewanee, 1977



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WESLEY L. LAIRD, President

Wesley L. Laird started his law firm in 1987 in Covington County, now Laird, Baker & Blackstock. He has wide-ranging experience in civil practice, including fraud and banking, but has concentrated his practice in truck and tractor litigation involving catastrophic injury and wrongful death in recent years. Wes Laird served as President of the Southern Independent Bank

Organizing Group in 2006 and currently serves on its Board of Directors. He is a member of AAJ and the National Trial Lawyers Association, where he has been recognized multiple years as a National Top 100 Civil Plaintiff Lawyer, and Past President of the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation. He also farms and is a musician. Wes is married to Deidra Rice Laird. They have two married daughters who have successful business careers in Huntsville.



BEN BAKER, President-Elect

Ben Baker is a principal with Beasley Allen and his practice focuses on products liability and crashworthiness cases. He is a Sustaining member of ALAJ and a member of the Montgomery County Bar. Ben has also been included in Super Lawyers consistently since 2010 and Best Lawyers since 2013. Ben is married to Kimberly Baker and they have three children. He is also

admitted to practice law in Georgia, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Washington D.C.



CLINT MOUNTAIN, 1st Vice President

Clint Mountain is managing partner with the law firm of Mountain and Mountain in Tuscaloosa. He received his JD from the University of Alabama School of Law in 2003. Since graduating law school, Clint has been admitted to: Alabama Bar 2003, Mississippi Bar 2004, Northern District of Alabama 2003, Middle District of Alabama 2003, Southern District of Alabama 2007, Northern

District of Mississippi 2007, South District of Mississippi 2007, United States 11th Circuit Court of Appeals 2005, and United States 5th District Court of Appeals 2007. Clint is currently a member of the Tuscaloosa Bar Association, Alabama Association for Justice and is a board member of Arts 'n' Autism in Tuscaloosa.



LUCY TUFTS, 2nd Vice President

Lucy E. Tufts is a partner with Cunningham Bounds, LLC in Mobile. An Alabama native, she graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center in the top 5% of her class. Her areas of practice include business litigation, complex litigation, product liability, industrial accidents and wrongful death. Lucy is a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and is a

Certified Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. Lucy has obtained over \$300 million in verdicts, judgments and settlements in the last ten years. She was recently named a "Winning Litigator" by The National Law Journal, and several of her multi-million dollar results were profiled in its special report, "Winning."



DERRICK MILLS, Secretary

Derrick A. Mills is a partner with Marsh, Rickard & Bryan in Birmingham, where he handles all types of civil litigation on behalf of plaintiffs, including product liability, insurance fraud and bad faith, wrongful death and medical malpractice. Derrick is a former Alabama State Bar Commissioner, former Alabama State Bar Committee member, Past President of the Magic City Bar Association, and

he has been annually recognized as a Super Lawyer for the State of Alabama and the Mid-South. While Derrick has obtained multi-million dollar verdicts, judgments, and settlements on behalf of his clients, he is most proud of giving back to the community. Derrick and his wife, Tamesha, created a foundation and award thousands annually to students at Fayette High School, the University of North Alabama, and the University of Alabama School of Law.



CHRISTY CROW, Treasurer

Christy practices product liability and personal injury law with Jinks Crow, P.C. While practicing primarily in Alabama and Georgia, Christy has been involved in litigation throughout the country during her 26 year career, representing individuals and families whose lives have been impacted by the wrongful acts of others. Christy served as the President of the Alabama State Bar

in 2019-2020 and is currently serving as the Treasurer of ALAJ and the Secretary of the Southeastern Chapters of the American Board of Trial Advocates (SEABOTA). She was recognized as one of the Best Lawyers in America and is a fierce advocate for mental health awareness in the legal profession. She is married to Van Wadsworth and they have three children and a son-in-law.



ERIK HENINGER, Immediate Past President

Erik Heninger concentrates his practice on civil litigation focusing on catastrophic injuries, medical negligence, trucking and nursing home litigation. Erik serves as an Officer of the Alabama Association for Justice and represents the 10th Judicial Circuit as an Alabama State Bar Commissioner. He is a member of the Alabama Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA);

has been named as one of the "Top 50 Lawyers" in Alabama; is the author of numerous articles, including "A Brief Analysis of Nonverbal Communication in the Courtroom," published in Alabama Trial Lawyers Journal, and teaches trial advocacy topics nationwide. Erik is a Fellow of the American Association of Justice's National College of Advocacy.

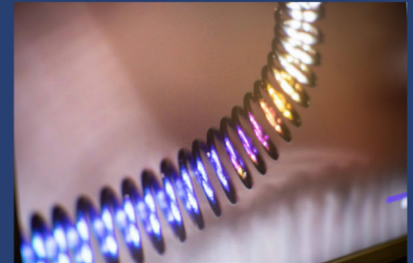
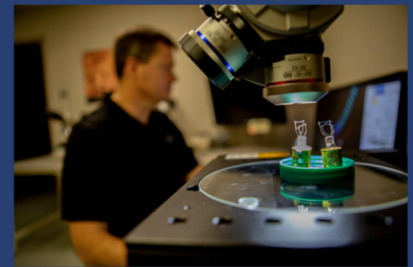


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Journal

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Wesley Laird
ALAJ President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wesley Laird". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we rocked out a few feet from the runway where Mick Jagger was strutting and gyrating as he sang one of the Rolling Stones' biggest hits in Nashville, "Come Together," a special feeling came over me. My wife, Deidra, my daughter, and two of my closest friends and colleagues, who just happen to be leaders in ALAJ, female, and two of the best lawyers I know, were going wild. It suddenly occurred to me how special this event was, shared with them, their spouses and significant others.

When we "Come Together," positive energy results. Under Erik Heninger's leadership, the board and officers came together last year for a board retreat that resulted in innovative changes to ALAJ that strengthen our organization. With hard work from staff, officers, and board members, we added a number of partner firms, firms that commit more money each year to supporting the work and overhead of ALAJ. Many of the new partner firms were small firms, broadening the base of the organization. We have truly "come together" as a group to strengthen us all.

Some major ideas were born at the retreat and we began implementing them. Nathan Harris had a brainchild as we struggled to find ways to involve more young members in a meaningful way. With his leadership, we started the ELITE Academy with our first ten young lawyers, who committed a year to being exposed to all we do. We turned a page to become more transparent, recognizing all our members should know the lengths the staff, officers, and board members go to protect the rights of our members, on limited staff, money, and time resources.

