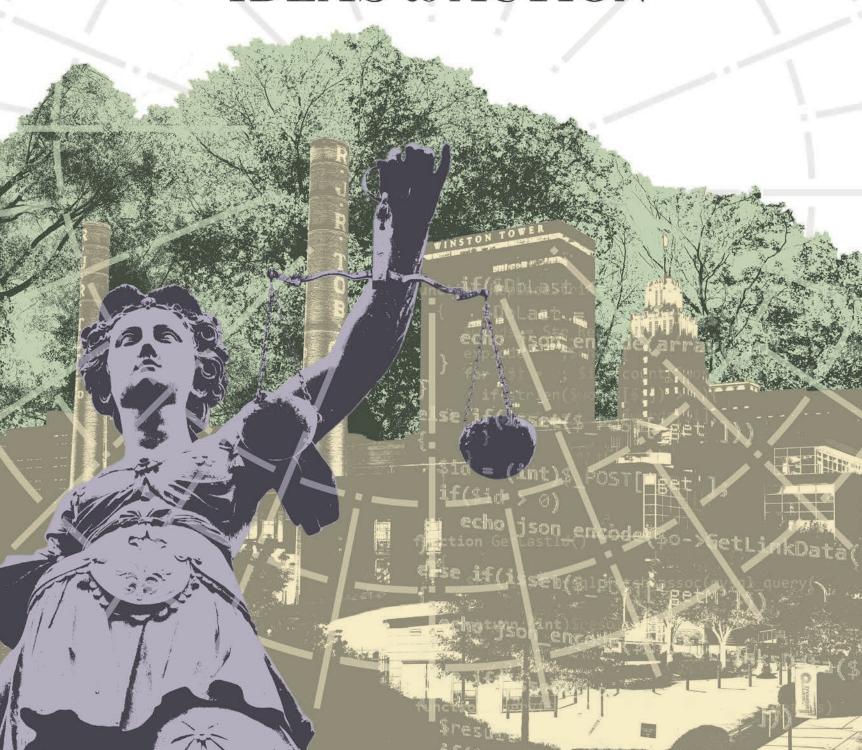
# WAKE FOREST JURIST

THE MAGAZINE OF WAKE FOREST LAW | 2022

## IDEAS to ACTION



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#### **WAKE FOREST JURIST**

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#### DEAR WAKE FOREST LAW COMMUNITY,

I am honored to join this exceptional community of students, faculty, alumni, staff, and friends as interim dean of Wake Forest University School of Law during a year of transition following Dean Jane Aiken's decision to step down as dean.

Despite having been here only a few months, I have already seen this community's dedication to Wake Forest Law. Faculty who are deeply invested in their students and alumni who support the school in numerous ways demonstrate that Wake Forest Law is a special place. Most important our students—who, after all, are our reason for being—are thriving.

This past academic year was a banner year for the Law School. We enhanced the student experience with increased events and experiential opportunities, established new clinics and hired new faculty, broke fundraising records with a number of major gifts, and welcomed our most diverse class ever—which also happens to be the class with the highest credentials in the history of Wake Forest Law. I hope you are proud of these signal achievements under the leadership of Dean Aiken. In my role as interim dean, I plan to leverage the school's existing strengths, seek out opportunities for innovation, and chart a path forward to ensure that Wake Forest Law continues to flourish.

The theme of this issue of *The Jurist* is "Ideas to Action"—an apt subject matter as we use this year to transform our vision into concrete activities that better position the school for success. I am confident that together we will create an even stronger institution.

I look forward to what this academic year brings, and I thank you for your dedication to Wake Forest Law.

Sincerely,

Nell Jessup Newton Interim Dean of the Wake Forest University School of Law





# IDEAS to ACTION

The French writer Victor Hugo said,

"There is one thing stronger than all the armies in the world, and that is an Idea whose time has come."

At Wake Forest University School of Law, we believe that ideas are just the beginning. To truly make an impact, an idea must transform into action. We are proud to witness that transformation daily across the Law School, which is why the theme of this year's *Jurist* is "Ideas to Action."

In this issue, you'll read about the many ways in which the law played a critical role in the evolution of ideas and the actionable steps that were taken to turn those ideas to real-world solutions: healthcare reform that seemed a distant dream; the intersection of technology and the law; protecting the environment through litigation; the business underpinnings of the legal profession; local leaders speaking up for community members; and so much more. Each of the stories in this issue demonstrates how the Wake Forest Law community uses ideas as a springboard—always expanding on what is possible when the law is used in new and creative ways.

What is more potent than an idea, which takes root in someone's mind, inspiring them to make change? What is more transformative than an idea, which materializes from nothing, forming into something that has the potential to make a significant impact? What is more powerful than an idea?

An idea that is turned into action. An idea whose time has come.



# LEADERSHIP & CHARACTER

#### Forming Good Lawyers

By Kenneth Townsend Scholar in Residence

Nearly fifty years ago, in the aftermath of Watergate, the legal profession was forced to confront its failures, resulting in a major overhaul of the profession's ethics rules and new requirements for law schools to teach courses in professional responsibility.

The measures and reforms of the previous generation, however, are not sufficient to meet the demands of the present. The American public views lawyers and the legal profession with skepticism, if not scorn. From observing high-profile ethical lapses to questioning seemingly mundane features of lawyer morality, skeptics of the profession are often left wondering whether lawyers have any moral code or compass whatsoever. Since lawyers play an outsized role in public life, popular distrust of the profession has widespread and pernicious effects, contributing to a broader decline in social trust in institutions and the professionals who lead them. Increasing evidence also shows that lawyers are not a particularly happy population, with higher rates of depression, suicide, and substance abuse than other professionals.

Dominant modes of legal education are too often rooted in a psychology of detachment and compliance. Law schools frequently train students to "think like lawyers" by separating their values from their work and teach students about ethics rules without equipping those students with the capacities of character needed to navigate many of the complexities

of legal practice—all of which leave students ill-prepared to assume the roles of leadership that will be expected of them throughout their careers.

How can law schools better prepare law students to succeed and to flourish?

As Wake Forest lawyers know from experience, legal education need not bracket character from knowledge or separate values from work, and law students need not graduate to become lawyers with such thin, overly technical understandings of their professional responsibility and identity.

Through a partnership between the Law School and the Program for Leadership and Character, we at Wake Forest are working to produce lawyer-leaders whose lives are distinguished by professional excellence, personal integrity, and concern for the broader public good. Toward that end, we have organized faculty development workshops, created new course offerings, designed leadership development programs for students, hosted conferences for practicing lawyers, and much more. And through a recent \$8.6M grant from the Kern Family Foundation to support leadership and character development in the professional schools at Wake Forest, we are in the process of expanding our efforts even further. We aim to be a national leader and model for leadership and character development in legal education.



This work in the Law School is occurring at an especially opportune time. In response to growing concerns about the state of legal education, the ABA passed earlier this year new standards that require law schools to aid students in "the development of a professional identity," which the ABA defines as the "values, guiding principles, and well-being practices considered foundational to successful legal practice." Since such instruction falls outside the comfort zone of many law schools, many will soon be looking for guidance on how to satisfy new ABA requirements. My hope is that we at Wake Forest can be a resource, model, and leader for other institutions as we work together to help the next generation of lawyers discern their values, follow their guiding principles, and cultivate wellbeing practices for their lives and careers—in short, to flourish.



# ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

#### **A Conversation Between**

Mona Lisa Wallace (JD '79, P '08) & Scott Schang

Scott Schang, director of the Wake Forest Environmental Law Clinic, and Mona Lisa Wallace, partner at Wallace & Graham, P.A., sat down for an interview on August 9, 2022 to talk about Wallace's own story and her experiences in environmental justice litigation. They discussed her current case interests as well as her high-profile lawsuit against the pork industry in North Carolina that was chronicled in the book *Wastelands: The True Story of Farm Country on Trial* by Corban Addison. The following interview has been edited for concision and clarity and has been pared down for length.





# Mona Lisa Wallace

Partner at Wallace & Graham, P.A.

(JD '79, P '08)



SCHANG: How did you end up at Wake Forest Law? Was law something that was in your family? Did you expect to be a lawyer when you were younger?

**WALLACE:** I wanted to be a lawyer from the sixth grade on. I would've never had another career, and it was simply because I grew up kind of on the wrong side of the tracks, and I felt like there was not an equal playing field for some people versus others. That kind of background really gave me a passion for helping others have equal rights regardless of their background, or their race, or their gender.

**SCHANG:** What was it like to be here at Wake Forest Law in 1979? There must not have been that many women around you in the class.

**WALLACE:** So, in 1979, there were few women in the class, and I went out and became a trial lawyer in the early 1980s. And seriously, you can only imagine back then, in the south, in a small town, how difficult it was. I would say that in my first 10 to 15 years of being in court almost every day, I can count probably on two hands the number of times that I had an opposing female attorney as compared to generally an older judge and an older lawyer on the other side. All male, by the way.

**SCHANG:** How did you adapt to that and make your way through that?

**WALLACE:** Being one of the first women in the south as a trial lawyer, I just got tired of people not giving me the respect I felt like I should get. So I think I just worked harder, tried harder, and it was a good thing in a way, because it made me a better lawyer.

"Being one of the first women in the south as a trial lawyer, I just got tired of people not giving me the respect I felt like I should get. So I think I just worked harder, tried harder, and it was a good thing in a way, because it made me a better lawyer."

**SCHANG:** How did you end up going from Wake Forest, one of the few females in the profession, to being at a law firm in Salisbury?

WALLACE: When I graduated in 1979, I had a very hard time getting a job in a small southern town. But there was a kind gentleman-who was actually a part-time minister named Graham Carlton, who hired me and gave me the opportunity. After a few years, I opened my own law firm and I've now practiced—I hate to say the number, 40 years and I've been involved in all types of law, and I've primarily had the ability to choose what cases I wanted. That's been a real joy in life, to be able to choose what you want to do and to actually be successful at it. **SCHANG:** How do you choose your cases? That has to be fairly hard. You've done a wide variety of cases. You were super successful in asbestos litigation, a leading litigator. You've done environmental cases, healthcare cases. What makes a case that you want to take on?

**WALLACE:** I want to take cases that other lawyers won't take. For example, I was involved in shutting down payday lending and getting rid of mandatory arbitration clauses that people had no chance to disagree with. They either had to take the offer or not get whatever they were purchasing.

And, for example, asbestos. My father was in the Navy. He was on a warship in World War II, and he had asbestosis. Right now, I'm highly involved in Camp Lejeune and Fort Bragg with two of the biggest class actions for military housing. My son-in-law was a ranger in Afghanistan and Iraq. So the cases that I generally take, all of them stem from something that moves me personally. They are cases that speak to my heart and that the odds are generally very high. I feel like I really help people. And fortunately, I've been financially successful despite the fact I never chose a case for the potential financial outcome of it.

**SCHANG:** You have to basically finance a case in the way your model works, correct? So you have to be able to really stand behind the case and move it forward.

**WALLACE:** In my 40 years of being an attorney, other than domestic cases early on in my career, if I lost the case, I didn't get any money at all, and I advanced all costs. So it was always risky. And these are still the cases we take today.

**SCHANG:** It takes a certain kind of person to be able to do that. You mentioned Camp Lejeune and Fort Bragg. Can you explain a little bit what those cases are about?

**WALLACE:** We're really doing three different military cases right now. First, Congress passed a 15 billion dollar bill to compensate individuals, their family members, and workers who were at Camp Lejeune, the Marine base. From 1953 until 1987, the water that they were drinking, the swimming pools their children were swimming in, were highly contaminated with very, very bad carcinogens. I started out in 1981 as one of the first lawyers in the state that did cancer litigation. So that obviously was something that I very much wanted to do.

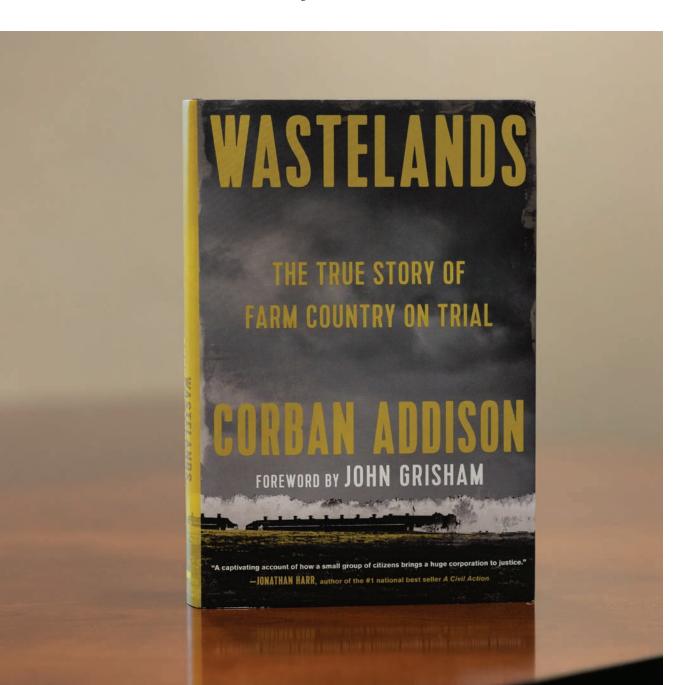
We have two housing class actions, one on behalf of Fort Bragg, and another on behalf of Camp Lejeune. These cases are due to the poor quality of the housing the military has in North Carolina. Back in the nineties, the military-based housing—not the barracks, but the general housing for families or others who were not in the barracks—was sold to private interests. So there has been a significant deterioration for military families in where they've had to live, and that's wrong under anyone's sense of justice. They give the most for us, and that should not be so.

"In my 40 years of being an attorney, other than domestic cases early on in my career, if I lost the case, I didn't get any money at all, and I advanced all costs. So it was always risky. And these are still the cases we take today."

### **Taking the Hard Road**

**SCHANG:** As an environmental lawyer, the way I came to know Wallace & Graham was through the Smithfield confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) cases. Tell us a little bit about what those were like and how you managed to pull off such an amazing victory.

WALLACE: I don't know any other way to say it, but those cases were about feces and urine. Eastern North Carolina is one of the largest hog producers in the country, and it was owned by Smithfield. At the time that we brought the lawsuit, Smithfield did own it, but it was subsequently sold to a Chinese conglomerate. We brought the lawsuits because the hog waste—five times or so more than the waste of humans would go underneath the barns of the hog operations and into an open air lagoon, and a number of these lagoons were unlined, which caused all kinds of problems for neighborhoods in eastern North Carolina.



These people had been trying for 20 years or more to find a lawyer to take on the industry, but the agricultural industry in North Carolina, I would say, is probably the most powerful and connected with legislative lobbying. So when we brought the lawsuits, it was a David versus Goliath story. Over the last four years, I lived away from my family for two years, one year in Wilmington, off and on, doing depositions and another in Raleigh for five back-to-back federal trials.

I will say, while we didn't achieve as many environmental objectives as I would've liked, there have been changes made that I would hope would be due to the fact that we were generally successful in that litigation and encouraged Smithfield and others in the industry to improve their agricultural practices. The farmers themselves have very little, if any, say on how their waste is disposed of. They're under contract with the big producers, so they have very little say.

**SCHANG:** That's one of the fascinating things to me about the way you structured the lawsuit, because you did not sue the farmers. The company owned the hogs and gave them to the farmer. Then they instructed the farmer how to raise the hogs, how to treat them, how to manage the waste, and then took them when they were done, leaving all the risk on the farmer. So you left the farmer out of the lawsuit, which I imagine had a big impact on the jury.