Ginger, our CEO, is always preaching that we have to be ready for the unexpected. Or, as my partner, David Baker, says when I accuse him of being paranoid, "just because you're paranoid doesn't mean they aren't out to get you." As we approached the legislative session, we lost a key staff member. Then two months later, we suddenly lost Ginger's best friend and our long-time lobbyist, Amy Herring. But Amy, who was a huge Rolling Stones fan, would have said, "y'all just need to come together." And we did.

Johnnie Smith stepped up in a major way, the officers stepped up, and our other lobbyists worked hard to preserve our injured clients' rights to the courtroom and the scales of justice. This was no small task as we faced tough battles in dram shop and roadbuilder legislation, plus the plethora of bills with immunity language for specific organizations, businesses, or industries.

With the unexpected events and limited resources, some of the innovative ideas had to wait. But after a hugely successful annual conference in Destin, we are now moving forward with implementation again. We have transitioned bookkeeping to QuickBooks, and outsourced it to Abacus, a Forge company. Johnnie Smith is overseeing a website redesign, which will enable us to accept credit cards with ease, and we are working toward an auto-billing and auto-payment system, with the help of Tom Sinclair, which will alleviate many issues with renewing membership each year.

We were on the road this fall. We just had a successful Emerging Leaders Retreat in Guntersville, incorporating a legislative immersive experience as we continue to build relationships with our state legislators. We hosted legislative leaders in Gulf Shores, continuing our efforts to educate them on what we do and how we help those who need it most in Alabama.

We hit the road on the newly branded "Justice Tour," bringing a short CLE with lasting

{ **LEADERSHIP** | *President Message* }

implications for small and large practices regarding cell phone and digital forensics in trial practice. We hit some areas hard that are growing and have not gotten as much attention as others from us, spending time with our members and potential new members in social settings. And we kicked off a timely campaign to increase TRIAL membership and contributions.

As we “come together, right now,” recognizing there is strength in numbers, we will be laser focused on the appellate court races in 2024, which has been my primary focus for the past year. There are five Alabama Supreme Court seats, including the Chief Justice seat, up for election. We continue to concentrate on ensuring that our clients get fair treatment as we seek a path to justice.

Finally, October 5 has passed. And there is never an October 5 that goes by that I don't think of 1985, my last semester of law school. That day changed a lot of lives in my family. I got the call at 10 a.m. that Saturday that my mother, who was pulling a water trailer to the farm for my dad had been in a head-on collision and was still trapped. She had been hit by a kid who had spent the night drinking with his girlfriend. Twelve weeks of in-patient hospitalization with multiple surgeries on her entire body and

rehab, she survived and walked again. Her entire body had been crushed between the dash of the Ford pickup and the seat. She had a brain injury that altered her personality and likely resulted 18 years later in early dementia.

I knew then I wanted to be a trial lawyer. My path to justice has been long, but it has been a passionate journey, starting with the farm outside Florala, then hanging a shingle in Opp in Covington County in 1987. Here we are today. I am humbled to be your President and servant this year. We may make mistakes along this path; we all do, but we will always put you and your clients first. I am always open to a phone call, an email, or a visit. We will be transparent. We will be accessible. We will continue to “Come Together” to lead and strengthen the Alabama Association for Justice.

Journal Cover: Wes and Deidra Laird on the shores of Lake Jackson in Florala, in the shadows of the newest branch of Southern Independent Bank, which Wes helped form in 2006, and standing in Florala City Park. Laird served as attorney for Florala and was instrumental in the transfer of Florala State Park from the State of Alabama to the City of Florala.

{ **Building Committee & Contributors** }

Many thanks to our members and firms who have generously contributed to the ALAJ building fund. We hope that you are enjoying the House of Mayors as much as we do. If you or your firm are interested in contributing to the building fund, please contact Cathy Givan at 334-262-4974 or cathy@alabamajustice.org.

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For the Lord is righteous, He loves justice. Psalm 117

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Charles E. Robinson, Jr.
S. Shay Samples
Jonathan C. Sapp, Sr.
Penn and Seaborn, L.L.C.
Bobby Segall
Roman Ashley Sihal
In Honor of Tommy H. Siniard
W. Roger Smith, III
Taylor Martino, P.C.
James J. Thompson, Jr.
C. Gibson Vance *
Stewart Vance
Will O. (Trip) Walton III
Navan Ward, Jr.
In Honor of Janet & Buck Watson
David G. Winters, Jr.
Frank Woodson
In Honor of Carlton T. Wynn

* Past President

PAST PRESIDENTS

of The Alabama Association for Justice

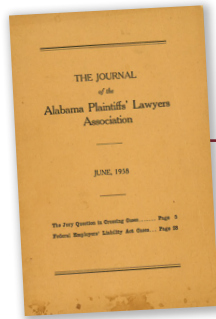
1953-54	W. E. Brobston (Deceased)	1977-78	William W. Smith Birmingham	2001-02	Randall Haynes Alexander City
1954-55	Francis H. Hare, Sr. (Deceased)	1978-79	Ted Taylor Birmingham	2002-03	Kenneth W. Hooks Birmingham
1955-56	John C. Godbold (Deceased)	1979-80	John David Knight Cullman	2003-04	David Marsh Birmingham
1956-57	Waldrop Windham (Deceased)	1980-81	Warren L. Hammond, Jr. (Deceased)	2004-05	Tom Edwards Montgomery
1957-58	Glen T. Bashore (Deceased)	1981-82	Lanny S. Vines (Deceased)	2005-06	Scott Powell Birmingham
1958-59	Frank J. Tipler (Deceased)	1982-83	James A. Yance Mobile	2006-07	Ralph Cook Birmingham
1959-60	Richard L. Jones (Deceased)	1983-84	Ralph Hornsby (Deceased)	2007-08	Robert F. Prince Tuscaloosa
1960-61	George Hawkins (Deceased)	1984-85	Alva Caine Birmingham	2008-09	C. Gibson Vance Montgomery
1961-62	Roscoe B. Hogan (Deceased)	1985-86	Gregory S. Cusimano Gadsden	2009-10	Toby D. Brown Mobile
1962-63	Robert T. Cunningham (Deceased)	1986-87	Clay Alspaugh (Deceased)	2010-11	G. Courtney French Birmingham
1963-64	Howell Heflin (Deceased)	1987-88	L. Andrew Hollis Birmingham	2011-12	Rebekah Keith McKinney Huntsville
1964-65	Truman Hobbs (Deceased)	1988-89	Larry W. Morris Alexander City	2012-13	Clay Hornsby Birmingham
1965-66	Neal C. Newell (Deceased)	1989-90	C. Delaine Mountain Tuscaloosa	2013-14	Jeff Rickard Birmingham
1966-67	Richard Bounds (Deceased)	1990-91	John T. Crowder, Jr. Mobile	2014-15	Mike Ermert (Deceased)
1967-68	Carey Walker, Sr. (Deceased)	1991-92	Lloyd W. Gathings, II Birmingham	2015-16	Josh Wright Birmingham
1968-69	Sidney Fuller (Deceased)	1992-93	John E. Higginbotham (Deceased)	2016-17	Ken Riley Birmingham
1969-70	T. Eric Embry (Deceased)	1993-94	W. Lee Pittman Birmingham	2017-18	Frank Woodson Mobile
1970-71	Albert W. Copeland (Deceased)	1994-95	John W. Haley Birmingham	2018-19	Steve Nicholas Mobile
1971-72	Francis H. Hare, Jr. (Deceased)	1995-96	James R. Knight Cullman	2019-20	Joshua P. Hayes Tuscaloosa
1972-73	Ernest C. Hornsby Birmingham	1996-97	William L. Utsey (Deceased)	2020-21	Rip Andrews Birmingham
1973-74	David B. Cauthen (Deceased)	1997-98	James R. Pratt, III Birmingham	2021-22	Gina Coggin Gadsden
1974-75	Richard Jordan (Deceased)	1998-99	Gregory B. Breedlove Mobile	2022-23	Erik Heninger Birmingham
1975-76	Edward L. Hardin, Jr. Birmingham	1999-2000	Keith Givens Dothan		
1976-77	Robert L. Byrd, Jr. (Deceased)	2000-01	Tyrone Means (Deceased)		