**WALLACE:** We were sympathetic throughout for the farmers because of the take-it-or-leave-it contracts they're given. They are required to dispose of the waste, and yet they have very little say in the whole process, what hogs they get, what feed they're fed, the veterinarians, when the trucks come. So it really was the big corporation who made the decisions.

**SCHANG:** We should probably mention that in Eastern North Carolina, these large hog operations tend to be located in predominantly African American and poor neighborhoods, and that's probably not by chance that that happens.

**WALLACE:** Our typical trial involved the kindest, most wonderful people in the world whose families had owned the land for decades, if not generations. Then the hog farms were put at the end of their streets or around the corner back in the woods. Many of them contested it, but because of who they were, almost all African American, it never mattered. When counties came in and tried to zone against hog farms being placed in these counties, they were sued. For 20 or 30 years, legislators tried to help them, but they couldn't. It was a very hard-fought and difficult case to handle that truly took about five years of my life from my family.

**SCHANG:** I think we should be clear, too, that the farming operations we're talking about are not your mom and pop farms. This is an operation that has 3,000 hogs in one pen.

**WALLACE:** You might have four buildings with three to five thousand hogs in each building. And if you consider that each hog is 300-350 pounds and they're fed intentionally to get very fat very quickly, you can't even imagine the amount of waste. It's like a small city beside some of these neighborhoods. They are no longer being built, but the law has given them so much immunity from future litigation, which I feel is extremely unjust.

**SCHANG:** It's a little unusual that in a country where we hold property rights so dear, that for one use in particular, we would just let those rights go to the wind. It doesn't seem very consistent from a legal perspective.

**WALLACE:** That's true. That's why I took the case.



### A Wake Forest Lawyer

**SCHANG:** So we've talked about litigation. That's what you do, you're a litigation attorney. But students at Wake Forest have lots of different tools in their toolkit. They can lobby the legislature, they can try to get an executive to adopt regulations. They can try to change public opinion. How does litigation fit in with that in your mind?

**WALLACE:** Litigation should probably be the last resort, and would be if more people that were qualified would run for public office. In the Smithfield case, for example, all of that had been tried before. The *Raleigh News and Observer* won a Pulitzer Prize back in the early nineties for pointing out the problems [the hog waste] caused. Some of our clients had gone to the state, some had gone to the governor, some had gone to the EPA, they had gone to everyone they possibly could. Young people today have to get involved, especially young lawyers. They have such a greater ability to make a difference now than we did with Facebook and all of that access. They have the ability to reach people far more than we could back in my older era.

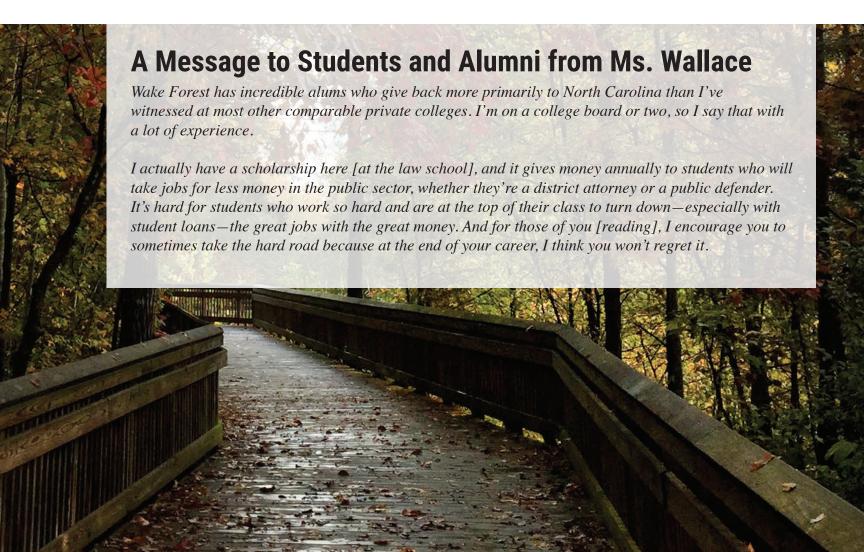
**SCHANG:** In reading *Wastelands*, I noticed there were Wake Forest lawyers on both sides of the case. How do you deal with someone on the other side? Are they your mortal enemy?

**WALLACE:** Absolutely not. The lawyers that defended the first three trials were Wake Forest grads, and of course I'm a Wake Forest grad, as is my daughter. It was Wake Forest versus Wake Forest. I had great respect for those defense lawyers who had graduated from Wake, and they spoke so highly of the school, as does everyone. To the law students, those of you that are here, you will go on to have your careers, but I think you will always cherish and appreciate the opportunity that you've been given by being admitted to Wake Forest Law. I certainly have. It was probably the best thing that ever happened to me professionally.

By the way, I do want to say this: We're looking for interns at our firm that are interested in some of these issues, and we primarily want interns from Wake Forest Law. If anyone is interested in interning some during the year, we're 45 minutes away.

**SCHANG:** Get ready for the stampede.

**WALLACE:** Wonderful. I hope so.





# INTELLECTUAL **PROPERTY**

#### The Law of Innovation

By W. Keith Robinson

Professor of Law

When most people think of innovation, they think of shiny high-tech devices. While a new phone or smart speaker may be innovative, innovation actually has a much broader definition: Innovation is a new idea, method, or device. Put simply, innovation is something new. But what does innovation have to do with the study of law?

Understanding innovation is critical for law students for several reasons. First, lawyers who have a better understanding of how innovation occurs in a particular industry are better equipped to serve their clients. Second, the practice of being innovative can be learned, and those techniques can be applied to legal problems. Third, law graduates with an understanding of innovation are valuable members of an innovation ecosystem. Lawyers who understand how innovation occurs can better serve their clients by anticipating their needs at every step of the innovation process. In an innovation ecosystem, lawyers play a critical role as connectors. For example, a lawyer's client-



base may include entrepreneurs, investors, and tech talent. As a connector, the lawyer is able to facilitate connections between key stakeholders necessary for innovation to occur.

Innovation occurs in every industry. For example, the financial sector has been transformed by the emergence of new technologies. In my property class, I discuss with my students how the explosion of digital goods has changed traditional concepts of ownership. In my intellectual property courses, students learn how the law attempts to facilitate innovation that drives the nation's economy. Understanding how the law encourages and responds to innovation gives law students a more complete picture of the legal landscape. The law often follows innovative technology. Students who have an awareness of new technologies might also be exposed to developing areas of the law. Early introduction to these developing areas can be crucial for a young lawyer's ability to develop a rewarding practice.

Law students must also learn how to create innovative solutions to legal problems. In his article, "Ahead of the Curve: Three Innovators in Big Law," Professor Bill Henderson discusses three law firms using technology to provide high-quality services to their clients. Professor Henderson suggests that in the future, large law firms will adopt strategies to design legal systems for their clients. He also credits legal system design for creating a new generation of "legal entrepreneurs." Instead of independently solving clients' problems one-to-one, these entrepreneurs build expert systems at scale that are capable of being used by a number of clients in different contexts.

In my Designing Legal Apps course, students are exposed to basic Design Thinking, an iterative process that helps law students think through problems from a "user" perspective to develop new solutions. The course provides students with the opportunity to learn the skills that are necessary to deploy these same innovative solutions for underserved clients. Students learn how to build software applications ("apps") for use by the law school's clinics and local organizations that offer legal aid. Through this process, law students have a better appreciation for what it takes to create innovative solutions to legal problems.

One example is an app students built for the Veterans Legal Clinic here at Wake Forest Law. To streamline the intake process for veterans seeking support from the clinic, students developed an app that walks veterans through a series of questions they can answer using any web browser. After completing all of the questions, the app then generates a printable report that the veteran can take with them to their intake meeting at the clinic.

Lawyers that understand innovation are valuable members of the innovation ecosystem. An innovation ecosystem requires several components: Innovators need access to technical, business, and legal talent to collaborate with and employ. Investors who are willing to bet on early-stage ideas are also key players in a healthy innovation ecosystem. Lawyers advise and provide legal services to the parties involved in innovation. Lawyers also serve as bridges between various stakeholders through their existing professional relationships. As such, lawyers are a crucial part of a healthy innovation ecosystem.

Wake Forest provides several opportunities for law students to not only learn about innovation but also to learn how to incorporate innovative techniques into their approach to solving legal problems.



Lawyers who understand innovation are valuable members of the innovation ecosystem. An innovation ecosystem requires several components: Innovators need access to technical, business, and legal talent to collaborate with and employ.



#### **An Endurance Mindset**

#### By Raina Haque Professor of Practice

As a professor and scholar of emerging technologies and regulation, I must have that "endurance mindset." After all, my field is vast and moves at a breakneck pace that challenges the notions of "expertise" along with legal doctrines. I find it gratifying to empower law students to roll up their sleeves and dive into matters that befuddle even seasoned attorneys and regulators. In many ways, the students are my companions as we probe the ever-evolving reciprocities between law, technology, and society.

This generation's students are empowered to have the interdisciplinary skills and grit to dive into subject matters that law students of the past did not. In my courses, law students learn from advanced computer science textbooks, and we take every opportunity to get hands-on. We spend time in electrical computer engineering labs developing prototypes of computational legal systems. We seek to demystify abstractions about technology; an overreliance on abstractions leads to ill-fitting law. I hope graduates in my field will take up the mantle of helping clients, consumers, and government agencies craft effective and balanced policies and procedures around emerging technologies.



I especially hope that some of my students will be the ones who help make government procurement for computational systems—which effectively mechanize the legal decision making and enforcement—more transparent and uphold legal and ethical principles of due process and fairness. If we all stopped to consider how much law is impacted by mechanization—credit scores, traffic violation sensors, insurance underwriting, data tracking advertisements and inducements—we'd all want more public servants who had the capacity to understand computational systems in addition to understanding privacy and commercial law.

I also hope more attorneys can get beyond the hype around financial technologies like blockchain and see the bigger potential of having distributed ledger systems that are highly tamper-evident. The change I hope for in my area of law is that more lawyers have fluency in the evaluation of computational legal systems and use that for ethical regulation, which also makes room for innovation.



Global Head of Energy and Natural Resources Industry Sector, Womble Bond Dickinson LLP

# Jeffrey Whittle (JD/MBA '91, P '23)

When Jeffrey Whittle began his studies at Wake Forest Law, he had no idea that he was setting out on a path that would take him to countless countries across six continents. An international technology transactional attorney, Whittle is a partner at Womble Bond Dickinson, head of its Global Energy and Natural Resources Industry Sector and its Energy IP Subsector, the Managing Partner of the Houston office, and a prolific teacher and presenter who has taught courses on IP and licensing law in China, Mexico, South Africa, Thailand, Japan, and many other nations. At Womble, he advises on strategies for protecting technology; transferring and acquiring technology; enforcing IP rights; and other aspects of technology, including data privacy and cybersecurity.

With a career that dates back to 1991, Whittle has been at the forefront of the energy industry's exponential growth, and the dramatic evolution of IP law. "When I began practicing, IP law was a fairly narrow area of the law," he says. "Now IP rolls off corporate executives' tongues, and

the Supreme Court takes on a significant IP docket each year when they used to take on one appellate case every five years."

How did Whittle become interested in IP law during a time when it was not the most prevalent area of study? "At the time, many schools didn't offer much in the way of IP law; Wake Forest Law was a pioneer in that area," he says. "I'm so proud of how we have continued our trajectory, and that we even have an IP law clinic now."

It ended up being Professor Paul Bell's class that solidified Whittle's decision to go into IP law. Bell, who served on the Wake Forest University Law School Board of Visitors and as an Adjunct Professor of Patent Law, offered Whittle a job at his firm. "I had been considering going into commercial litigation," he recalls. "But I definitely made the right move, especially because of how much Paul and others at his law firm invested in me as my mentor. I try to pay it forward and invest in others, just as they have done for me."

But Whittle doesn't just like to invest his time in people, he also invests in ideas. For him, one of the most rewarding aspects of working in this space has been playing a role in helping to advance technology, which ultimately creates jobs, new revenue streams, and other opportunities for companies and for society as a whole. Just recently, his client, Marathon Petroleum, entered a joint venture with Neste, the world's largest producer of renewable diesel and renewable jet fuel refined from waste and residues. Marathon revitalized a large refinery in the United States and transformed it into a biofuel facility, which will become the largest biofuel production facility in North America. "It's so cool to see how projects like this can contribute to green energy transition over time," he says.

"When I began practicing, IP law was a fairly narrow area of the law. Now IP rolls off corporate executives' tongues." Currently serving on the Wake Forest University School of Law Board of Visitors, Whittle looks back on his time at Wake Forest Law as a very positive experience. He and his wife, Polly Whittle (MAED '91, P '23) who met in undergraduate at Vanderbilt University, lived in student housing with other married couples—many with whom they remain close

friends. Deacon blood runs strong in the Whittle family: their daughter is now attending Wake Forest as an undergraduate.

Beyond the "family feel" of the Law School, Whittle thinks back to how much he learned, including strong writing skills, public speaking, and of course, the ins and outs of the law. "What I love about Wake Forest Law is its size. The smaller class sizes afforded me more opportunities to interact with my professors and mentors, which in turn shaped me as a student," he says. "Wake students are known not only for their exemplary writing, speaking, and analysis skills, but for their outstanding character."

These skills and attributes have made Whittle who he is today. Whether it's helping to build up a company through his expertise in IP law or supporting the growth of Wake Forest Law by giving generously of his time and resources, Whittle is a "builder." "I call it the 'hope of the build," he says.

And what could be more hopeful than the chance to help something flourish?



# BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

# Beyond "Business as Usual": Arming Law Students with Business Acumen

By Chris Meazell Professor of Practice

Traditionally, law schools have prepared lawyers for the substantive and philosophical aspects of the profession through classes on torts, contracts, property, procedure, and jurisprudence, but left most-if not all-of the "professional" dimensions of lawyering to the post-law-school world. It is now beyond serious debate that contemporary law practice has fundamentally changed due to a confluence of factors, including economic downturns, the advent of technology, shifts in client relationship dynamics, and a leveling of information and metrics. As a result, graduates of Wake Forest Law face a changed world, one in which flexibility and adaptability are the keys to success, and client focus, understanding, and service are more important than ever.

Many (if not most) law students have little background in or appreciation for business terminology, principles, and processes. As law practice continues to simultaneously become more differentiated and more concentrated, it is more important than ever that Wake Forest Law graduates enter the professional ranks armed with an understanding of the economics and dynamics of the business world.

I am motivated to provide our students with a foundational understanding of business principles and an appreciation of the business drivers underpinning the practice of law, and leverage my blended life in business, law, and academia to bring our students relevant, real-time learning and understanding of the current business environment. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, business-oriented education provides our students with a baseline business-world fluency to better understand and communicate with clients, as well as prepare students for the various non-traditional environments, including the role of founders or participants in startups, they may find themselves in.

We begin by demystifying business and finance—topics studiously avoided by many in the legal profession, from students to senior partners. Yet law firms and many of their clients are businesses and dependent on basic financial principles for their economic prosperity. This provides a stable platform that students can draw upon throughout their studies and careers. By conceptualizing what businesses are and how they manage to remain in business, Wake Forest Law graduates



are better positioned to navigate the world of business and better grasp how and why decisions are made and how their work fits into those decisions.

Wake Forest Law graduates need to be smart, flexible, creative, and talented, but also intensely aware of the world and people around them. The pace of change in today's world is dizzying and constantly injecting uncertainty into the business and law firm environment. And, in keeping with the spirit of *Pro Humanitate*, we are keenly aware that business acumen must be leavened with the role of counselor despite the rapidly-increasing focus on the economic pressures on law firms and their clients—a lawyer without ethics or reputation will not be a lawyer for long.



# Latoya Jordan

Business Consultant (JD '06)

For Latoya Jordan, life is not about the end goal; it's about the steps you take to reach that goal. "I love the process required for me to have the life I want," she says. "And that's why I approach everything as if there are no limitations."

A lawyer, a business consultant, and an entrepreneur, Jordan doesn't even consider the idea of limiting herself. Her solo practice holds a contract with a family of transportation and logistics companies, for which she provides legal assistance, business strategy, financial consulting, goal-setting around organizational growth, and other ser-

vices. "If someone had told me five years ago that I'd be doing what I'm doing now, I wouldn't have believed them," says Jordan. "But I approach every opportunity with an open mind and always consider how I can add value."

Through her work, she connects with other entrepreneurs who are trying to get their businesses up and running and provides legal and regulatory guidance. "I love working with small- to mid-sized businesses," she says. "Small-to mid-sized businesses are so ambitious, and they have the flexibility and agility to really be creative and innovative."

While her career has taken many exciting and unexpected turns, she initially wanted to be a practicing lawyer. At age 14, Jordan decided she wanted to go to law school after flipping through a book about careers and reading about corporate law. As she learned more about that field, she realized that lawyers could transition into CEO positions, which was the path she saw for herself. "I think that the intersection between business and law is so valuable. I believe there are three key components to any society: the law, commerce, and communication. I touch all three on a daily basis."

Jordan entered law school with an open mind about the possibilities a law degree would afford her. Still, she was also nervous about her ability to succeed in such a competitive environment. "Law

school helped me realize how much I didn't know," Jordan says. "To attend a prestigious school like Wake Forest Law, you must be smart. But there were so many life experiences I hadn't had at 23. The beauty of being in a Wake Forest classroom with both traditional and nontraditional students was the opportunity to engage in these incredible conversations, giving real-life context to the black letter law. I became a better listener and felt prepared to enter into law practice after graduation. I firmly believe that you achieve a higher level of understanding when you can take what you learn in the classroom and apply it in the real world."

"If someone had told me five years ago that I'd be doing what I'm doing now, I wouldn't have believed them. But I approach every opportunity with an open mind and always consider how I can add value."

Although others around her already had their sights set on jobs in big law firms, she believed a broad spectrum of opportunity comes with a JD-the "versatility of the law degree," as she refers to it. After graduation, she wasn't afraid to explore different opportunities that leveraged her legal skills and her communications, business, and management skills.

As a member of Wake Forest Law's General Counsel Advisory Committee (GCAC), she is part of a group that advises the dean on business and corporate law practices. In addition, she is an avid volunteer and

was the keynote speaker at the April 2022 Black Law Student Association (BLSA) banquet. "It feels good to be back here," she says. "I've been talking to some alumni, and I'm trying to encourage them to become more involved. The way I see it, you've got to show up, but you've got to raise your hand, too."

Jordan has certainly shown up *and* raised her hand in so many areas of her life. She hopes to continue building her business and incorporating different elements into her work, such as property management and residential leasing.

"I consider myself to be an explorer," she says. "Ultimately, my passion is to live the very best version of my life. I've done some unique things thus far, but my vision is big." She is only getting started.



## **HEALTH LAW**

## A Surprising Win with the No Surprises Act

By Mark Hall Professor of Law Director of Health Law & Policy Program

What motivates me most to teach and research in the field of health care law and policy is the field's dynamism. Developments are sufficiently fast paced and nonstop that this is a field where one feels progress is possible. Nevertheless, over my 35 years working in health law and policy, important legislative victories have been few and far between. The Affordable Care Act was huge, of course, and other important improvements preceded that on more technical issues. However, the political polarization that now plagues almost all legislative initiatives has dimmed the prospects for further important health policy advances.

Against that backdrop, enactment of the "No Surprises Act" in late 2020, as part of COVID-19 relief and stimulus funding, came as a bit of a good-news "upset" win—one in which I was able to play a small role. Taking effect in 2022, the No Surprises Act addresses the nefarious practice of exorbitant out-of-network billing, which increasingly left fully-insured patients on the hook for large uncovered medical expenses even though they did everything they reasonably could to receive care in network. Examples include out-of-network specialists treating emergency patients at in-network hospitals, and

out-of-network ancillary service providers such as anesthesiologists supporting in-network physicians.

Working with colleagues at the Brookings Institution, I was able to take the lead in highlighting the growing extent of this problem and the inadequacy of state-level responses. This work helped fuel strong bipartisan support for a federal fix. However, the key interest groups disagreed on who was to blame and, thus, what is the proper solution.

For several years, investor-backed lobbying stymied Congress from advancing a legislative solution, but then a thin silver lining in the pandemic's dark cloud shone through, prompting a greater sense of urgency that broke through this interest-group logjam. Drawing from bipartisan support rare on health policy issues, Congress outlawed major forms of surprise bills starting January 2022, adopting a binding arbitration model first highlighted in work I did with the Brookings Institution team.

The No Surprises Act is the kind of success story that truly is achievable through steady work on health policy research and advoca-



cy. The highly satisfying result from these efforts can inspire ongoing efforts on other fronts (such as Medicaid expansion) to learn the facts and present the case needed to push through meaningful reforms.

In teaching health law, I try to convey to students that a public policy perspective is critical to being an effective lawyer. Even if clients are not acting as advocates, keen understanding of public policy is essential because of the strong influence it has on how courts and regulators determine seemingly technical doctrinal issues. In short, facilities with health policy can make a real difference, both for individual clients and for society at large. Go team health policy!



# Katye Griffin (JD'15)

Former Executive Director, Public Health Association of North Carolina



Katye Griffin comes from a family of medical professionals. Her grandfather, a Wake Forest University alumnus, was a physician; her mother was a physician's assistant; and her aunt was a pediatrician. Griffin's calling took a slightly different track. "I always wanted to be a lawyer," she says. "But I have always been interested in the intersection of the law and the medical field."

As a teenager, Griffin witnessed the legal challenges her grandfather faced when trying to establish a hospital in rural North Carolina. From getting the certificate of need, to understanding the legal aspects of providing healthcare, he encoun-

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tered a number of obstacles. In many ways, this was the genesis of Griffin's passion for understanding the complexities of the law's interplay with healthcare-a passion that has manifested into a career in public health.

While she was interested in the law and public health as a youth, she was really able to delve deeply into that area during her time at Wake Forest Law. One standout moment for Griffin was during a trial advocacy class, when the students were presented with the facts of a medical malpractice case. "The pro-

fessor polled the class and asked who thought the provider should be liable-half the class raised their hands," she says. "The professor then asked who thought it wasn't negligence on the part of the provider-the other half of the class raised their hands. I remember thinking, wow, these are incredibly complex issues that aren't black and white."

Participating in the Litigation Externship Clinic, which was run by Professor Carol Anderson up until recently, Griffin did an externship at Wake Forest Baptist Health. "That was an incredible experience," she says. "I developed a really strong network through that externship." She went on to practice health law at a firm in Raleigh for a few years, then transitioned to other opportunities.

Throughout her career, she has looked back on her time at Wake Forest Law fondly. "I loved my time in the Law School," Griffin says. "The size of our class, the camaraderie. Law school is known as being a stressful environment, but there wasn't

that overly competitive element that you find elsewhere. I still keep in touch with many of the friends I made there."

Recently, as the Executive Director of North Carolina Public Health Association, Griffin worked to support North Carolina's 86 local health departments and the dedicated people within those departments who are doing the work on the ground. She collaborated with health directors and staff by supporting their needs and facilitating information sharing. "What's been most rewarding is being able to help local health departments—especially those that are safety net providers for their

communities—provide care to underserved populations: people who are uninsured or underinsured, those in rural areas," says Griffin. "It brings to light the question of 'Who deserves care?' For the staff als have taken on, especially

at these health departments, their answer is always 'everyone, regardless of their ability to pay." She is amazed at how much these individuduring the pandemic.

Griffin herself is no stranger to taking on a lot. When her husband was deployed with the National Guard in 2020, he was

concurrently a candidate for the North Carolina Court of Appeals. Unable to campaign due to military regulations around politics, Griffin took on the task of managing the campaign to reach voters. Her commitment and hard work paid off: her husband was elected to the Court of Appeals in 2021.

Griffin has now taken on the toughest job there is: being a mother. She and her husband welcomed their son, Jefferson, earlier this year. Motherhood has only reinforced her belief that supporting people through health care is critical to public health and the overall wellness of communities. She recalls the important lessons she learned at Wake Forest Law. "Early on, the point was made that you need to show up every day and be the best version of yourself, no matter what you're doing," she says. "I've tried to take that to heart and be the best version of myself each and every day."



## STATE & LOCAL

## Veterans Legal Clinic Rights Injustice from Decades Past

By Ellie Morales (JD '10)
Assistant Clinical Professor of Law
Director of Veterans Legal Clinic

Law students often have many innovative ideas on how to achieve justice. Through the Veterans Legal Clinic, they have the opportunity to turn their ideas into action. One such opportunity arose with the case of Mr. James Brown.

While serving as an infantryman during the Korean War, Mr. Brown was unfairly court-martialed and kicked out of the Army with a benefits-denying discharge, transforming the trajectory of his life. This injustice was finally corrected 70 years later, when clinic students successfully represented Mr. Brown before an Army board. Not only did this result in Mr. Brown being awarded a Purple Heart for injuries sustained during combat, but he was also awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge. Most importantly, his Dishonorable Discharge—fueled in large part by racism—was set aside.

Mr. Brown often describes his life as "ordinary," but the clinic students quickly discovered that his life was anything but. Mr. Brown was born in 1932 and raised by his grandmother. His family could not afford a car, so he walked over three miles each way to school. He started working at nine years old selling newspapers, and then later cleaning a dentist's office and delivering milk in the early morning before school started.





As the clinic students discovered, before 1948, racial discrimination was the official policy of the United States military. Mr. Brown followed in his older brothers' footsteps, voluntarily enlisting in the Army as an infantryman soon after his seventeenth birthday—with his mother's permission—just a few weeks after the Korean War had begun.

As the clinic students discovered, before 1948, racial discrimination was the official policy of the United States military. Mr. Brown served in one of the few racially integrated units when he deployed to Korea in March 1952, but he was still one of the only Black men in a nearly all-white Army.

The clinic students learned about Mr. Brown's harrowing story. During a night combat patrol in June 1952, Mr. Brown and his platoon crossed the line of demarcation walking through a low grassland area. It was around 3:00 a.m. and pitch black. Mr. Brown was the point person for his unit, traveling in a diamond formation. Without warning, his platoon came under enemy mortar fire. Mr. Brown could not see anything until his fellow soldiers fired flares, lighting up the area. He then saw their tracer bullets whiz by. A grenade hit Mr. Brown in his arm and leg. He still remembers the acrid smell of the gunpowder, and the feeling of shrapnel slicing through his body.

A medic quickly bandaged his wounds and gave him morphine. The next thing he remembers is waking up in the cradle of the helicopter. Mr. Brown was hospitalized in Osaka, Japan for nearly two months. Doctors removed several pieces of shrapnel, with the largest piece the size of a quarter, from his right arm and right leg. He still bears the scars from his injuries today.

Upon recovery from his combat wounds, Mr. Brown returned to duty and deployed to Korea once again to rejoin his unit in September 1952. When he raised a tactical safety concern to his



Left: Veterans Legal Clinic student William Crotty (JD '22, BA '16); Middle: Mr. James Brown; Right: Veterans Legal Clinic student Ashley Willard (JD '22).

chain of command multiple times, his grave concerns were ignored. His platoon leader refused to give him permission to speak with company level leadership to report the dangerous situation. Only 19 years old, Mr. Brown made the fateful decision to risk his own liberty and walked 18 steps in the direction of his company commander, a mere 200 yards away.

After he walked those 18 steps—but before he had the chance to share his concerns—Mr. Brown was immediately placed in pretrial confinement without a hearing and charged with disobedience of a superior commissioned officer and misbehavior before the enemy by means of cowardly conduct. He was one of the first soldiers ever prosecuted under the military justice system (referred

to as Uniform Code of Military Justice), which is still in effect today. He encountered a newly overhauled military justice system that was not only in its infancy but was also embedded with systemic racism.

Mr. Brown's court martial took place in a tent, just a few hundred feet away from the Main Line of Resistance as the Korean War raged on. In a trial lasting less than 30 minutes, he was convicted by an all-white panel. His 18 steps resulted in a Dishonorable Discharge and five years of hard labor in prison. Yet, his most serious charge, misbehavior before the enemy by means of cowardly conduct, was reversed on appeal.

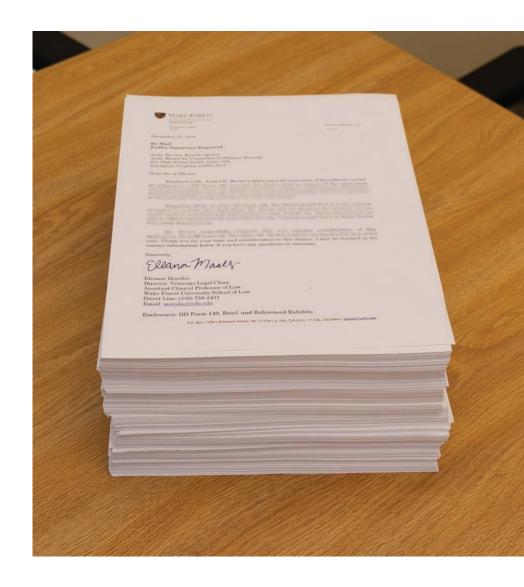


In 1952, Mr. Brown earned the permanent respect of this nation by fighting for freedom during the Korean War. Unfortunately, racism led to an unchecked miscarriage of justice. Fortunately, thanks to the hard work of Wake Forest Veterans Legal Clinic students, he and his family no longer have to suffer in silence from the devastating impact of these wrongs.

Through extensive research, clinic students discovered that two decades after Mr. Brown's court-martial, the Department of Defense created a task force to investigate the administration of military justice in the Armed Forces. The task force concluded that "the military system does discriminate against its members on the basis of race and ethnic background," and "there is a clearly discernible disparity in disciplinary rates between black and white servicemen." Mr. Brown's case was emblematic of the task force's findings.

Upon his release from prison, Mr. Brown successfully started a new life. He moved to Maryland, where he worked for nearly 40 years, first at a metal foundry, then as a longshoreman in the Port of Baltimore. He got married, raised three children, and served as a deacon in his church. He moved to North Carolina in 2006 where he is actively involved in his local church and serves on his municipal planning board.

In 1952, Mr. Brown earned the permanent respect of this nation by fighting for freedom during the Korean War. Unfortunately, racism led to an unchecked miscarriage of justice. Fortunately, thanks to the hard work of Wake Forest Veterans Legal Clinic students, he and his family no longer have to suffer in silence from the devastating impact of these wrongs. When Mr. Brown passes away, his family will be presented with a flag on behalf of a grateful nation—a flag that will be displayed beside the Purple Heart that he waited 70 years to see pinned on his chest.



<sup>\* 1</sup> U.S. Dep't of Def., Report of the Task Force on the Administration of Military Justice in the Armed Forces 1, 17 and 25 (1972).



# Jennifer L. Martin ('96, JD'99)

Chief Assistant District Attorney, Forsyth County

WAKE FOREST JURIST



When you talk to Jennifer L. Martin about her work, two recurring sentiments come up again and again: the honor she feels for her roles in serving others, and the importance of Pro Humanitate in fostering a successful community.