Ginger Avery
ALAJ Chief
Executive Officer

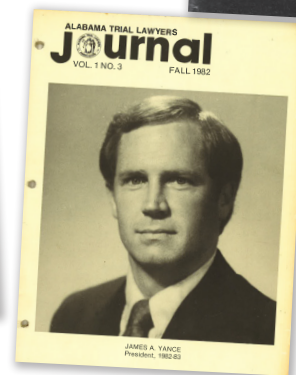
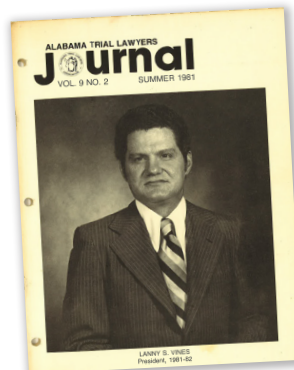
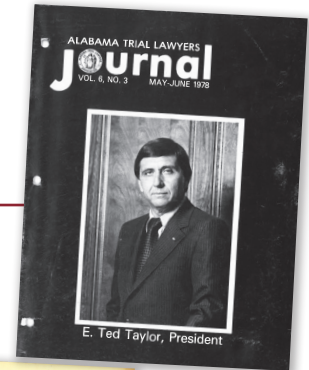
CEO'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that our beloved Journal is over 65 years old! As staff members, we look forward each year to working with the President to bring their special cover to life, and this year did not disappoint. The stunning cover image also gave us an opportunity to reflect on previous Journal covers and to note how they have evolved along with our organization.

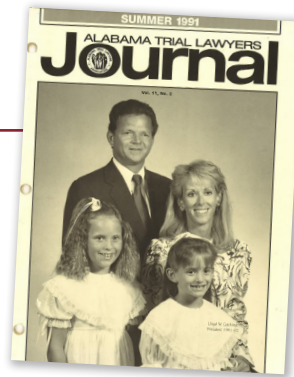


In the early days, we were the Plaintiff Attorneys Association, and our covers were plain and spare.

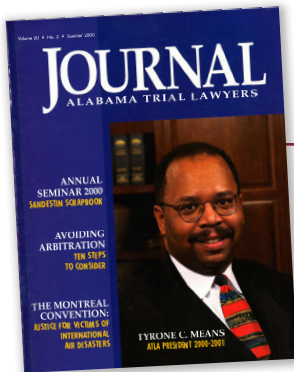
In the 1970s and 1980s, we turned our attention toward the Presidents...



...and the 1990's brought up our family covers.



Entering the new millennium, we stepped up our production game and began many firsts.



Our first Black President... Tyrone Means

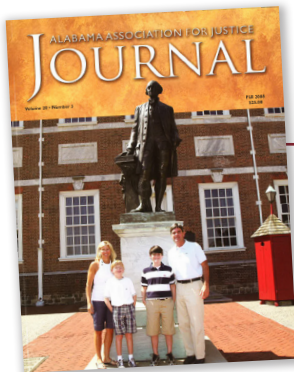
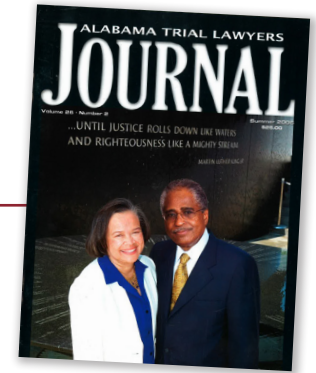


... a first classroom of students...

... a first generational photo...



...a location photo...



...a trip to Philadelphia...



...a trip to the beach



It is great to reminisce on these covers and our presidents through the years. Everyone's cover is unique and amazing like their leadership, and we wish we could share each. If you want to see the full spectacle, we welcome you to stop by our office for a stroll down memory lane. We offer sincere thanks to all of you and your families.



...and plenty of first families.



We recently discussed the principle of giving. Our lesson was on the giving of the five talents, the two talents, and the one talent and how we should all do our best. Our lessons often remind me of our mission, and with that in mind, we ask you to devote your gifts and talents to your professional organization. Contribute to TRIAL, apply for the ELITE Academy, or be a Sustaining Member and a Partner Firm. Be a part of our leadership team. Every talent you possess is needed on our journey for justice. Reach out to be a part of this amazing experience. (ginger@alabamajustice.org)

THE LEGAL PAD



Cathy Givan
ALAJ Administrative
Chief of Staff

This is an announcement section that will give our members a chance to publicize new members of their firm, new partners in the firm, address changes, birth announcements and deaths. It can also be used to announce a lawyer's civic and community honors and accolades. For instance, if one of our members is elected president of a local civic club, it could be announced in this section. The Legal Pad is not designed to discuss cases, settlements or jury awards. It is designed to keep our members informed and up-to-date on their legal counterparts. All entries must be approved by the Journal committee and should be submitted by email to cathy@alabamajustice.org. The deadlines for submitting these tidbits will be announced on the list serve and they will appear in each Journal. We look forward to hearing from you!