"Pro Humanitate was the first thing they talked about the first time that I set foot on campus as a student," Martin says of her early days in becoming a Double Deac. Growing up in Stokes County, her love of the university started early riding in

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the car with her mother who would drive through campus as a shortcut for her shopping trips. She even took the opportunity in high school to get on campus by participating in the National Youth Science Foundation camps. "This wasn't my forte, but I just had to get on campus, because I was in love with Wake."

During one of her undergraduate years, she came across a flier that a professor posted seeking childcare

services. Martin tore off a phone number from the bottom of the flier, not knowing the impact that little piece of paper would have on her future. Soon after she called, she got her first job as a babysitter for the children of Professor Suzanne Reynolds' (JD '77), who went on to become Dean of Wake Forest Law.

In her list of Wake Forest Law professors and mentors that affected her life and career-and it is a very long list-Martin credits Reynolds with having "by far the largest impact because I met her as an individual. I did not meet her as a professor." Through this personal relationship, and with Reynolds' steadfast mentorship, Martin was able to see that a future as a female attorney was not only possible but that she could also have a significant impact on others and their lives. "She is inspiring. She rewrote the treatise on family law, which everyone uses. To go into a judge's office and see her

treatise-which has happened on numerous occasions-I feel like saying 'I have a signed first copy."

Martin's journey to her career as a DA started her 1L year when she joined Wake Forest Law's fledgling Domestic Violence Advocacy Coalition (DVAC), an experiential program developed through the joint efforts of Reynolds and the Legal Aid Society. "Because of Wake Forest, I got a clinical experience that was unbelievable. What I learned in DVAC—understanding the cycle of do-

mestic violence—made

me a stronger prosecutor. And I felt like I was ahead of my classmates in understanding people who are in need, people who are in poverty, people who are victims of violence. Everything I learned at Wake Forest gave me the foundation for the career that I chose."

Martin started off in the program meeting with women and helping them do their paperwork. "I was then able to transition to a clinical student in Dis-

trict Attorney Tom Keith's (JD '70) office," she says. "So I found a career for myself volunteering while also getting an education." And the attorneys under which Martin worked during her third year didn't just sit her down and assign her paperwork. They were ready to allow her to practice on "low-pressure" cases such as speeding and traffic violations.

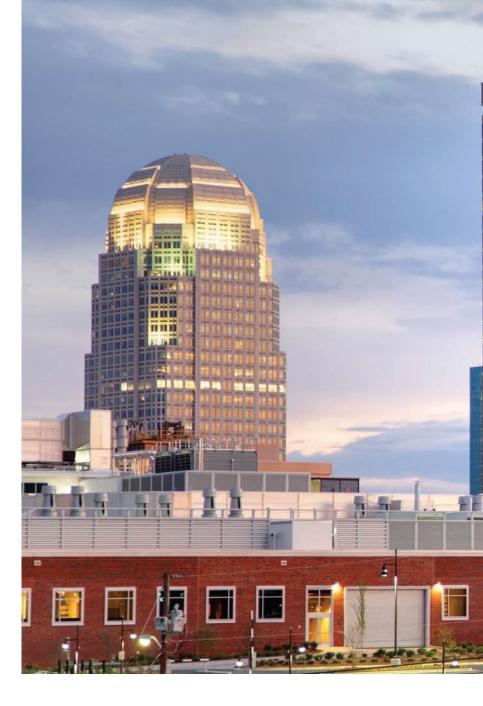
"For me, it was a huge deal to go into a courtroom and stand in front of a judge in your third year and act as a lawyer. You get that taste for the profession and the gravity for what your responsibilities are. With your voice in that courtroom, you are representing the state, and I don't take that for granted," says Martin. The DAs didn't take Martin for granted either, and she was offered a job before she even took the bar. "My home has been with the DA's office since I graduated in 1999."

Though Martin chose a career as a prosecutor, her decision to do so wasn't always understood by others. Her parents, while fully confident in her talents and abilities, were less confident about the environment she was getting herself into. "The day I was sworn in, my parents came to see me, and they could not believe what court looked like. How many people were there, and the kind of things they were charged with. They were like 'Are you sure this is what you want to do? You don't want to go to a corporate office?' And I was like 'Nope. This is for me."

Since that day, Martin has worked her way up through traffic court, domestic court, drug court, and then on to violent crimes and homicides in superior court. But she has never lost sight of the true purpose and potential of her calling, even 22 years after being administered her special oath as a prosecutor.

"That oath says that I am a minister of justice. That my job is not to notch convictions but to do justice for people. That is what I have found people don't always understand, especially as a woman of color, why I chose this role. You need great defense lawyers, great judges, and great prosecutors. You need good people who are going to do a good job for the people in the community. It's going to impact people from all demographics, so we are doing a service when we choose a career in public service. That's why Wake has been an invaluable building block for me."

Her dedication to that sense of service has been important in adjusting to the nature of cases in superior court. "It sometimes can be sad, now that I've become a senior prosecutor," she says. "People come to us on their worst day, and we try to treat them with compassion. We don't guarantee anything except hard work and doing our best, because we know we can't give you back what you lost."



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That compassion is the foundation of building essential trust with the people she represents. "To have them say 'We appreciate you. I hope that you'll be our prosecutor' is an honor. I trust you with our loved ones case' is an honor." And from that trust, Martin has gained lifelong connections. "I still get cards from people I've represented," she says. "One woman was pregnant when she and her family were victims of a home invasion, and I have gotten a picture of that child every year for Christmas since I did that case. The fact that they remember to send me a card and picture of those babies, that is what makes me get up every day and want to fight."

Martin also takes the opportunity to pay her own gratitude forward through a number of volunteer projects. "My favorite days are when I get to interact with high school students and middle school students. Because I'm in superior court now, and I'm the Chief ADA, I get to do a lot of that volunteer work.

I get to go out and interact with them in a positive way. I think it's important for children to see law enforcement in a positive way, to have positive experiences, and to also be told 'You can do it. Someone who looks like you does this job. A woman does this job."

With neither school nor her career taking her more than 30 minutes away from her original home in Stokes County, Martin is honored to bear the responsibility of serving a community that she truly knows and understands. "It's a people's office in my opinion. And it's an office where good can be done, accountability can be had, and we can fulfill what we were taught in the philosophy of *Pro Humanitate*. That's what government work is for. Quite frankly, that's what all law is for."



University quads are special spaces on the campuses of every institution. As the grounds of the university's most iconic buildings, the quad stands as the living symbol of the institution's character and identity in the minds of its community and serves as a central gathering place in carrying out some of the institution's most treasured traditions.

Standing tall above the trees-that may or may not still carry tiny remnants of the celebratory white streamers from a toilet-paper-rolled quad-in Wait Chapel, one of Wake Forest's other esteemed traditions takes place every spring: the hooding ceremonies of graduate Deacons. But

on May 14, 2022, the folks attending the hooding ceremony for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences were introduced to a very different concept of a Wake Forest quad.

Dean of Graduate Programs in Arts and Sciences Brad Jones, who presided over the presentation of the graduates, momentarily stopped the hooding procession to ensure that everyone in attendance realized they were witnessing a unique moment in the university's historv. With the conferral of the degree to the freshly hooded documentary

film graduate beside him, Wake Forest gained its third-ever Quadruple Deac, Carter Cook ('94, JD/ MBA '98, MA '22).

A South Carolina native who spent his teenage years in Charlotte, Cook was the first in his family to go to Wake Forest University, where he pursued a double major in business and history. (Double majors at the undergraduate level are not counted as two separate degrees. If they were, Cook would actually be a Quint Deac.) Cook met his wife, Michaele ('94), at Wake as an undergraduate, and as he stayed at the university for another four years to attend the JD/MBA program, his younger brother,

Stephen ('98), followed his lead and became the family's second Demon Deacon.

After his first year in law school, Cook had the opportunity to clerk for Judge John "Jack" B. Lewis, Jr. of the North Carolina Court of Appeals, a mentor and hero of his who was instrumental in encouraging him to attend Wake Forest Law. Cook met Lewis during his senior year when his roommate signed them up to greet guests in the president's box at a Wake football game.

At that game, he and Lewis had a lengthy conversation about relatives in South Carolina and

> Cook's plans for law school, but it wasn't until they parted ways and Lewis gave him his business card that Cook realized he'd been school Dean Bob Walsh.

> talking to a judge. When Cook wrote Lewis a thank you note for taking the time to talk with him, Lewis returned the gesture with two letters of recommendation for law school addressed to then Wake Forest President Thomas K. Hearn and law

> Cook clerked for Lewis again for a year after law school before working as an associate attorney at Poyner Spruill in Raleigh while his wife finished her MBA at

UNC-Chapel Hill. Then, after working at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein in Charlotte for four years, Cook found his way back to Wake Forest in 2004-not as a student, but as Assistant Counsel in the Wake Forest University legal department.

"I'm not sure if it's because I'm easily distractible or because I appreciate the liberal arts, but I like the idea of knowing a little about a lot of different things," Cook says. "In big firms, that's not really the model. You have to get pretty deep into one particular area." Cook always thought he'd be in-house counsel at some point, but "never had any idea that it would be at Wake Forest."

His penchant for knowing a little about a lot of things was put to the test at Wake Forest, however, where he had to learn a lot about a lot of things: contracts, international programs, bonds, gifts, licensing, trademarks, and even things like sweepstakes. "I now know the difference between a sweepstakes, a contest, and a raffle, and why that matters. There are all these different areas that you might not consider elsewhere, but you have to think about in a university setting."

Doing a lot of different things also introduced him to a lot of different people he might not have otherwise met. Among

them were several people from the Wake Forest Documentary Film Program, including its director, Cara Pilson. As a self-proclaimed "sucker for a good story, especially a sports story," Cook was already a big fan of programs like ESPN's "30 for 30" documentary series, and he had a growing interest in the subject matter after putting together a short video chronicling a dramatic championship win for his son's Little League baseball all-star team.

"I started thinking that if I had the time, the money, and the courage, it would be interesting to go back and learn about documentary film. The money was taken care of, because I was a university employee and could take classes in the Graduate School at no cost. So, then it came down to time and courage. I had always tried to be involved in my children's youth sports and coaching them,

and they were not so much aging out of sports as they were aging out of sports for which I could offer anything useful as a coach. I was also in the process of winding down my work with a nonprofit record label I had founded several years earlier. I felt like I had time to replace those things with this. So, then it was just a matter of finding the courage to re-enter the classroom as an old guy."

With Pilson's advice and encouragement, Cook tested the program with a documentary film class right up his alley in the spring of 2019: Business of Sports Media. Not only did he love the class, but his conception of how school was supposed to be done was flipped on its head when he realized, "Wait, I'm being assigned readings about topics I would be reading about anyway? That's like getting paid to eat ice cream."

And so, he set out on another round of expanding his Deac credentials. "I didn't go into it with a plan. I don't know if that's a good or a bad thing. I just wanted to learn about the subject, and I did, and I love it."

To cap off the program, students are required to produce a short thesis film, and because Cook was pursuing a degree in the program's sports media and storytelling track, it had to be a sports-related story. But sports are often used as a springboard to tackle larger matters, and Cook took on a very relevant and growing issue that is important to him and affects athletes and

non-athletes alike: mental health. Inspired by the attention being generated around the subject from the disclosures of athletes like Kevin Love, Simone Biles, and others, Cook explored the various ripple effects that their acknowledgement of mental health struggles could have on other people. True to Deacon form, it's no surprise that Cook's work would take on a theme of *Pro Humanitate*.

health struggles could have on other people. True to Deacon form, it's no surprise that Cook's work would take on a theme of *Pro Humanitate*.

In January 2022, Cook departed the university once again and became Senior Associate General Counsel for Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist. But as far as future filming goes, Cook isn't ready to quit. He hopes to

help nonprofits, churches, and even

families get their stories out. "I'm

sure that in every family, every per-

son has a story to tell, and they might

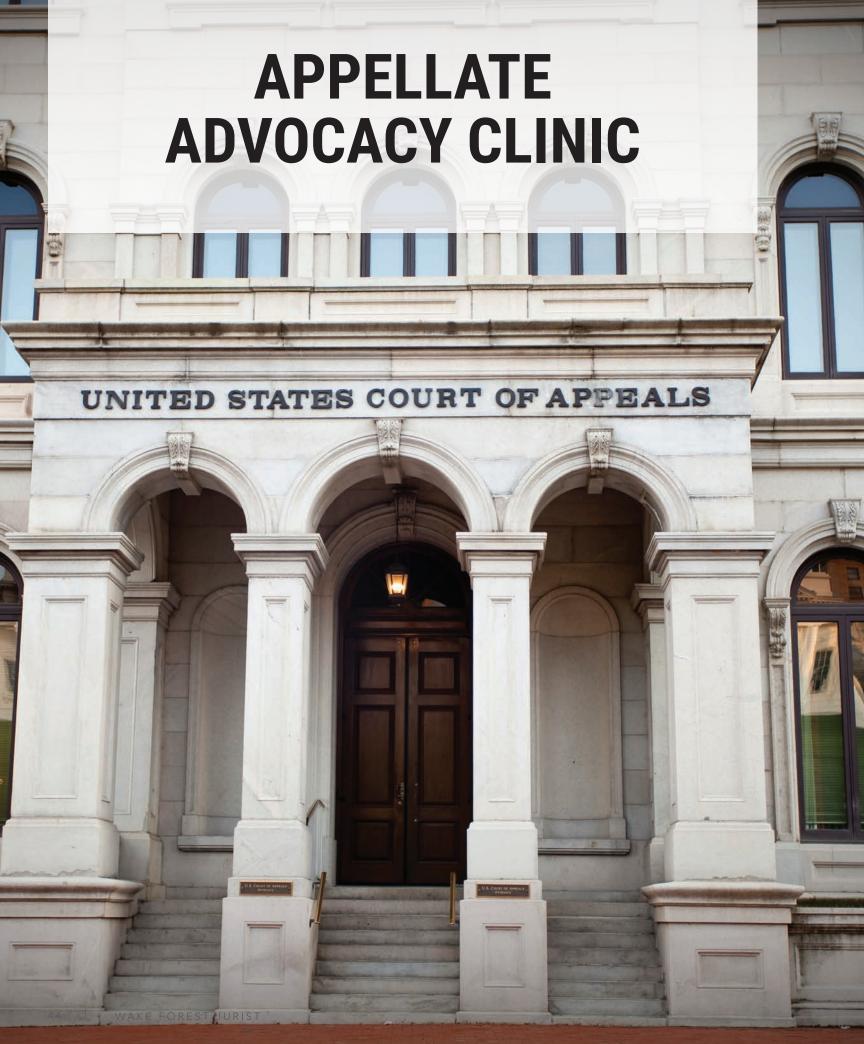
not appreciate how special that story is," says Cook, "but if I can get them to talk about it on camera, they'd have a way to preserve and share some of the stories that make them unique."

As far as Cook's own story goes, what could be cooler than being a Quad Deac? Many would encourage him to enroll in another degree program and try to become the first five-time Wake Forest graduate, but whether that's in the cards for him is uncertain. With two children in college and a third in high school, he says, "If I'm going to be paying for anybody's higher education for the next eight years, it's going to be theirs."

No one knows how the future will unfold. For a person like Carter Cook, who seeks out opportunity and follows his passion, the door is always open at Wake Forest.

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## Student Advocates in the Appellate Advocacy Clinic

By John Korzen ('81, JD '91, P '16) Associate Professor of Legal Writing Director of Appellate Advocacy Clinic

The Appellate Clinic has been very productive in recent years. More students have been enrolled in the clinic than ever, with 20 in the 2020-21 school year and 19 in the 2021-22 school year. That's a lot of young appellate advocates!

Last year a record number of appellate clinic students made oral arguments. Eight argued, in five different appeals: Five argued in the Fourth Circuit via Zoom in three appeals; two argued in the Fourth Circuit in person in the Richmond, Virginia courthouse in the same appeal; and one argued a North Carolina state court case in person.

We have had several victories in the past two years, in published Fourth Circuit opinions. The great thing about a published opinion is that it becomes binding precedent throughout the Fourth Circuit and persuasive precedent elsewhere. We won a new trial for a West Virginia state court prisoner based on improper closing argument by the prosecutor, and we won a new trial for a South Carolina state court prisoner based on ineffective assistance of counsel when the counsel failed to object to new evidence requested by the jury during jury deliberations. Both were challenging, because it is not easy to overturn state court convictions in federal court. We also won an interesting appeal in which our client sought to withdraw his consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction before the other side had consented; the Fourth Circuit agreed

that he had the right to do so, reversing the lower court. There were only two other circuits that had ruled on the same issue, and we convinced the Fourth Circuit to chart a different course than either of those.

In addition to representing parties to appeals, we also represent amicus curiae interest groups in the United States Supreme Court and other courts. Last year we wrote amicus curiae briefs in four appeals, three in the Supreme Court and one in the North Carolina Court of Appeals. Justice Breyer twice quoted and cited one of our amicus briefs, in a concurring opinion. In another one of the Supreme Court cases, the attorney for the side we supported was a guest speaker in our weekly seminar one week after she had argued, which allowed students to hear and ask about an argument they had listened to and researched. In the North Carolina Court of Appeals case, three students and I attended the oral argument and heard counsel make points that we had suggested, which was a wonderful experience.

We also give "moots," practice arguments, to attorneys preparing for appeal. Last year, for example, we had moots for three attorneys in two appeals, one in the Fourth Circuit and one in the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

I am proud of the work the clinic does representing clients and of the effort the student advocates put into it. The students are exposed to a full and varied look at appellate law, a sophisticated area of practice. The clinic has been my most rewarding professional experience.



Chelsey Phelps (JD '22), left, and Jacqueline Winters (JD '22), after arguing before the U.S. Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va. on March, 8, 2022.



# NORTH CAROLINA TRIAL PRACTICE CAROL B. ANDERSON



Carol Anderson brings an interesting background to her new position of assistant director of the Clinical Program.

Upon graduating from Duke University, she pursued a career in broadcasting in Charlotte. She found, however, that she was allergic to the make-up television broadcasters must

She then decided to pursue a legal career and graduated from Duke Law

School in 1980. She practiced law for one year in Morganton, N.C., before beginning a three-year tenure as an assistant district attorney for Forsyth County.

During her three years in the D.A.'s office, Ms. Anderson served as an adjunct professor for two years, and last spring, she ran the clinical program for the office. She said her current position was created in response to increased interest in the Clinical Program at Wake Forest.

In addition to her responsibilities to the Clinical Program, Ms. Anderson is teaching one section of Legal Bibliography. In her opinion, the clinical program at Wake Forest is the best she has ever seen. She said, "Many years of work on the program have made it fine tuned."

Peter Radiloff is a third-year student from Charlotte.

### Push to Improve Student Placement Crosses State Lines

Under the "gung-ho" direction of



### **CAROL ANDERSON**

## Wake Forest Law Reflects on the Legacy of Trial Advocacy Leader

Professor Carol Anderson, Director of the Wake Forest Law Litigation Externship Clinic, and Trial Advocacy Expert, retired in July 2022 after 37 years. While at Wake Forest Law, she taught hundreds of students about the complex topic of trial advocacy and she coached trial teams for 28 years, leading to consistent competition victories. The American Association for Justice (formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America) and the North Carolina Advocates for Justice recognized Professor Anderson for teaching excellence.

While teaching trial advocacy in the classroom, Professor Anderson led the Litigation Externship Clinic and Trial Advocacy program, which received the \$50,000 Gumpert Award for Excellence in Teaching Trial Advocacy from the American Bar Association (ABA). In addition, Professor Anderson is the author of four highly regarded trial advocacy textbooks titled North Carolina Trial Practice (1996), North Carolina Trial Practice, 2000 Cumulative Supplement (2000), Anderson on Advocacy (2004), and Inside the Jurors' Minds: The Hierarchy of Juror Decision-Making (2012).

In addition to her scholarship and research at Wake Forest Law, Professor Anderson had an impact on the broader Wake Forest University community. She worked collaboratively with Dr. Donald Jason, Department of Pathology Professor Emeritus of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, on the Forensic Pathology Fellowship Training Program at Wake Forest Baptist Health Department of Pathology. She helped create mock trial scenarios for the Fellows and critiqued their mock trial testimonies.

"The inclusion of this mock trial experience was an important feature of our training program, making our Fellowship more competitive in attracting the best candidates," said Dr. Jason in a special note to Professor Anderson.

Graduates and fellow professors across her career at Wake Forest Law submitted messages, photos, and video clips congratulating Professor Anderson on her retirement and thanking her for her dedication to legal education. The messages submitted to Wake Forest Law were show-cased to Professor Anderson during her virtual retirement ceremony.

"I asked Carol to take on the Trial Advocacy course when I left to become Counsel for the University. No action I have taken at Wake Forest has led to a better outcome, and I am proud to have been a part of Carol's appointment."

—Leon Corbett (JD '61)

"I took Trial Advocacy with Professor Anderson and still have a copy of her book, Anderson, on Advocacy," said Anne Bell (JD '08). "I practice bankruptcy, so I rarely have a trial, but I have used that book for every single trial I have had since graduation."

Leon Corbett (JD '61), the former Professor and Dean of Wake Forest University School of Law, reflected on how Carol helped his transition to Counsel for Wake Forest University.

"I asked Carol to take on the Trial Advocacy course when I left to become Counsel for the University. No action I have taken at Wake Forest has led to a better outcome, and I am proud to have been a part of Carol's appointment," said Corbett. "What you have accomplished in the area of trial advocacy is, mildly put, extraordinary. You have taught, led, and coached, producing well-trained lawyers and winning competitions right and left."

# NNOAL



### **Wake Forest University 2023 Rankings**

In addition to being ranked No. 37 in Best Law Schools according to US News, Wake Forest University School of Law achieved high rankings across a number of programs including No. 6 in Legal Writing, No. 21 in Health Care Law, No. 24 in Criminal Law, and No. 26 in Trial Advocacy.

### **Bar Passage and Employment Rates Continue Rising**

American Bar Association (ABA) data released in 2022 stated that Wake Forest Law's 2021 first-time bar passage rate is 94.26% and that 96.53% of the Wake Forest Law 2021 graduates held full-time positions for which bar passage is a requirement or the JD is an advantage. On this measure, the law school is 3rd in the nation for employment outcomes. These statistics are a critical component in calculating the 2022 US News Ranking.





### **New Faculty: Audra Savage**

Audra Lyn Savage interrogates race and racism in law, specifically focusing on critical race corporate law, as well as law, race, and religion. She teaches courses on business organizations, mergers & acquisitions, and critical race theory. Prior to joining the Wake Forest Law faculty, Professor Savage was a law clerk on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (Hon. James A. Wynn, Jr.) and was the Senior Lecturer and McDonald Distinguished Fellow at Emory University School of Law. Prior to joining the academy, she was in-house counsel for a public-private partnership transportation project in Northern Virginia, and served as a corporate associate for both Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton and Hogan Lovells.

### **New Faculty Are a Diverse Group**

In 2021, Wake Forest Law hired 11 new faculty members. 82% are women, 45% are from minority groups, and the majority are tenured or tenure-track. The Law School prides itself on hiring faculty from diverse backgrounds with a wealth of experience and expertise that enhance the richness of the Wake Forest Law community.

### **Expanding Experiential Education with New Clinics**

By participating in the Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic, students attain fundamental lawyering skills through direct client representation and advocacy, collaborating with healthcare providers to identify legal issues that negatively contribute to the health of low-income patient-clients and develop a comprehensive, interprofessional strategy to overcome barriers to health justice. The clinic is directed by Professor Allyson Gold.

Through the Intellectual Property Clinic, students bridge the gap between doctrinal courses and real-world intellectual property law practice while assisting individual entrepreneurs, small businesses, and nonprofits with the filing of trademark applications before the USPTO. The clinic is directed by Professor Zaneta Robinson.

### 1L Class Is Most Credentialed and One of the Most Diverse Classes

The Wake Forest Law Class of 2025 has come to us with the highest credentials in the history of the Law School: LSAT scores improved from 163 to165. In addition to setting the record for the highest median LSAT score, the Class of 2025 has the second-highest GPA median of 3.72 (up from 3.68 last year). These credentials are a significant component of the US News Ranking.

The Class of 2025 is composed of 159 students from 100 different undergraduate institutions across 32 states. The class is also among the most diverse classes ever to enroll at the Law School: 14% are first-generation college students, 19% are minority students; and a record-high 20% identify as LGBTQ+.









# NNUAL





### New Beyond Innocence Collection

In September 2022, Wake Forest University School of Law hosted an exhibit and panel discussion titled "Beyond Innocence: Darryl Hunt and the Fight for Justice in America" at Worrell Professional Center. The event introduced the "Darryl Hunt and Hunt Trials" archive collection and the book *Beyond Innocence: The Life Sentence of Darryl Hunt* written by Wake Forest University Professor of the Practice Phoebe Zerwick.

Darryl Hunt, who was twice wrongfully convicted of the murder of a local newspaper editor, served nearly 20 years before the crime was solved with DNA evidence in 2003. During this time, Wake Forest Law Professor Mark Rabil, who was his attorney from 1984 to 2007, worked tirelessly to prove Mr. Hunt's innocence. He was aided in his efforts by an award-winning series of articles by Professor Zerwick in the Winston-Salem Journal.

The collection is a living archive of trial transcripts, motions, exhibits, newspaper articles, personal notes, and other correspondence between Darryl Hunt, his attorneys, and his supporters. Professor Zerwick read excerpts from letters Hunt had written to Professor Rabil about his time in prison and how it inspired his advocacy for those wrongfully convicted. Professor Rabil spoke about how, despite the efforts of Hunt and others, wrongful imprisonment is still an issue plaguing the justice system.



# Wake Forest Law Ends Historic Fundraising Year with \$12.5M in Gifts and Pledges

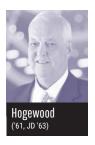
The Development department is pleased to announce historical levels of support in fiscal year 2022. A record-breaking \$11.3M in pledges and \$1.27M in cash gifts contributed to Wake Forest Law's most successful fundraising year to date. This includes 37 major gifts and 3 principal gifts of over \$1M—showing that the law school is set on a healthy growth trajectory.

"This historic year represents a major milestone for the School of Law. This level of support represents 26 scholarships, new and increased existing scholarships, with approximately \$3.8M going directly to the students that need it the most," said Logan Roach, Assistant Dean of Development, School of Law.

Deep philanthropic commitment from alumni and friends is vital to the law school's future success. Wake Forest Law is able to rise in the rankings, support students and faculty, and strengthen the school's reputation among peer institutions through contributions.

The future of Wake Forest Law is bright after this historic year! You can ensure that it stays that way through philanthropic contributions and pledges to Wake Forest Law. If you are ready to keep the momentum going, the Wake Forest Law Development team is eager and ready to meet with you! Please reach out to lawalum@wfu.edu for questions about contributions, pledges, and how you can stay involved with Wake Forest Law.













### **1960s**

Ashley Lee Hogewood Jr. ('61, JD '63, P '90, '93) received the John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina State Bar. He is a retired partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte. He has served on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Board of Education, the Central Piedmont Community College Board of Trustees and the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections. He received the Order of the Hornet, Mecklenburg County's highest honor, for his civic contributions.

### **1970s**

Don Britt Jr. ('68, JD '71) was appointed chair of the USS North Carolina Battleship Commission by Gov. Roy Cooper. The battleship, docked in , NC, is a memorial to the state's World War II veterans and the 11,000 North Carolinians who died during the war. Britt is the owner of Britt Law Firm in Wilmington.

Charles "Chip" R. Dashiell Jr. ('70, JD '73) was elected by the Maryland State Board of Education as its vice president for the 2021-2022 term. He is a retired attorney.

**E. Vernon Glenn (JD '75)** has written a crime novel, "You Have Your Way" (Cooper River Books), a follow-up to his debut 2019 novel, "Friday Calls." Both books draw on Glenn's 40-plus years as a trial lawyer. He is the founder of Cooper River Books and lives in Charleston, SC.

David Greenfield ('72, JD '75) and Carla Howell Greenfield ('75) were reelected to the board of trustees of Warren Wilson College, a liberal arts college in Swannanoa, NC. They are serving on the board with Suellen Anderson Hudson ('70, P

'00) and Mur Muchane, vice president for IT and chief information officer for Wake Forest and a graduate of Warren Wilson. The Greenfields are attorneys in Pittsburgh. They also spent time in Asheville and became interested in Warren Wilson when they were doing service work in the area. David is a past member of the Wake Forest School of Law Board of Visitors.

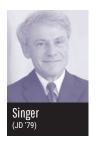
**Greg C. Gaskins ('70, JD '76)** retired as deputy treasurer and secretary of the North Carolina Local Government Commission. He also led the staff of the state and local government finance division to enact reforms to benefit local governments. He was also a member of the North Carolina State Water Infrastructure Authority, which helps smaller water/sewer entities. He lives in Raleigh with his wife, Janet.

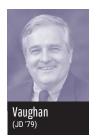
Joslin Davis (JD '77) received the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers' prestigious Professionalism Award at its annual meeting in Chicago last year. The award is presented annually to lawyers who consistently exhibit the highest level of professionalism. Davis is of counsel at Allman Spry Davis Leggett & Crumpler PA in Winston-Salem.

James K. Dorsett III (JD '77) was one of nine attorneys awarded the North Carolina Bar Association's 2021 Citizen Lawyer Award, which honors attorneys who go above and beyond to serve their communities. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh and past president of the NCBA.

Suzanne Reynolds (JD '77) received the Game Changer for Social Justice Award from Winston-Salem's Gateway YWCA as one of the 2021 Women of Vision recipients. Reynolds taught at the School of Law for 40 years until retiring in 2020 and was the school's first female dean from 2015 to 2019. She is an expert on fami-















ly law and co-founder of a domestic violence program at the law school.

Dennis A. Wicker (JD '78) received the Award for Distinguished Public Service from the North Carolina Chamber. He is a partner in the Raleigh office of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP and a former lieutenant governor of North Carolina. He lives in Sanford, NC.

Robert "Bob" Singer (JD '79) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business and the 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in his practice area (banking and finance). He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Don Vaughan (JD '79) was one of seven lawyers inducted into the North Carolina Bar Association Hall of Fame. He has practiced law for nearly 40 years in Greensboro, NC, and is an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law. He is a former state senator and Greensboro City Council member and mayor pro tem.

### 1980s

David Rea (JD '80, P '13, P '20) is president of Salem Investment Counselors in Winston-Salem. The firm manages \$4 billion in assets and has ranked among the top two financial advisory firms in the country in the last three CNBC Financial Advisor 100 Listings, including two years at No. 1. There are five other alumni in the firm: Mark Thompson (MBA '83, P '06), Joyner Edmundson (MBA '98), Matt Simmons (MBA '99), Kip Keener (JD '02) and Lyn Williams (MBA '09).