Cathy Givan

Congratulations to **Brannon Buck**, 148th President of the Alabama State Bar.

STONE CROSBY, P.C. is pleased to announce that **Ivan E. Ingram** recently joined the firm as an associate. Mr. Ingram earned his bachelor's degree from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina and his J.D. from the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in May 2020. Also, joining the firm as an associate, **Caroline E. Pope**. Ms. Pope earned her bachelor's degree from the University of South Alabama and his J.D. from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law.



STONE CROSBY, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Marsh Rickard & Bryan LLC is pleased to announce **Jamie Cory** has joined the firm as an associate.

FARRIS, RILEY & PITT LLP
PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEYS

Farris, Riley & Pitt, LLP is pleased to announce their new location to The Gray Building, 1728 3rd Avenue N., Fifth Floor, Birmingham, AL 35203

Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton is pleased to announce their new location to 800 Shades Creek Parkway, Suite 800, Birmingham, AL 35209

HARE | WYNN
NEWELL & NEWTON

Lawyers Helping People—Since 1890



Hawthorne Atchison Riddle is pleased to announce that William K "Bill" Abell has recently partnered with the firm to handle all Workers' Compensation matters.



The **Nomberg Law Firm** was honored by Heart Gallery Alabama with the Exceptional Heart Award at the Heart Gallery Hero's celebration. Heart Gallery Alabama is a nonprofit organization that connects youth in foster care with caring adults who provide the stability and guidance they need to thrive.

Congratulations to ALAJ Members who received awards at the Alabama State Bar's Annual Meeting. **Rebekah McKinney** – Michael D. Ermert Award • **Cole Portis** – J. Anthony "Tony" McLain Award **Elizabeth Smithart** – President's Award • **Haron Turner** – William D. Scruggs, Jr. Service to Bar Award



Conchin, Cole, Jordan & Sherrod is pleased to announce that **Patrick Lamar** has joined the CCJS family! Patrick brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and passion to our practice.



Congratulations to **Ashley Peinhardt** on her recent induction to the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA).

Cusimano, Roberts, Mills & Knowles, LLC firm and community were moved by the passing of State Senator Larry Keener in April 2022. His memory in their firm, like the scent of his office, is as timeless as the stories they will continue to tell. The firm is pleased to recognize the recent update to "Alabama Tort Law (seventh Edition)" by Partner Attorney Michael Roberts, initially published in 1990, and for which each year since he has authored a supplement or revised edition.

CRM&K
CUSIMANO, ROBERTS,
MILLS, & KNOWLTON, LLC



Congratulations to **Steve Goozee** who has been selected to serve as Chair-Elect of the Workers' Compensation Section of the Alabama State Bar for 2023-24.

Memorials~

Richard Jordan | ALAJ Past President 1974-1975 | **Charles Bennett Long** | Mobile, AL
Ralph Hornsby, Sr. | ALAJ Past President 1983-84 | **David Lee Graves** | Birmingham, AL
Warren L. Hammond, Jr. | ALAJ Past President 1980-1982

CONNECT COLLABORATE ALAJ WINTER *Celebrate* SUMMIT 2024

Join us for the 2024 ALAJ Winter Summit:

Connect, Collaborate & Celebrate

on February 7-9, 2024. at the Grand Bohemian Mountain Brook. This year's Winter Summit agenda promises interesting topics such as "Exploring the Power & Perils of ChatGPT & Beyond" from Joshua Weaver with the Texas Opportunity & Justice Incubator and an NIL Update from ALAJ TRIAL Trustees Chair Leon Ashford. Hear from ALAJ members and non-members alike with presentations from Derrick Mills, Brandon Bishop, Steve Nicholas, Brett Turnbull, and Leila Watson to the Annual Greg Cusimano Symposium featuring speakers like Robyn Wishart, Wishart Brain & Spine Law, in Vancouver, BC.

Scan
THE QR CODE
TO SIGN UP!



Save the Date

FEBRUARY 7-9, 2024

THE GRAND BOHEMIAN | MOUNTAIN BROOK

STAFF MEETING



GINGER AVERY

Ginger Avery is the Chief Executive Officer of the Alabama Association for Justice. Avery is a graduate of Auburn University. Avery is a Past President of the National Association of Trial Lawyer Executives. Yellowhammer has recognized Avery in the top 50 lobbyist and consultants of influence in Alabama for the last 5 years. She is married to Ret. LTC W. Jack Buckner and they reside in Prattville and attend the Grace United Methodist Church there.



JOHNNIE SMITH

Johnnie Smith is the Chief Development Officer for the Alabama Association for Justice. She just celebrated her 10 year anniversary with ALAJ in February. Johnnie is responsible for planning developing, implementing, analyzing, membership services, public relations, and communications for the Alabama Association for Justice. She lobbies the Alabama House, Senate and Constitutional officers during the legislative session.

She received her B.A. in political science from Morehead State University and her J.D. from Jones School of Law. She has two daughters, Jordan and Abby and in 2022 became a grandmother to Charlie Grey.



CATHY GIVAN

Cathy Givan Peterson holds an Associate in Applied Technology degree from H. Council Trenholm State Community College and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Troy University -Montgomery. She's an ALAJ employee of 41 years. During her tenure, Cathy has been a lobbyist and recognized by the Alabama Legislative Black Caucus as "A Trial Blazer and Successful Lobbyist" and by Troy University's Registered Alabama Lobbyist. Cathy received ALAJ's Spirit Award in 2022.

Cathy reached Orange Belt Level in Taekwondo, sings 7-Shape Notes, and crochets. She is married to David Peterson and has an adult son, Jonathan Givan.



JAMES ABLE

James is a Political Science student at Auburn University at Montgomery. He recently stepped into a full-time role as the Deputy Director of Development for ALAJ. James volunteers as Scoutmaster to Boy Scout Troop 25 in his native Prattville. Outside of the office he makes the most of weekends and offdays to be outdoors. His goal is to thru-hike the Appalachian Trail.