**Rick O. Kopf (JD '81, P '09)** was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in real estate law. He was also named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers

in America for real estate law and leisure & hospitality law. He is a founding partner and shareholder in the Dallas office of Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr PC.

**Ted Smyth (JD '81)** was named 2022 Lawyer of the Year in the Raleigh region for his practice area (bet-the-company litigation) by Best Lawyers. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh.

David Furr ('80, JD '82) was featured in a video for Kite, A Gilead Company, discussing his treatment of follicular lymphoma. The David Furr award for industry cybersecurity excellence was presented at the South Carolina Eighth Annual Cybersecurity Conference in Charleston, S.C.

Gerald Roach ('80, JD '82, P '09, P '12) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (corporate/mergers & acquisitions). He is firm chair at Smith Anderson in Raleigh and former chair of Wake Forest's Board of Trustees.

**Eric R. Spence (JD '82)** was named to the 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list and the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in real estate law. He is of counsel at Ragsdale Liggett PLLC in Raleigh.

Ryal W. Tayloe (JD '82) was named to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is an attorney at Ward and Smith PA in Wilmington, NC.

Marci Armstrong (JD '83, P '10, P '11, P '12, P '15) was elected President of the North Carolina Bar Association and began her term in October 2022.

John Hanlon (JD '83) was appointed to the Illinois Forensic Science Commission by Gov. JB Pritzker. Hanlon retired in 2021 as executive director of the Illinois Innocence Project at the University of Illinois Springfield. He was a staff attorney for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and assistant defender and assistant director of capital litigation for the Office of the Illinois Appellate Defender 4th Judicial District and Supreme Court Unit.

**Paula A. Kohut (JD '83)** was named to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for estate planning & probate. She is a shareholder at Kohut & Adams PA in Wilmington, NC.

Steve Berlin ('81, JD '84, P '06) was named a 2021 Power Player by Triad Business Journal. He is an environmental lawyer and managing partner with Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton in Winston-Salem. He is general counsel and secretary/treasurer of the Whitaker Park Development Authority, a nonprofit guiding redevelopment of the former R.J. Reynolds Tobacco campus adjacent to Truist Field. Berlin was recently named to the UNC School of the Arts Foundation after serving two terms on UNCSA's board of trustees.

Sarah Katherine Burnette ('81, JD '84) has written her debut novel, "Judge's Waltz," a legal thriller about the mysterious death of a federal judge. Burnette is a North Carolina District Court judge and a former state and federal prosecutor. She lives in Oxford, NC.

Craig A. Minegar (JD '84) was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for real estate law. He is an attorney at Winderweedle, Haines, Ward & Woodman PA in Winter Park, FL.

Jim W. Phillips (JD '84) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business. He was named to the 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in business litigation, and he was recognized as one of the















Top 100 North Carolina Lawyers. In the 2022 edition of Benchmark Litigation, he was named a Local Litigation Star for general commercial and intellectual property law. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

David M. Warren ('81, JD '84, P '13) was appointed to a seven-year term as chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina by the Eastern District's Chief Judge Richard E. Myers II.

John D. Bryson ('80, JD '85) was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for criminal law – DUI/DWI defense. He is an attorney at Wyatt Early Harris Wheeler LLP in High Point, NC, and has been an adjunct professor at Wake Forest School of Law since 1994.

Bill Musser (MBA '84, JD '85) was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for public finance and corporate law. He was also named Lawyer of the Year in the Columbia, SC, region for mergers and acquisitions law. He is an attorney in the Columbia office of Pope Flynn LLC.

Joal Hall Broun ('83, JD '86) was appointed District Court judge for Chatham and Orange counties by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. She was director of the Lobbying Compliance Division for the North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State.

Nick Ellis (JD '86) was named 2022 Lawyer of the Year in the Raleigh area for his practice area (mass tort litigation/class actions – defendants) by Best Lawyers. He is a partner in the Raleigh and Rocky Mount, NC, offices of Poyner Spruill, and chair of the firm's litigation section.

Robert Griffin ('83, JD '86) was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers

in America in insurance litigation. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh.

Julia Renfrow Hoke (JD '86) retired from the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority after 23 years as director of legal affairs and general counsel. She was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper for her service to the state. She is part-time associate general counsel at Davidson College.

J. Kevin Moore (JD '86) was named to the 2021 Northern California Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is an attorney at Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson in Walnut Creek, CA.

Lisa Singer Costner ('84, JD '87) is an assistant federal public defender in the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Middle District of North Carolina. She is also an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law. She received the John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina State Bar in January.

Catherine E. Thompson (JD '87) joined Colombo Kitchin Attorneys in Greenville, NC, as of counsel. She has practiced law in North Carolina since 1987, focusing primarily on estate and trust planning, business planning and commercial litigation.

Burk Wyatt (JD '87, P '22) received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest honor awarded by the North Carolina governor's office. For 25 years, Wyatt was the chief legal officer/general counsel of CommScope in Hickory, NC, a telecommunications equipment provider with 30,000 employees worldwide. He is now working with and on the board of Maui Jim, an eyewear company he helped his cousin found in the 1980s. Wyatt is chair

of Hickory's Bond Commission, which supports economic development and city improvements, and was honored with the unveiling of the Wyatt Bridge along City Walk, a downtown greenway. Wyatt is the chair of the General Counsel Advisory Committee for the Wake Forest School of Law.

Robert "Bob" King (JD '88) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business and in the 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in his practice area (environmental law). He was also named a Local Litigation Star for appellate, environmental and general commercial law in the 2022 edition of Benchmark Litigation. He was recognized in Business North Carolina's 2022 Legal Elite for litigation. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Jeffrey W. Melcher (JD '88) joined Stites & Harbison PLLC as a member (partner) in its Atlanta office and serves clients in Nashville, TN, focusing on commercial and insurance defense litigation. He was a partner with Chartwell Law in Atlanta.

Joel R. Rhine (JD '88), founding partner of Rhine Law Firm in Wilmington, NC, was named to the inaugural Power List of personal injury attorneys by North Carolina Lawyers Weekly. He is the only Wilmington area attorney among the 28 to receive the honor. He was also named to Business North Carolina's 2021 Legal Elite for construction and litigation law and was recognized as one of the state's top 100 lawyers by North Carolina Super Lawyers. He has practiced law for three decades.

Mike Mitchell ('86, JD '89, P'18) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (general commercial litigation). He is an attorney at Smith











Anderson in Raleigh, where he co-chairs the firm's business litigation team and intellectual property litigation practice.

David Rhoades (MBA '88, JD '89) was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers' compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh.

### 1990

Andrew Avram ('82) was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for workers' compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte.

Forrest Campbell Jr. (P '14) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (health care law). He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

**Tom Coulter** rejoined global law firm Norton Rose Fulbright as a partner in its office in Washington, DC. He was an associate with the firm in Houston from 1992 to 1997.

Patrick Flanagan was named to Business North Carolina's 2022 Legal Elite for employment law. He was also named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in civil rights law, employment law – management, labor and employment litigation and municipal litigation. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Luther "Lew" Starling Jr.** was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation. Starling is managing partner at Daughtry, Woodard, Lawrence, & Starling in Clinton, NC, and Smithfield, NC. He has been elected mayor of Clinton seven times.

### 1991

Clayton D. Morgan (JD/MBA) is president-elect of the North Carolina Bar Association. He is associate general counsel at Duke Energy in Raleigh. He received the bar association's Corporate Counselor's Award, which recognizes "superstar" attorneys who demonstrate high ethical standards and dedication to the community.

**Scott F. Wyatt** ('88) was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation. He is a partner at Wyatt Early Harris Wheeler LLP in High Point, NC.

### 1992

Charlie E. Brown was reappointed chair of the North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission. The 28-member commission monitors the state's criminal and juvenile justice systems and reports to the General Assembly. Brown is chief District Court judge in Rowan County.

Brian Lansing was named Associate General Counsel, Litigation and Compliance, at W.R. Grace & Co. in Columbia, Maryland. On November 1, he will retire from the United States Navy after 30 years' combined active and Reserve service. Brian's wife Maura is the Global Head of Commercial Law at The Brink's Company. They are empty nesters and live in Annapolis, MD.

**Beth Langley ('86)** was named to Business North Carolina's 2021 and 2022 Legal Elite for employment law, to the 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in employment and labor law, to North Carolina Lawyers Weekly's inaugural Power List for employment law and to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for com-

mercial litigation, labor & employment litigation and employment law – management. She was also named a Labor & Employment Star in the 2022 edition of Benchmark Litigation. She is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Jon W. Myers ('88, JD/MBA) was appointed a District Court judge for Davie and Davidson counties by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. He has practiced law in Lexington, NC, since 1992.

**Rita Marie Sampson** was named director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Previously, she was the director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

**Nick Valaoras ('89)** was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers' compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte.

### 1993

J. Gregory Hatcher was recognized in the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for family law and family arbitration. He was also named a North Carolina Super Lawyer for the 12th year in a row. He is managing partner at Hatcher Law Group PC in Charlotte and is a fellow in the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He is on the board of directors for Baby Bundles, a Charlotte-based non-profit that helps mothers in need, and is the parent speaker chair for the Charlotte Country Day School Parents' Association.

**Andrew K. McVey ('90)** was named to Business North Carolina's 2021 Legal Elite for litigation and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for employment &















labor law. He is an attorney at Murchison, Taylor & Gibson PLLC in Wilmington, NC.

David J. Shipley joined the law firm Stevens & Lee in its Princeton, NJ, office and will co-chair the firm's state and local tax group. He has nearly 30 years of experience representing clients in complex state tax controversies.

### 1994

Eric W. Iskra (P '22) was elected a fellow of the American Bar Foundation (ABF), a global honorary society that recognizes legal professionals who have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the profession and the welfare of their communities. ABF membership is limited to 1% of lawyers licensed to practice in each jurisdiction. Iskra is an attorney with Spilman Thomas & Battle PLLC in Charleston, WV, where he chairs the labor & employment law practice group.

Jennifer K. Van Zant was named to the 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list in business litigation. She was recognized as one of the Top 10 North Carolina Lawyers and one of the Top 50 North Carolina Women Lawyers. She was also named one of the Top 250 Women in Litigation and a Local Litigation Star for competition/antitrust law in the 2022 edition of Benchmark Litigation. She is a member of Business North Carolina's Legal Elite Hall of Fame in antitrust law. She is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

### 1995

Janis Escallier Gallagher (P '22) was appointed county manager by the Pitt County NC Board of Commissioners. She has more than 20 years of experience in Pitt County government, including as county attorney since 2008.

Robert J. Ramseur Jr. ('92, P '23) was named to the 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list and the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in real estate law. He was also named to Business North Carolina's 2022 Legal Elite list. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett PLLC in Raleigh.

Edwin L. West III (P '24) was named to Business North Carolina's 2021 and 2022 Legal Elite for criminal law and to the 2021 and 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for criminal defense. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in the Raleigh and Wilmington, NC, offices.

### 1996

Patricia "Tricia" Williams Goodson ('92) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business, in Business North Carolina's 2022 Legal Elite and in the 2022 edition of Best Lawyers in America for labor & management litigation and employment law – management. She was also named a Labor & Employment Star in the 2022 edition of Benchmark Litigation. She is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Raleigh.

David E. Inabinett ('92, P'22) celebrated his 25th anniversary at Brinkley Walser Stoner PLLC, a law firm in Lexington, NC, where he is managing member. He focuses primarily on elder law, trusts and estates. The firm honored his service with a \$500 donation to the Lexington Area Community Foundation Endowment Fund, a cause he has supported for many years.

Henry "Hal" Kitchin Jr. was named to Business North Carolina's 2021 Legal Elite for litigation. He was named to the Legal Elite Hall of Fame for antitrust law in 2019. He is a partner at McGuireWoods LLP in Wilmington.

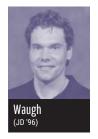
John Morrow is a partner at Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP in Winston-Salem. He chairs the firm's intellectual property litigation practice group. He has been recognized by Chambers and The Best Lawyers in America for several years in various intellectual property disciplines and was recognized last year by the North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society. He and his wife, Amy, have three sons, Jack (20), Will (18) and Ford (18), and a dog, Arnie (8).

R. Keith Shackleford ('92) was named to the board of directors and is treasurer of the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society, which operates the Wake Forest Historical Museum and the Dr. Calvin Jones House in Wake Forest, NC. He is an attorney with Warren, Shackleford & Thomas PLLC in Wake Forest.

Amy Pinne Wang was appointed chair of the Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. She is an environmental attorney at Ward and Smith PA in New Bern, NC. She leads the firm's environmental practice group and its Green Initiative, which promotes environmentally sustainable professional practices.

Derek Waugh was named athletic director at Marist School, a private Catholic school in the Atlanta metro area. He has more than 20 years experience in athletics at BSN Sports apparel and equipment, as president and CEO of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, athletic director at Dalton State College and head men's basketball coach and assistant athletic director at Stetson University. He was the first basketball Academic All-American at Furman University, where he received his undergraduate degree.

















1997

Bonita Hairston Brown ('94) was appointed to the Education Design Lab's Designers in Residence program, a national initiative that aims to close economic and racial opportunity gaps in higher education. She was one of 12 individuals chosen to participate in the program, which is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. She is chief strategy officer and vice president at Northern Kentucky University.

Dan Katzenbach was named to Business North Carolina's 2022 Legal Elite for construction law. He was also named 2022 Lawyer of the Year in the Raleigh region for his practice area (professional malpractice law – defendants) by Best Lawyers. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

Michael V. Lee was named to Business North Carolina's 2021 Legal Elite for real estate law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for real estate law. He is a partner at Lee Kaess PLLC in Wilmington, NC, and is serving his third term in the North Carolina Senate.

**Doug Vreeland** was recently promoted to Vice President, Legal for Tokyo Electron U.S. Holdings, Inc. and he leads the company's legal and compliance activities in the U.S. for this global semiconductor giant, one of the 10 largest companies in Japan. He is also a member of Wake Law's General Counsel Advisory Committee.

### 1998

Christopher K. Behm was named to Business North Carolina's 2021 Legal Elite for construction law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is a partner at Block,

Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Julie Leon Caperton was named head of Wells Fargo Private Bank, a division of Wells Fargo Wealth & Investment Management (WIM). She is also continuing her current role as head of the Banking, Lending & Trust Center of Excellence for WIM. She has been with Wells Fargo and its predecessor organizations for almost 20 years and has been named multiple times to American Banker's list of the "Most Powerful Women in Banking."

**Coe W. Ramsey** was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (intellectual property). He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Raleigh.

### 1999

Jill Mahonchak Andersen was named chief legal officer at Adagio Therapeutics Inc., a biopharmaceutical company focused on solutions for infectious diseases with pandemic potential. She was general counsel, corporate secretary and chief compliance officer at Oyster Point Pharma. She also was named to the board of directors for the Girl Scouts of North New Jersey.

James B. Black IV was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers' compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh.

**Patti Ramseur** is President-elect for the NC Bar Association and will start her term in 2023.

### 2000

Frederick Adams II was appointed by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper as District Court judge in Forsyth County. He had practiced in his own law firm in Winston-Salem since 2005.

Jason R. Harris was named 2022 Lawyer of the Year in the Wilmington, NC, region for admiralty and maritime law by Best Lawyers, and he was named to the 2021 and 2022 North Carolina Super Lawyers lists in transportation/maritime law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington.

**Charles Raynal IV** was recently inducted into The American College of Trial Lawyers. Less than 1% of attorneys in any given state or province are admitted to the College.

Ben Sharkey was elevated to managing principal of the Jacksonville, FL, office of the national law firm Jackson Lewis PC. He has more than 20 years of experience representing management in all facets of employment litigation.

### 2002

Jill Peters Kaess was named to Business North Carolina's 2021 Legal Elite for tax/estate planning law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for estate planning & probate. She is a partner at Lee Kaess PLLC in Wilmington, NC.

**Todd King ('98)** was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in personal injury litigation. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte.

Roberta King Latham ('97) was included in the 2022 editions of The Best Lawyers in America for employment law — individuals and North Carolina Super Lawyers for employment and labor law. She is the founder and owner of King Latham Law PLLC in Winston-Salem, which was

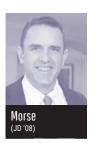














named one of America's Best Law Firms for 2022 by Best Lawyers and U.S. News & World Report.

Gina Russo was appointed Franklin County (OH) Municipal Court judge by Gov. Mike DeWine. She was a judge on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, an assistant prosecutor in the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office and an attorney in private practice.

Elizabeth Thornton Trosch was appointed chief District Court judge for North Carolina District 26 (Charlotte/Mecklenburg County), the largest judicial district between Atlanta and Washington, DC. She was appointed at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic and has used the opportunity to modernize court procedures such as utilizing remote hearings and electronic filings. She is an executive member of the Square One Project, a national initiative focused on criminal justice reform.

### 2003

Robert "Robby" Lawson (JD/MBA) is a partner in the Raleigh office of Williams Mullen and chair of the law firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. He joined the firm in 2010 and focuses on commercial real estate. He was named to Business North Carolina's Legal Elite Hall of Fame in 2013.

### 2004

Wes J. Camden was named to the Top 100: North Carolina Super Lawyers list for 2022 and was recognized as a Super Lawyer in his practice area (criminal defense: white collar issues). He is a partner at Williams Mullen in Raleigh in the white collar and investigations practice group. He has

been named to the North Carolina Super Lawyers list every year since 2015 and was named a Rising Star in 2013 and 2014.

Lorin J. Lapidus was named a board-certified appellate practice specialist by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Legal Specialization. Since the appellate specialization program began in 2011, fewer than 40 lawyers have achieved the distinction. Lapidus is of counsel at Nelson Mullins in Winston-Salem.

Benjamin "Ben" R. Norman was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

### 2005

Kate Rigby joined the Boston office of Epstein Becker Green PC in the law firm's employment, labor and workforce management practice. She has more than 16 years of labor and employment experience in the life sciences industry.

### 2006

Wynter P. Allen was appointed by President Joe Biden to the Federal Service Impasses Panel, a component of the Federal Labor Relations Authority that resolves impasses between federal agencies and unions representing federal employees. Allen is a partner at the Alden Law Group PLLC in Washington, DC, where she practices labor and employment law.

Matt Efird was named to the Power Players: Outside Counsel list by the Sports Business Journal. Efird, a corporate attorney at Robinson Bradshaw in Charlotte, was recognized for representing NASCAR teams, drivers, sponsors and agents.

Dionne Jenkins ('03) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. She is a past member of the Greek Alumni Advisory Board (now the Fraternity and Sorority Life Committee of the Alumni Council). She is general counsel for the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools and a board member of the local Dress for Success nonprofit. She and her husband, Anthony, live in Winston-Salem.

D.J. O'Brien was named a Labor & Employment Star in the 2022 edition of Benchmark Litigation. He was also named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for employment law – management. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in the Raleigh and Greensboro, NC, offices.

**Helen Tarokic** was named to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for immigration law. She is managing attorney at Helen Tarokic Law PLLC in Wilmington, NC.

### 2007

Patrick Kane was named to the 2022 class of Client Service All-Stars by BTI Consulting Group. He is a partner at Fox Rothschild LLP in the Greensboro, NC, office and an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law, where he teaches business and commercial torts. He is a member of the Wake Forest Rose Council, which encourages recent law graduates to stay involved with the school. The council is named for Professor Emeritus of Law Charley Rose.

### 2008

**Andrew Appleby** was promoted to associate professor of law at the Stetson





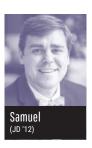












University College of Law in Gulfport, FL, where he teaches tax and business law.

**Jonathan Kreider** was named to Business North Carolina's 2022 Legal Elite for family law. He is the owner of Kreider Attorneys at Law in Greensboro, NC.

Clint S. Morse was recognized as a Rising Star in business litigation in the 2022 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers and was named to the 2022 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for bankruptcy litigation. He was also recognized in Business North Carolina's 2021 and 2022 Legal Elite for bankruptcy law. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Andrew B. Sachs joined Customers Bancorp Inc. as executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary. He has nearly 13 years of experience in securities and corporate law.

### 2009

**Kristen M. Kirby (JD/MBA)** was named a "Young Gun" by Business North Carolina on its 2021 Legal Elite list. She is a partner at McGuireWoods LLP in Raleigh.

Anna Warburton Munroe ('03) was named to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list and recognized in The Best Lawyers in America for family law. She is a shareholder at Allman Spry Davis Leggett & Crumpler PA in Winston-Salem.

### **2010**

**Luke Farley** was elected partner at Ellis & Winters LLP in the Raleigh office. He is a construction lawyer who represents contractors, subcontractors, owners and developers.

Zach Forward (JD/MBA) was named a 2021 Rising Star by Super Lawyers of Upstate New York. He is a partner at Barclay Damon LLP in Syracuse, NY, and a member of the corporate & tax practice group.

Mark Pendleton ('06) was promoted to shareholder at Dallas-based law firm Hallett & Perrin PC. He is a member of the firm's corporate section and focuses primarily on the energy industry. He joined the firm in 2013.

**Jerri Simmons** was recognized as a Rising Star in workers' compensation in the 2022 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers. She is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Emile C. Thompson** was confirmed as commissioner for the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, which regulates electric, natural gas and telecom companies. He is an assistant U.S. attorney general for the District of Columbia, where he lives with his wife and children.

### 2011

**Jason Benetti**, a celebrated play-by-play announcer, joined FOX Sports in 2022, contributing to the network's live sports slate beginning with college football fall 2022. The announcement was made by Brad Zager, President of Production/Operations and Executive Producer, FOX Sports.

**Erin Marie Tanner Choi ('08)** was promoted to counsel in Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP's litigation department in its Dallas office. She has been with the firm since 2019. Choi was selected as a Texas Rising Star by Super Lawyers from 2017-2022 and was recognized in 2021-2022 in Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch for commercial litigation.

Peter Holderness Ledford was appointed as North Carolina Clean Energy Director by Governor Roy Cooper in July of 2022. Previously, Peter Ledford served as General Counsel and Director of Policy at the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association where he has served in various capacities since 2014.

Luke MacDowall was elevated to shareholder at Littler, the world's largest employment and labor law practice representing management. He is based in the Dallas and Houston offices.

### 2012

**Stephen Bell** was recognized as a Rising Star in business litigation in the 2022 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Ben Halfhill ('05) joined the Gaston County District Attorney's Office in Gastonia, NC, as an assistant. He was in private practice in neighboring Mecklenburg County NC.

**Dan Murdock (JD/MBA)** joined global management consulting firm McKinsey & Company as associate general counsel for pharmaceuticals & medical products. He is based in the Richmond, VA, area.

Ryan Samuel was named deputy county attorney for Arlington County, VA. Prior to joining the County Attorney's Office in 2018, he was an assistant city attorney in Chesapeake, VA. Samuel was named to Inside Business' Hampton Roads Top 40 Under 40 in 2017 and received the city of Chesapeake's Public Service Award in 2015. He lives with his wife in Washington, DC.















2013

**Robert Bruner** was named partner in the Dallas office of Haynes and Boone LLP, where he is a member of the investment management practice group.

Perrin B. Fourmy was named to the 2022 edition of "Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch," which recognizes top U.S. lawyers who have been practicing less than 10 years. Fourmy, recognized for commercial litigation, is a senior associate in the Dallas office of Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP.

Kelley Chan Gass was elected partner at Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs LLP in Atlanta. She is a member of the law firm's commercial finance practice group and represents national and regional banks and other financial institutions.

Matthew Gass joined Stites & Harbison PLLC as a member (partner) in the Atlanta office. He was with Copeland, Stair, Kingma & Lovell LLP in Atlanta. His practice focuses on commercial litigation in state and federal courts.

**S. Cooper Hawley** joined K&L Gates LLP as an associate attorney. He practices with the mergers and acquisitions group in the law firm's Charleston, SC, office. He was an associate with Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York.

Christian Stoffan was promoted to member at the Pittsburgh law firm Metz Lewis Brodman Must O'Keefe LLC. He was named to the 2021 and 2022 Ones to Watch list for corporate law and real estate law by Best Lawyers in America. He represents clients in commercial real estate transactions and leasing matters.

**Tory Summey** was elected partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in its

Charlotte office. His practice focuses on employment counseling and litigation.

Chad M. Vanderhoef was named a partner at Holland & Knight LLP in Tampa, FL. He joined the firm in 2018 and was previously an associate. His practice focuses on tax controversy and litigation and cross-border tax planning.

### 2014

**Sean Baetjer** joined the Gaston County District Attorney's Office in Gastonia, NC, as an assistant. He was assistant district attorney in Catawba County NC.

**Danielle Garcia** joined the Law Offices of Paul A. Samakow PC, a personal injury practice in Washington, DC.

**Kathryn Harvey Moore** was elevated to partner in the Nashville, TN, office of Bradley LLP. She is a member of the law firm's healthcare practice group.

John Nail joined Fox Rothschild LLP in Atlanta as an associate in the taxation & wealth planning department. He represents individuals and businesses in complex tax matters.

**Benjamin Zakarin** joined Barclay Damon LLP as an associate in its commercial litigation, torts & product liability defense, and insurance coverage & regulation practice areas, where he focuses on complex commercial litigation. He is primarily based in New York City.

### 2015

**Evan Leadem ('11)** was named chief of staff and board secretariat at the University of Portland in Portland, OR, where he has worked since 2018.

**Jasmine Pitt ('12)** joined the law firm Akerman LLP in Winston-Salem in its litigation department.

Melissa Mary Wilson is pursuing a Ph.D. in public policy at UNC Charlotte. She is studying justice policy with a research focus on animal cruelty legislation and enforcement. She is receiving full funding for tuition and a research assistantship. She taught ecological ethics and prelaw courses part-time at UNCC for the last three years.

**Ben Winikoff ('11)** is a partner at Elliot Morgan Parsonage PLLC in Winston-Salem. He was certified by the North Carolina State Bar as a specialist in workers' compensation law. He is an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law and a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General Corps.

### **2016**

**Timothy Readling** was appointed and took an oath as an arbitrator in North Carolina's Court-Ordered Arbitration Program. He is a managing attorney with Davis & Davis, Attorneys at Law, PC in Salisbury, NC.

### 2017

Jared Adams is an associate attorney at Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel PC in Chattanooga, TN, for health care and nonprofit clients, entrepreneurs and startups. He was legislative counsel to U.S. Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, worked with the Tennessee General Assembly and was a transactional attorney in Roanoke, VA.

**Katherine Haddock** was named a 2021 "Rising Star" in immigration law by North











Carolina Super Lawyers. She is a senior associate attorney at Helen Tarokic Law PLLC in Wilmington, NC. She made a virtual presentation at the American Immigration Lawyers Association Human Trafficking Seminar in June.

**Hunt Harris** joined the Wilmington, NC, office of Law Firm Carolinas, where he focuses on civil and business litigation, real estate, community associations and planned community law and estate planning.

**Emily Jeske** was named to the 2022 edition of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, which recognizes the nation's top attorneys who have been practicing law less than 10 years. It is the second consecutive year Jeske has been named to the list. She is an attorney with Bosquez Porter Family Law in Raleigh.

**Grace Sykes Pennerat** joined Poyner Spruill LLP as an associate attorney in its newly formed education law practice group, based in Raleigh. She also spends time in the Rocky Mount NC and Charlotte offices.

Sarah Saint was recognized in Business North Carolina's 2022 Legal Elite in the Young Guns category. She is an associate at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC. She was also named to the Wake Forest School of Law Rose Council, which encourages recent law graduates to stay involved with the school. The council is named for Professor Emeritus of Law Charley Rose.

### **2018**

**Jordan Barnette** joined Robert & Stevens PA, an Asheville, NC-based law firm, as an associate attorney. He focuses on medical malpractice and health care liability.

**Robert Mitchel Botkin** is an associate attorney in the Raleigh office of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP, focusing on privacy, cybersecurity and tech transactions. He was previously with Womble Bond Dickinson LLP.

**Andrew "Drew" E. Hayhurst** joined Gentry Locke as an associate attorney in the Richmond, VA, office, where he assists clients with commercial transactions.

### 2020

Rachel H. Boyd joined the Raleigh law firm Young Moore as an associate. She represents businesses in commercial litigation. At Wake Forest, she was outreach coordinator for the law school's Domestic Violence Awareness Coalition and a student attorney at the Community Law & Business Clinic. She is a classically trained opera singer.

Matthew Hooker joined Alston & Bird's Charlotte and Raleigh offices as an associate in the firm's Litigation & Trial Practice group. He litigates a wide variety of matters, including defending a Fortune 5 healthcare company subsidiary in federal drug pricing litigation and in the largest multidistrict litigation in U.S. history as well as representing an interstate pipeline company throughout its project development. Matthew also guides clients through government investigations, including under the False Claims Act.

**Joshua T. Randall** is an associate in the accidents/personal injury law practice at Einhorn, Barbarito, Frost & Botwinick PC in Denville, NJ.

**Sarahanne Y. Vaughan** joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Birmingham, AL, as an associate in the labor and employment practice group.

**Eimile Stokes Whelan** is an associate in the Charlotte office of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP. She lives in Charlotte with her husband, Patrick Whelan.

### 2021

Chris Flurry has joined the litigation team at Ellis & Winters LLP in Raleigh, where he focuses on torts, insurance defense and employment law. He served more than 14 years in the U.S. Marines before graduating from Germanna Community College and the University of Mary Washington in Virginia. In law school, he was executive online editor for the Wake Forest Law Review.

Johny Hallow joined the law office of Hornthal, Riley, Ellis & Maland as an associate attorney in Elizabeth City, NC, focusing on civil litigation, personal injury, employment and local government.

Abbie N. Hornberger joined the law firm Roberts & Stevens PA in Asheville, NC, as an associate attorney. She focuses on business transactions, corporate law, estate planning and administration and taxation.

**Natalie Krikorian** joined Bressler, Amery & Ross PC as an associate attorney in its Miami office, focusing on business and commercial litigation.

Tyler "Ty" James Maron ('18) joined the law firm Morris James LLP as an associate in its government relations and regulatory practice groups. He was an intern for Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., and Delaware Gov. John Carney. Maron lives in Wilmington, DE.

### **Marriages**

Caitlin Bush ('14, MA '16, JD '19) and Samuel Hunter Birckhead, 12/18/21 in Lenoir, NC. They live in Raleigh. The wedding party included Delaney Brummer ('16), Justine Wright Hayton (JD '19), Whitney Hosey (JD '19), Jacob Leonard (MAEd '15), Alexia Martin (JD '19), Ashley Wylie Myers ('15, MSM '16, MBA '23) and Sarah Spangenburg (JD '19).