Caroline Clark
ACJF Executive Director



Alabama
**CIVIL
JUSTICE
FOUNDATION**

ACJF Update

A Message from the Executive Director

The first three quarters of 2023 have been a busy time for the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation! During this period we have made grant distributions, hired a new Executive Director (Caroline Clark), attended the ALAJ and ASB annual meetings, started an extensive review of our grantmaking and impact, and embarked on crafting a strategic plan for our next decade of work. Our strategic planning process will involve conversations with our stakeholders (e.g., attorneys, nonprofit partners, legal aid and volunteer lawyer programs, etc.) and discussions of how to broaden our base of support and our investment in programs that improve access to justice and strengthen our families and communities. Through this planning process, we will craft strategies to grow the amount of funding we have to invest, formulate ways to neutralize the significant variations in interest rates on our grantmaking, and identify opportunities to deepen our impact.

We spent a significant part of August and September meeting with 90+ nonprofits who have previously applied for funding from ACJF. Nonprofits were grateful for the funding and the support from the legal community. From our conversations we learned about the increased need for their services, growing challenges in securing funding, ways ACJF can more broadly support their work, and opportunities to improve/streamline our funding application and reporting processes. We will factor in this input as we head into our grantmaking and strategic planning work.

We also visited with a couple of our recent grantees, learning about the emerging impact of their work that we look forward to sharing with you in the coming months.



Alabama Appleseed is delving deeply into our state's structure for fines and fees for civil infractions, and have unearthed interesting information about collections and compliance. These lessons have provided a framework to

discuss the effectiveness of the current system and to explore possible alternatives.

iHICA!

Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama (HICA) is working with clients in the Birmingham area to provide the support needed to escape domestic violence, foreclosures and evictions. In addition, through their work and partnerships with other agencies, HICA is providing access to mental health support, housing and financial counseling, college/career readiness, entrepreneurship and small business support, legal immigration services, and support to victims of crime and domestic violence. Nearly 70% of their clients are female and 95% are low income.

Distributions from IOLTA accounts have enabled ACJF to distribute more than \$15M during our first three decades of work. The recipient organizations have increased access to justice, assisted children in at-risk situations, helped victims of domestic violence, and provided opportunities for adults to attain job skills that equip them to escape the cycle of poverty. Legal Services of Alabama and our volunteer lawyers programs help many families avert crisis by navigating bankruptcy, homelessness, and daunting consumer issues. They could not do this work without you! If you are not already involved or if you're struggling to fully embrace the retirement life, please consider reaching out to one of these amazing organizations to volunteer your time and talents. Each of these groups is seeing significant increases in client numbers and requests for assistance.

as Alabama School **ra** Readiness Alliance

Our investment in programs like Family Resource Centers (most notably, an expansion grant to the Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement) and the Alabama School Readiness Alliance provide children and families throughout Alabama with the knowledge and skills for bright futures. As a founding partner with both of these organizations, we have seen huge dividends on both of



these investments, and we expect that to continue for years to come.

As we near the end of 2023, ACJF is pleased to report that our IOLTA collections have continued to increase. These increased collections position us to make deeper investments in the Access to Justice work and the work of other nonprofits that assist Alabamians in creating stronger and more secure futures for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Our grantmaking for 2024 kicked off on October 1, when we opened our grant cycle for the Access to Justice grants. The grant cycle ended October 31 with 22 applications for consideration. We expect to conduct site visits and make funding decisions by the end of November. Concurrently, we are working to determine our focus area(s) for our second 2024 funding cycle – with announcements anticipated to occur December 1.

On a personal note, this summer I assumed the role of Executive Director of the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation. I bring 31 years of experience in the nonprofit world. My experience includes grants and scholarships management, guidance for emerging nonprofits, program development and delivery, and fundraising. I have worked for community and family foundations, start-up nonprofits, and state affiliates of two national nonprofits (Prevent Blindness and Teach for America Alabama).

My work in the nonprofit arena has helped students finalize their college/university plans, teachers determine their next chapter outside of the classroom, people access vision care, nonprofits strengthen their program planning and evaluation, and organizations reach their fundraising goals. I thrive on connecting organizations that might benefit from collaborating, and I am energized by supporting people who are passionate about their efforts to make the world a better place.

Thank you for the warm welcome as I have been introduced to your community. I welcome this opportunity to work you, the incredible lawyers who created ACJF as a vehicle to strengthen Alabamians' access to justice. I look forward to finding ways for ACJF to leverage our funds and nonprofit partnerships to have an even greater impact on strengthening families and communities.

Online SILENT AUCTION

*We need your help to make
online auction a success!*



**DONATIONS CAN BE EMAILED TO
jsmith@alabamajustice.org**

BID

AUCTION ITEMS ARE NEEDED.

Types of donations given in the past are:

- Trips
- Wine
- Event tickets
- Hunting cabins
- Beach homes
- Jewelry
- Clothing items
- Themed baskets
- Art work
- Restaurant gift cards
- Digital gift cards

**AUCTION DATES:
November 27th - December 11th**



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WE TURN DISPUTES INTO RESOLUTIONS

LEFT TO RIGHT

Judge David Jordan* • Steve Ford • Richard Lord
Charlie Peppler • Allen Schreiber • Gaynor St. John • Phillip McCallum
Judge Bob Vance* • Judge Jake Walker* • Jonathan Lowe

*RETIRED

We welcome former litigator **Charles V. Peppler** (Pensacola) and retired Circuit Judge **Jacob A. Walker III** (Opelika).



Charlie Peppler's value as a mediator and arbitrator stems from his more than 45 years in private litigation and local government advocacy involving personal injury, construction, employment, and breach of contract.



Judge Jake Walker joined Schreiber ADR after four distinguished terms on the Lee County Circuit Court. The Cumberland School of Law graduate has more than 30 years of legal experience in civil and insurance litigation.



Convenient, Online Scheduling

Schedule your next ADR session using our online calendar at schreiberadr.com/calendar, or call us at **855-754-8807**.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Business of the Association is conducted by management, under the direction of seven Officers and seventeen members of the Board of Directors. The Board consists of attorneys that represent several demographics and practice areas within the civil justice system.



Drew Barnett

Drew Barnett is a shareholder of Belt, Bruner & Barnett, P.C., in Birmingham. Drew's practice focuses on single-event personal injury and wrongful death matters throughout Alabama. Drew was recently inducted into the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum, and he has repeatedly been named as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers and a Top Attorney by B-Metro Magazine. Drew currently serves as the President of the Emerging Leaders Caucus of the Alabama Association for Justice. He is married to Hayden, and they have two daughters, Raughley and Vivi.