John Allen Riggins ('14, JD '18) and Anne "Annie" Ives Monson ('15), 1/29/22 in Winston-Salem. They live in Washington, DC. The wedding party included Rachel Roth Aldhizer ('15), Mike Antonell ('14, MD '18), Brooks Bradway ('14), Laura Talton Bradway ('14), Houston Clark ('15), Chandler Dunklin ('14), Will Hardy ('17), Matt Harris ('14), Caroline Dodd Heys ('16), Mary Augusta Slawson Hill ('17), Dakota Lee ('16), Caroline Drew Mann ('15), Blake Rutledge ('16) and Owen Stone ('14).

**Eric T. Spose (JD '16)** and Julianna B. Miller ('17, MAEd '18), 6/12/21 in Cold Spring Harbor, NY. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included Grant Bishop ('17), Colin Kennedy (JD '16), John Miller ('14), Caroline Miller ('21), Maddie Stambaugh ('17) and Hannah Suttle ('17).

Madison Kerry Benedict (JD '16) and Byron James Wyche ('07, MSA '08), 5/15/21 in San Antonio, TX. They live in Austin, TX. The wedding party included Chip Dillard ('06) and Stuart Abram Whatley ('07).

### **Births**

Rory P. Agan ('10, JD '13) and Laura M. Esseesse ('10, JD '13), Apex, NC: a son, Nico Alexander Agan. 8/24/21. He joined his sister, Everly Rose "Rosie" (3).

**Timothy H. Doolittle (JD '12)** and Erin Doolittle, Manlius, NY: a son, Hudson Timothy. 1/13/21

**Donavan John Hylarides (JD '12)** and Lauren Ashley Stutts Hylarides (MBA '21), Clemmons, NC: a son, Owen Wiley. 9/10/21 Vinithra Sharma Mihill ('10, MSL '16) and Shawn Michael Mihill (JD '16), Virginia Beach, VA: a daughter, Maya Marie. 8/16/21

Anna Warburton Munroe ('03, JD '09) and John C. Munroe (MBA '11), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Elizabeth "Libby" Stuart. 4/19/21. She joins her brother, John "Jack" Corry Munroe Jr. (4).

Alex Reyes Schroeder ('06, JD '09) and Courtney Schroeder, Minneapolis: a daughter, Maya Jean. 9/24/21

**Duncan Graham Wilson (JD/MBA '09)** and Lauren Elizabeth Wilson, Charlotte: a daughter, Virginia Reid. 12/30/21. She joined her brother, Graham Louis (7).

### **Deaths**

Edgar "Ed" Reel Bain ('55, JD '57), Sept. 8, 2021, Lillington, NC. He practiced law for more than 60 years in Harnett County NC and was the attorney for the town of Lillington and Campbell University. He co-founded Cape Fear Christian Academy in Harnett County.

Danielle Barsky (JD '14), July 3, 2021, Leland, NC. She was a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association and an advocate for animal rescue and adoption.

David James Beal ('63, JD '66), Jan. 7, 2022, Mount Airy, NC. He was chief of police in Mount Airy, clerk of Superior Court of Surry County and vice president of human resources at Renfro Corp. He was a volunteer special assistant to the general managers of the Winston-Salem Spirits and Warthogs baseball teams. He was preceded in death by his father, Fate J. Beal (LLB '39). Survivors include son Michael Beal (JD '91) and brother Beverly Beal ('68, JD '74).

Marion W. Benfield Jr. (JD '59), Aug. 30, 2022, New Braunfels, TX. Former University Distinguished Professor of Law at Wake Forest University School of Law. His legal scholarship included expertise in sales

and contract law where he is the coauthor of six textbooks and numerous articles.

Heath "Denton" Bumgardner Jr. ('70, JD '75), Aug. 7, 2021, West Bath, ME. He practiced law for more than 40 years and opened his own practice in Brunswick, ME. Survivors include son Heath Douglas Bumgardner ('01).

Joe Neal Cagle (JD '64), Aug. 26, 2021, Vale, NC. He founded the law firm of Keener & Cagle in Hickory, NC, and directed the paralegal studies program at Gaston College.

**Gerry Crouch Coggin II (JD '03)**, Feb. 1, 2022, Charlotte. He founded Coggin Law in Charlotte.

Charles Bennett Deane Jr. ('59, JD '62), Feb. 6, 2022, Rockingham, NC. He was vice president of the student body at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Navy in the Judge Advocate General's Corps and practiced law in Rockingham for over 50 years. He served on the board of trustees of Wake Forest Baptist Hospital and was the first vice president of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention. He was also a North Carolina state senator and was named Citizen of the Year in Richmond County. He wrote, "From Humble Roots to the Halls of Congress" about his late father, Charles "C.B." Bennett Deane (LLB 1923, LHD '61), who was a member of the Wake Forest Board of Trustees. He is survived by his wife, Myra Upchurch Deane ('64), and sister, Cree Deane Sherman ('51).

Milton Palmer Fields (JD '53), Aug. 8, 2021, Rocky Mount, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Saratoga during World War II. He was an attorney in Rocky Mount who co-founded the law firm Fields & Cooper PLLC in 1959 with Roy A. Cooper Jr. ('49), father of North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper.

**John L. Fischer ('63, JD '66)**, Sept. 4, 2021, Conroe, TX. He was an attorney with Exxon Corporation.

**Robert "Bob" Humphrey Forbes (JD '60)**, Oct. 20, 2021, Gastonia, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Ko-

rean War. He was an FBI special agent before practicing law in Gastonia for more than 50 years.

Larry Grant Ford (JD '65), June 19, 2021, Salisbury, NC. He retired in 2006 as a Superior Court judge for Rowan County NC. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from Gov. Jim Hunt in 1982.

Lani A. Hustace George (JD '87), Oct. 14, 2021, Murchison, TX. She served eight years in the U.S. Navy, achieving the rank of lieutenant commander and earning honors, including the Navy Expert Pistol Shot Medal. She was an accountant in Texas.

Harold "Hal" Franklin Greeson ('63, JD '66), May 31, 2021, Greensboro, NC. He was an attorney and a lifetime member and former president of the Greensboro Jaycees. He was named a Jaycee International Senator, the organization's highest honor for outstanding service.

Charles W. Harden IV (JD '66), July 16, 2021, Greensboro, NC. He practiced law in Greensboro for 34 years.

Henry Averill Harkey (JD '75), Dec. 1, 2021, Charlotte. He was a retired captain in the U.S. Army Reserve. He was an attorney who co-managed with his brother, Averill Harkey (JD '79), a law firm founded by their father. The brothers also co-founded a real estate development firm, Morehead Properties Inc. He served on the Wake Forest Alumni Council, School of Law Alumni Council and School of Law Board of Visitors. In addition to his brother, survivors include son Jonathan Henry Harkey ('03).

**Michael "Mike" Healy (JD '85)**, July 25, 2020, Huntington, NY. He was a bankruptcy and litigation attorney for 35 years.

Mettie Maryland "Tootsie" Smith Henry (JD '77), July 21, 2020, Annapolis, MD. She was an attorney in Annapolis for nearly four decades, including 23 years in private practice with her late husband, Darrell, and several years recently with her son.

**Stanley "Sandy" Morris Herman (JD '65)**, Dec. 6, 2021, High Point, NC. He

was an attorney who practiced with his father, **Ben Herman (LLB 1925)**. Survivors include grandson Ryan E. Kane ('18).

William Kenneth "Ken" Hinton ('62, JD '65), Nov. 17, 2021, Smithfield, NC. He practiced law for 30 years and taught business law classes at Johnston Community College and Campbell University.

**Richard "Dick" Long Huffman Jr. (JD '81)**, Jan. 29, 2022, Salisbury, NC. He practiced law in Charlotte and at his own firm in Salisbury. He won the first mesothelioma case heard by the North Carolina Court of Appeals. He was chair of the alumni association and the board of visitors at Lenoir-Rhyne University.

**Janice Vanessa Johnson (JD '17)**, Feb. 2, 2022, McDonough, GA.

Thomas Morgan Johnson (JD '75), Feb. 1, 2022, Elizabethtown, NC. He served in the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division from 1969 to 1974, including two tours in Vietnam. He practiced law with his brother, Leslie Johnson (JD '68, P '00), at the Johnson Law Firm in Elizabethtown.

Cheslie Kryst (JD/MBA '17), Jan. 30, 2022, New York. She was the 2019 Miss USA and a correspondent for the entertainment program Extra. She competed in the Miss North Carolina USA competition five times before winning in 2019 and then won the Miss USA pageant. She was a top 10 finalist in the subsequent Miss Universe competition. She also was an attorney and diversity adviser at Poyner Spruill LLP in Charlotte. At Wake Forest, she was on the team that won the 2017 American Association for Justice Trial Advocacy Competition, and she was a member of the School of Law Board of Visitors. Poyner Spruill has established the Cheslie C. Kryst Diversity and Social Justice Law Scholarship at the School of Law.

Lokie Charles Lackey (JD '74), Jan. 25, 2022, Greensboro, NC. He spent his career in finance in manufacturing and the paper business.

**Charles Gaston Lee III (JD '51)**, March 30, 2021, Asheville, NC. He served in the Merchant Marines and the U.S. Army Sig-

nal Corps during World War II. He was a retired attorney and a past chair of the board of directors of Asheville Federal Savings and Loan Association.

Robert "Bob" E. Lee Jr. ('55, JD '60), Oct. 4, 2021, Kure Beach, NC. He was an officer in the U.S. Army for three years. He retired as district counsel for the Veterans Administration in Winston-Salem in 1989. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert E. Lee Sr. ('28, JD '28), dean emeritus of the Wake Forest School of Law, and Louise Lee. Survivors include sister Betty Lee Recoulley ('68, P '02).

Joe Pearson McCollum Jr. ('64, JD '67), Sept. 16, 2021, Monroe, NC. He served in the U.S. Marines and was a lawyer for nearly 50 years in his native Monroe.

John G. Mills III ('58, JD '60), Oct. 3, 2021, Wake Forest, NC. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He was an attorney for more than 50 years and taught law courses at NC State and Campbell universities. He was a town commissioner and mayor of Wake Forest and served on the board of directors of the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society.

John Kings Motsinger (JD '83), Jan. 7, 2022, Walkertown, NC. He was an attorney, a mediator and an adjunct professor at Guilford College. Survivors include his wife, Elisabeth Sykes Motsinger (PA '89, MA '13).

Kenneth "Ken" Bill Newman (JD '89), June 2, 2021, St. Louis. He practiced law in St. Louis for more than three decades.

Martin J. O'Connor (JD '81), Oct. 21, 2021, Needham, MA. He was a corporate and family law attorney in Boston and had a second career as a teacher.

John Burke O'Donnell Jr. (JD '74), Jan. 16, 2022, Raleigh. He was an assistant district attorney in North Carolina's 6th Judicial District (Halifax, Northampton, Bertie and Hertford counties) and a partner in several law firms in Raleigh.

Nancy Carol Osborne (JD '80), Nov. 6, 2021, Elkin, NC. She was a retired attorney with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Billie Lynn Poole ('58, JD '65), March 16, 2021, Salemburg, NC. He was a catcher on Wake Forest's baseball team that won the 1955 College World Series. He served in the U.S. Army and was an attorney in his native Sampson County NC for 49 years before retiring in 2014.

Robert "Bob" Ward Porter (JD '65), Sept. 13, 2021, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army and was an attorney.

James "Jim" Lloyd Roberts (JD '69), June 2, 2021, Mocksville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in the Korean War. He was an attorney in Charlotte for 30 years until retiring in 2002.

Jesse "Brian" Scott (JD '51), Jan. 3, 2022, Wilmington, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and practiced law with Battle Winslow Scott & Wiley in Rocky Mount, NC, for 60 years. He was a member of the School of Law Alumni Council and the General Practice Hall of Fame of the North Carolina Bar Association. He was preceded in death by brothers John Scott Jr. ('39) and Robert Scott (LLB '46).

William "Bill" Reginald Sigmon Sr. (JD '63), Jan. 22, 2022, Hickory, NC. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and Reserve as an air traffic controller. He was a founding member of the law firm Sigmon, Clark, Mackie, Hanvey & Ferrell P.A. in Hickory. He was inducted into the North Carolina Bar Association General Practice Hall of Fame.

James "Jim" Eugene Snyder Jr. ('67, JD '70), Sept. 12, 2021, Lexington, NC. He played varsity basketball at Wake Forest from 1964-1967 under Coach Bones McKinney. He was elected senior class president. He practiced law in Davidson County NC for nearly 50 years, retiring in 2018. He was heavily involved in local politics, serving as chair of the Davidson County Republican Party and completing his late father's term in the North Carolina House of Representatives. Survivors include daughter Courtney Snyder Brown ('91).

Robert "Bob" Vance Suggs ('59, JD '64), Jan. 22, 2022, Archdale, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a civil law attorney for nearly 40 years and a real estate broker.

**Gary Bunting Tash (JD '71)**, June 27, 2021, Winston-Salem. He was a founding member of Tash & Kurtz PLLC and an adjunct professor in the School of Law. He was a former Forsyth County

District Court judge who helped establish the juvenile court division. He received the Founder's

Award from the national Sigma Pi fraternity for his service to the fraternity and Wake Forest's Alpha-Nu chapter. He also received the McMillan Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina State Bar.

**Charles "Keith" Taylor (JD '06)**, Sept. 16, 2021, Atlanta. He was a partner at the law firm Parker Hudson.

William Banfield Trevorrow (JD '65), Dec. 24, 2021, High Point, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea and was an attorney in Guilford County NC.

Russell Etheridge Twiford (JD '52), Feb. 27, 2021, Elizabeth City, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and in the Navy Reserve. He founded The Twiford Law Firm in Elizabeth City and Manteo, NC. He donated land to Jockey's Ridge State Park, Nags Head Woods Preserve and municipal and education sites in Dare County in the Outer Banks. He was a past member of the Wake Forest School of Law Alumni Council and the Board of Visitors. He established the Russell E. Twiford Scholarship for law students from northeastern North Carolina.

James Kenneth Waldroup (JD '75), Dec. 5, 2021, Robbinsville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War. He was an attorney, a teacher and a farmer.

**Mollie Little Weaver (JD '82)**, Jan. 13, 2022, Glen Allen, VA. She practiced law in North Carolina and Florida.

Alan Joseph White (JD '55), June 20, 2021, Milton, GA. He served in the U.S. Navy. He retired in 2003 as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration in Atlanta.

### <u>Faculty/Staff/</u> Friends/Students

**Betsy Clement**, Oct. 10, 2021, Garner, NC. She was an administrative assistant at Wake Forest from 1991 to 2000 in the capital campaign and law school development offices.

David B. Freedman, Sept. 3, 2021, Winston-Salem. He practiced law for nearly 40 years, becoming one of North Carolina's most prominent criminal defense attorneys. He was a past president of the Forsyth County Bar Association and an adjunct professor at Wake Forest School of Law, teaching courses on criminal procedure and trial practice for 15 years.

**Scott W. Roth (MSL '25)**, Sept. 21, 2022, Winston-Salem, NC. Scott was a current, second year student in our Master of Studies in Law program.

Charles "Charlie" Madison Shelton Sr.,

Jan. 22, 2022, Dobson, NC. He served on the Wake Forest Board of Trustees in the late 1980s and early 1990s and the Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center Board of Visitors. He was a generous donor to the University and made a large gift toward construction of the Worrell Professional Center. Shelton and his brother, Ed Shelton, founded Fortis Homes; Shelco, a general contractor company; and The Shelton Companies, a private real estate and investment firm. In 2000, they founded Shelton Vineyards in Dobson in North Carolina's Yadkin Valley. He was inducted into the North Carolina Business Hall of

Fame and Queens University of Charlotte's

Carolinas Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame.





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