Gregory A. Brockwell

Greg is a business litigation attorney based in Birmingham, Alabama, with the firm of Brockwell Smith LLC. His practice focuses on representing local individuals and businesses in disputes with their business partners, banks, insurance companies, competitors, and the like. Greg has been recognized by Super Lawyers in Business Litigation, by Best Lawyers in America in Construction Litigation, and as a Top Attorney by B-Metro Magazine. He is a Board Member of the Alabama State Bar's "Business Torts and Antitrust Section." He is also the founding chairperson of the "Business Torts" caucus of the Alabama Association for Justice, serving on the ALAJ's Board since 2014.



Robert "Bo" Bruner

Bo Bruner is a member of Belt, Bruner & Barnett in Birmingham. Bo focuses his practice on complex personal injury and wrongful death cases, including products liability claims, construction related injuries, commercial vehicle cases and medical malpractice. He and his firm have also developed a niche practice handling third-party negligent/bad faith failure to settle claims against liability insurers on behalf of defendants financially devastated by verdicts in excess of their insurance coverage. Bo is board certified as a Civil Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. He was recently selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America for Plaintiff's Products Liability Litigation.



Dell Cross

graduated from Auburn University in 1985, with honors, and from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1989. Dell has represented clients in state and federal courts in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Massachusetts. He represents plaintiffs in various types of cases including wrongful death, trucking litigation, drug and medical device litigation, toxic exposure, products liability, nursing home neglect, insurance fraud and bad faith, automobile accidents and work related injuries. Dell serves on the Executive Committee of the Alabama Association for Justice and is a member of the American Association for Justice, the American Bar Association, and the Alabama State Bar. He also has served on several state and local bar planning committees and panels.



Beau Darley

is a principal with Beasley Allen and his practice focuses on litigation involving pharmaceutical drugs and medical devices. He is a former Chair of the Emerging Leaders section of the Alabama Association for Justice, former member of the Executive Board of the Young Lawyers Section for the Alabama State Bar, and previously served multiple terms on the Board of Directors for the Montgomery County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation and also serves on the State Bar's Governmental Relations Liaison Committee. Beau is married to Nikki and they have two boys, David and Hayes.



Douglas A. Dellaccio, Jr.

Douglas A. Dellaccio, Jr. is a Principal with Cory Watson Attorneys in Birmingham. He has extensive class action and mass tort experience with a particular focus on products liability of biomedical devices pharmaceutical drugs. Doug serves on the Board of the Directors of the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation and on the Early Warning panel of Mountain Brook City Schools. He has been recognized by Super Lawyers, is ranked one of Birmingham's Top Attorneys by Birmingham Magazine and is AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Doug is a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Birmingham School of Law.



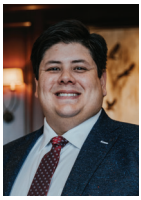
Kira Fonteneau

Kira Fonteneau is the Managing Partner of Barrett & Farahany's Birmingham Office. Kira represents employees in disputes against their employers and individuals whose civil rights have been violated by law enforcement. She is a 2005 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law and a 1998 graduate of the University of Virginia. Before joining Barrett & Farahany, Kira served as Jefferson County, Alabama's first Public Defender. Kira has also served in leadership on the Alabama State Bar Board of Bar Commissioners, the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation, the American Diabetes Association Legal Advocacy Sub-Committee, and the Birmingham Bar Association.



Ben Ford

Ben is a partner with the law firm of Marsh, Rickard & Bryan in Birmingham, Alabama. His practice focuses on personal injury and wrongful death, including motor vehicle and trucking collisions, medical malpractice, products liability and workplace incidents. He graduated with honors, both undergraduate and law school, from the University of Alabama. Ben is a former Chair of ALAJ's Emerging Leaders Caucus and has served multiple terms on the ALAJ Board of Directors. He is an active member of the Birmingham and Alabama State Bar Associations, having served multiple terms on the Executive Board of the Young Lawyers Section for both organizations. Ben is a Fellow in the American Bar Foundation and has been recognized as a SuperLawyers Mid-South Rising Star and one of Alabama's "Top 40 Under 40" and "Top 10 under 40" lawyers by multiple organizations.



E. Nathan Harris

Nathan Harris is a dynamic blend of South American heritage and Southern charm with passion for serving the Hispanic community. The Firm Abogados Centro Legal was built on the principles of trust, advocacy, and an unwavering commitment to the rights of the Hispanic community. Nathan's ability to communicate fluently in Spanish and English has been instrumental in positioning his firm. Nathan specializes in assisting Plaintiffs with catastrophic personal injury cases in addition to having several staff immigration attorneys. The firm's bicultural capacities have been key in fostering a comfortable environment for clients who are navigating the U.S. legal system for the first time. His life's work serves as a testament to the power of justice and relentless advocacy.



Brent Jordan

Brent, a partner at Conchin, Cole, Jordan & Sherrod in Huntsville, Alabama, began his legal career as a Judicial Clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. It was there he became committed to helping those in need. His legal practice encompasses serious injury, car accidents, insurance disputes, wrongful death, and disability claims. Embracing the motto "the law isn't settled until it's settled right!" Brent actively explores innovative legal applications to assist his clients. Proudly affiliated with the Alabama and Tennessee state bars, he balances his legal career with a lifelong passion for playing and coaching ice hockey and spending time with his wife and daughters.



Charles "Chuck" James

Chuck is a co-founder of the Serious Injury Law Group. He is a native of Mobile and attended Rhodes College, where he played football and was active in student government. He went on to earn his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Alabama. In 2013, Chuck and Gerald Brooks founded what would eventually become the Serious Injury Law Group, where they focus on wrongful death, commercial vehicle wrecks and medical malpractice. Chuck has obtained numerous large verdicts on behalf of his clients. He serves as a Board member for many charitable and professional organizations. He is married to LLo-ria James, a Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge.



Rebekah McKinney

Rebekah McKinney earned a B.S. from Vanderbilt University in 1991. She received her law degree from the University of Alabama School Of Law in 1995, where she was a member of the Bench and Bar Legal Honor Society. Ms. McKinney practices in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, tractor - trailer accidents, motorcycle accidents, nursing home negligence, civil rights, wage and hour, complex litigation/class actions, divorce, family law and custody. She is a member of the Alabama State Bar Association, the Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association, the American Association for Justice, and the Alabama Association for Justice. She was the first female President of the Alabama Association for Justice and the first female TRIAL Trustee. She is currently serving as President of the Huntsville Bar Association.



Steve Nicholas

Steve Nicholas is part of an elite group of Alabama litigators known for their skill in handling Bet-the-Company cases. His work revolves around complex litigation claims including business disputes, class actions, mass torts and major construction disputes. He is past president of the Alabama Association of Justice, the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation, the Paul Brock chapter of the American Inns of Court and serves on the Executive Committee of the South Alabama Trial Lawyers Association. Steve formerly served on the Board of Governors of the American Association of Justice, is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the Alabama Bar Foundation, and the Litigation Counsel of America.



David P. Nomberg

David P. Nomberg has been a member in good standing with the Alabama State Bar since 2002. David primarily represents injured workers throughout Alabama in on the job accidents and workers' compensation cases. David has earned an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell's peer-review rating in civil practice, personal injury and workers' compensation. He has been selected as a Super Lawyer for workers' compensation since 2013. David is the Treasurer of the Workers' Injury Law and Advocacy Group (WILG) and was selected as the recipient of the 2018 President's Award by WILG. He is the immediate past Chairman of the Board of Directors for Heart Gallery Alabama. David is a partner in the Nomberg Law Firm in Birmingham, Alabama.



Ashley Peinhardt

Ashley is a partner with the law firm of Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton, LLP. She obtained her law degree from the Cumberland School of Law. She is an Adjunct Professor at Cumberland, teaching Trial Advocacy and Jury Selection. Ashley is a member of the Leadership Alabama Initiative. A Past President of the Alabama Association for Justice Emerging Leaders. A member of Class 5 of the Birmingham Bar Association Future Leaders Forum. She was selected to join Class 12 of The Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum. Her accomplishments include: "Top Women Lawyers" (2015-2023) by B-Metro Magazine; named to the Top 25 Medical Malpractice Trial Lawyers by The National Trial Lawyers.



Leslie W. Rubio

Leslie is the managing partner at Rubio Law Firm, P. C. and focuses her practice on serious injury, wrongful death, Dram Shop and business litigation claims in addition to fighting for access to justice for the immigrant population of Alabama. Leslie graduated Cum Laude from the University of Montevallo with a degree in Elementary Education and earned a Juris Doctor at Birmingham School of Law. Leslie has been an active member of the Birmingham Bar Association since 2009 serving on the Solo/Small Firm Board, Entertainment Committee, Membership Committee, Scholarship Committee and Nominations Committee. She also serves on the Board for the Birmingham Bar Foundation and is active in the Alabama Bar Association, the American Association for Justice and the Alabama Association for Justice. She is married to Freddy Rubio.



Tom Sinclair

Tom Sinclair is the founding partner of Sinclair Law Firm, LLC (www.sinclairlawfirm.com) in Birmingham, Al. Tom has spent two decades helping people obtain their group and individual life, disability, pension and health benefits. He serves as counsel to the physicians, attorneys and other professionals in his community who need assistance in obtaining their private disability insurance benefits. He spends a lot of time handling ERISA claims in litigation and has served as lead class counsel for hundreds of thousands fighting for their pension benefits.



Ginger Avery

Ginger Avery is the Chief Executive Officer of the Alabama Association for Justice. Avery is a graduate of Auburn University. Avery is a Past President of the National Association of Trial Lawyer Executives. Yellowhammer has recognized Avery in the top 50 lobbyist and consultants of influence in Alabama for the last 5 years. She is married to Ret. LTC W. Jack Buckner and they reside in Prattville and attend the Grace United Methodist Church there.



TRIAL

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Leon Ashford has been a trial lawyer for over 46 years. Throughout the course of his career, Mr. Ashford has a proven record of consistently obtaining multi-million dollar jury verdicts and settlements for his clients, their families, and their small businesses. Though he has always focused his practice on complex litigation involving catastrophic personal injuries and wrongful death, he has recently been called upon to represent family-owned and closely held businesses in litigation which threatened generations of success. He earned his law degree from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1973. Honored by his peers as a trial lawyer, Mr. Ashford is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the Alabama Law Foundation.



Toby Brown is a partner with the firm of Cunningham Bounds. For more than thirty years he has represented plaintiffs in a wide variety of cases. Mr. Brown is certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy, is a Fellow with the International Society of Barristers, is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is listed annually in The Best Lawyers in America® and in Super Lawyers. Mr. Brown is a Past President of the Alabama Association for Justice. He is actively involved in many professional and community organizations. Born and raised in Mobile, he received his law degree from the University of Alabama.



Rebekah McKinney earned a B.S. from Vanderbilt University in 1991. She received her law degree from the University of Alabama School Of Law in 1995, where she was a member of the Bench and Bar Legal Honor Society. Ms. McKinney practices in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, tractor - trailer accidents, motorcycle accidents, nursing home negligence, civil rights, wage and hour, complex litigation/class actions, divorce, family law and custody. She is a member of the Alabama State Bar Association, the Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association, the American Association for Justice, and the Alabama Association for Justice. She was the first female President of the Alabama Association for Justice and the first female TRIAL Trustee. She is currently serving as President of the Huntsville Bar Association.



Jeff Rickard is a partner in the law firm of Marsh | Rickard | Bryan in Birmingham. He graduated from Auburn University in 1985 and from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law in 1989. In Jeff's 30+ year law career, he has primarily focused on complex personal injury and wrongful death matters. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA); a Fellow in the Alabama Law Foundation; and a 2023 Lawdragon 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyer. Jeff has been routinely listed in The Best Lawyers in America® and chosen on more than one occasion by it as a Plaintiff "Lawyer of the Year". He has been recognized for several years in Super Lawyers® and has received the highest possible ratings by Martindale-Hubbell.™ Jeff is a past President of the Alabama Association for Justice and the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation.



Ken Riley is a partner with Farris, Riley and Pitt. After obtaining his business degree at the University of Alabama, he went on to earn his Juris Doctorate from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University. For over twenty years, Ken has dedicated his practice to helping his clients recover after accidents. Ken actively engages in his community by providing his leadership skills to various organizations in the Birmingham area. Ken is perennially recognized by the various publications for his professional achievements. From 2016-2017, he served as Alabama Association for Justice's President and held other officer roles during his membership. Ken also served as President (2015-2016) of the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation and served on its Board of Directors for a number of years. Ken encourages support for Magic City Harvest which takes unused food from restaurants and grocery stores and delivers to the homeless shelters. Ken enjoys coaching little league.



Gibson Vance received his undergraduate degree from Troy University in 1987 and his law degree from Faulkner University's Thomas Goode Jones School of Law in Montgomery. Mr. Vance, is a shareholder in Beasley Allen, and practices in the firm's Personal Injury and Consumer Fraud sections, concentrating in actions against those who negligently or intentionally harm others. Mr. Vance served as President of the Montgomery County Bar Association, President of the Montgomery County Trial Lawyers Association, President of the Alabama Association for Justice, and President of the American Association for Justice. In addition, he is President Pro Tem of the Board of Trustees at Troy University and serves as a University Foundation Board Member and is Past President of the Alabama State Bar Association.



Drew Barnett, Emerging Leaders Representative Drew Barnett is a shareholder of Belt, Bruner & Barnett, P.C., in Birmingham. Drew's practice focuses on single-event personal injury and wrongful death matters throughout Alabama. Drew was recently inducted into the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum, and he has repeatedly been named as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers and a Top Attorney by B-Metro Magazine. Drew currently serves as the President of the Emerging Leaders Caucus of the Alabama Association for Justice. He is married to Hayden, and they have two daughters, Raughley and Vivi.



Wesley Laird, ExOfficio Wesley L. Laird started his law firm in 1987 in Covington County, now Laird, Baker & Blackstock. He has wide-ranging experience in civil practice, including fraud and banking, but has concentrated his practice in truck and tractor litigation involving catastrophic injury and wrongful death in recent years. Wes Laird served as President of the Southern Independent Bank Organizing Group in 2006 and currently serves on its Board of Directors. He is a member of AAJ and the National Trial Lawyers Association, where he has been recognized multiple years as a National Top 100 Civil Plaintiff Lawyer, and Past President of the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation. He also farms and is a musician. Wes is married to Deidra Rice Laird. They have two married daughters who have successful business careers in Huntsville.



Linda Lipsen
CEO,
American Association for Justice



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The Association for Trial Lawyers

AAJ WASHINGTON UPDATE

Our opponents are once again trying to evade accountability for injuring and killing Americans.

On September 13, the House Oversight Committee held a hearing titled, "Unsuitable Litigation: Oversight of Third-Party Litigation Funding," ostensibly intended to discuss third-party litigation funding.

Congressional supporters of the U.S Chamber of Commerce brazenly used the hearing to criticize only cases filed by consumers, workers, and patients, arguing for blanket limitations and "greater transparency" of the funding. Both the Johnson & Johnson talc cases and the opioid litigation were specifically mentioned.

Despite the hearing's supposed purpose, committee members on both sides of the aisle shined a light on the real agenda. Members called out disgraceful corporate efforts to evade accountability and denigrate victims, with many demanding responsibility from the Johnson & Johnson witness.

You can watch highlights from the hearing on our Take Justice Back channel. Please also lift up these congressional champions via social media!

AAJ will always call out our opponents' lies when they spread misinformation undermining your clients' rights. The truth will prevail, and we shall win real justice for consumers, workers, and patients.

Senate Texas Two-Step Hearing

Not long after the House Oversight hearing, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on September 19 titled, "Evading Accountability: Corporate Manipulation of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy."

The hearing, led by Chairman Durbin, exposed how companies like Johnson & Johnson and Georgia Pacific are misusing the bankruptcy code to evade responsibility for injuring and killing Americans. Testimony focused on what's most important – listening to the experiences of people who have been denied justice. Watch highlights and hear victim stories.

Corporate supporters also made their goals clear. One witness said,

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"[Bankruptcy code section] 524g needs to be amended to capture all mass tort cases," indicating that if Johnson & Johnson's abuse of the Texas two-step is embraced, corporate use of this contemptible ploy could become ubiquitous.

Our bottom line is justice. Theirs is profit. It's that simple, and we won't stand by as our opponents try to dismantle your clients' rights. We will continue to fight for people injured and killed by the actions of those who place profit before human life.

Support Petition to End Forced Arbitration

Please sign our petition (<https://p2a.co/CPuCsKv>) to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau asking for a rule to end forced arbitration in consumer finance. This supports a formal petition for rulemaking signed by AAJ and eight coalition groups. You can also spread the word on social media [here](#) and [here](#). AAJ won't rest till the rigged forced arbitration system is ended, restoring your clients' constitutional rights.

Generic Labeling Bill Introduced in U.S. Senate

AAJ strongly supports the Updated Drug Labeling for Patient Safety Act, which was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives in June by Representatives Adam Schiff and Annie Kuster. In September, Senator Chris Van Hollen introduced the Senate version of the bill. This important legislation would make patients aware more quickly of possible risks of prescription drugs, including generic drugs.

The bill directs the FDA to establish a process allowing generic drug manufacturers to update drug labeling to include new or updated safety-related information, and issue and implement a final rule with a process for conforming the labeling of brand name and generic drugs. It is a direct response to the Supreme Court's decision in *PLIVA, Inc. v. Mensing*.


Many Americans rely on generic prescription drugs, but they aren't able to make the best possible choices about their medications because their prescription labels don't warn them about new risks. AAJ urges Congress to act now on this important legislation.

AAJ Legal Affairs

AAJ amicus curiae briefs rigorously support access to justice and the right to trial by jury in state and federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court. To access AAJ amicus curiae briefs, visit www.justice.org/amicusbriefs. For more information about AAJ's legal affairs program, please email legalaaffairs@justice.org.

Fighting for All Trial Lawyers

Thank you for your ongoing support. Our goal is to provide you with tools to enhance your practice and succeed for your clients. AAJ will continue to fight for access to justice for your clients and will keep you informed about important developments. I welcome your input at advocacy@justice.org.



BILL OF RIGHTS
THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.



Mediation Time? Forge Consulting Can Help!

TOP REASONS TO BRING IN FORGE CONSULTING DURING MEDIATION:



ADDED RESOURCE

Our team acts as an additional resource in the room. From addressing inquiries about government benefits to providing real-time annuity quotes, we offer an array of indispensable services.



ACCELERATED PROCESS

By engaging early, we can accelerate the settlement planning process once the case is resolved, because your client will already be familiar with Forge Consulting.



SUPPORTIVE TEAM

We understand the highly sensitive nature of mediation. Forge Consulting will never stand in your way, we will follow your lead.



ZERO FEES

Our services will cost you nothing — we will travel and be an invaluable resource for your client's mediation at NO CHARGE.

Allow Forge Consulting to be a dependable resource for you and your client right from the beginning and find comfort in the knowledge that we will continue to stand as strong advocates long after the mediation process concludes.



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