AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS DINNER

JUNE 20, 2019, 7:30 P.M.
BILTMORE, ASHEVILLE
Invocation
LeAnn Nease Brown, NCBA/NCBF President-Elect

Introduction
Jacqueline D. Grant, NCBA/NCBF President

Dinner

Awards & Recognitions
New Platt Walker Society Members
Leadership Academy Class of 2019
Legal Practice Hall of Fame
Citizen Lawyer Awards
William Thorp Pro Bono Service Award
Deborah Greenblatt Outstanding Legal Services Attorney Award
Outstanding Collaborative Pro Bono Award
Law School Pro Bono Award
Law Firm Pro Bono Award
YLD Pro Bono Award
YLD Charles F. Blanchard Award
YLD Robinson O. Everett Professionalism Award
Distinguished Paralegal Award
H. Brent McKnight Renaissance Lawyer Award
Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake, Jr. Public Service Award
Judge John J. Parker Memorial Award

Closing
Jacqueline D. Grant, NCBA/NCBF President
Members of the Platt D. Walker Society Class of 2019 are:

Zeb E. Barnhardt, Jr., Greensboro
Judge Robert R. Blackwell*, Yanceyville
Susan and William S. Cherry, Jr., Raleigh
W. Erwin Fuller, Jr., Greensboro
Thomas M. Hull, Apex
A. William Kennon*, Durham
James W. Kilbourne, Jr., Asheville
D. Beth Langley, Greensboro
Julian Mann III, Raleigh
George W. Martin*, Mocksville
Mary Todd Warren, Washington
John R. Wester, Charlotte

*Designates deceased members

About the Platt D. Walker Society:

The Platt D. Walker Society was established in 1996 by the North Carolina Bar Foundation to recognize those individuals who have made a planned gift to support the North Carolina Bar Foundation.
Members of the Leadership Academy Class of 2019 are:

Kara Brunk, Raleigh
Christina Cress, Raleigh
Claire Duff, Raleigh
Casey Ferri, Charlotte
Katye Griffin, Raleigh
Matthew Houston, Raleigh
Vince Hyatt, Asheville
Mary Kathryn Kurth, Raleigh
Madison Mackenzie, Raleigh
Marissa Meredith, Greensboro
Larissa Mervin, Davidson
Elizabeth Morales, Chapel Hill
Rachel Nicholas, Durham
Amish Patel, Raleigh
Jasmine Pitt, Clemmons
Allen Trask III, Wilmington

About the Leadership Academy:

The mission of the Leadership Academy is to help young lawyers become more effective leaders in their communities. Roberta King Latham, former chair of the Young Lawyers Division, and Past-President Shelby Benton served as co-chairs of the NCBA Leadership Academy initiative this year. The NCBA again partnered with Joy Ruhmann and Level Up Leadership to provide this year’s training.
R. Anderson Haynes was born and grew up in Tryon, North Carolina. He graduated from St. Andrew’s School in Middletown, Delaware, and received his B.A. in History from Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut. He obtained his Juris Doctor degree in 1973 from the Law School at the University of North Carolina. Upon returning to his hometown, he began his law practice which concentrates in Real Estate and Estate Planning and Administration. Andy has been practicing law for over 45 years. He has been a member of both the American Bar Association and the North Carolina Bar Association, in Sections on Real Property and on Estate Planning and Fiduciary Law for over 37 years. He is past president of the Polk County Bar Association and past president of the 29B Judicial District Bar.

Over his career, involvement in the civic, charitable, and cultural life of this community has been one of his top priorities. Andy has been a Rotarian since 1974, serving as chairman of the Rotary Scholarship Committee and the Group Study Exchange Committee as well as in other capacities. He has at various times served as an officer and director of the Tryon Fine Arts Center, St. Luke’s Hospital, St. Luke’s Hospital Foundation, the Lanier Library, the Tryon Riding and Hunt Club, the Polk County Jaycees, the Tryon Chamber of Commerce, and the Foothills Equestrian Nature Center. For his entire life he has been a member of the Congregational Church, having served on various boards. For 25 years, he was chairman of the Tryon Zoning Board of Adjustments and continues to serve on the Tryon Fireman’s Relief Board. In 1975 Andy helped launch the Polk County Community Foundation, working in the organization for 20 years as counsel, secretary, director and several terms as president. Additionally, numerous local eleemosynary organizations have benefitted from his pro bono work on organizational and tax exemptions documents.
Dan M. Hartzog

Dan Hartzog has practiced law as a civil trial attorney in Raleigh for 45 years. He has tried over a hundred jury trials, appearing in both state and federal courts with an exceptional number of successful outcomes. He has argued cases in North Carolina’s appellate courts and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. Given that he has been involved in some significant cases and has represented public entities in numerous cases, many have been well publicized in the media.

Dan has been recognized by his peers and by many organizations for his abilities and results as a trial lawyer. He has been inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, an honor extended by invitation only after careful investigation including contact with opposing counsel and presiding judges, to those experienced trial lawyers who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility and collegiality. Dan is also a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), in which he holds the rank of Advocate, only bestowed upon lawyers who have tried at least 50 jury trials to conclusion as lead counsel.

In addition to his active trial practice, Dan served as Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog’s original Managing Partner, a position he maintained from 1992 to 2015. During this time frame, the firm grew to nearly four times its original size and maintained offices in Raleigh, Charlotte and Wilmington.

A native of Raleigh and a product of its public schools, Dan attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for his undergraduate studies and law school. He has been married to Tricia for 44 years. Both of their children attended the UNC School of Law—Dan, Jr. practicing with his dad, and Anna Tison practicing at Brooks Pierce in Raleigh. Dan and Tricia are the proud grandparents of two girls and two boys.

Dan has served as a Deacon and as a Ruling Elder at White Memorial Presbyterian Church where his parents were Charter Members.
North Carolina Bar Association
Legal Practice Hall of Fame
Class of 2019

L.P. Hornthal, Jr.

Louis Phillip Hornthal, Jr. has been called Tony since his birth in Tarboro in 1936. He is a UNC undergraduate (1958) and law (1963) graduate. He was licensed to practice in 1963; served as Law Clerk to Justice William B. Rodman, Jr. (1963-64) and as Staff Attorney with the NC Attorney General; and practiced law with the Elizabeth City law firm, Hornthal, Riley, Ellis and Maland and predecessors, from 1965 until his retirement in 2018, specializing in civil litigation in State and Federal trial and appellate courts. He is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers; a recipient of the NCSB John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award and the NCADA Robert Elster Award for Professional Excellence. His professional and community service includes service as president of the North Carolina Bar Association and Foundation, and the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys; and involvement on the NC Judicial Standards Commission, the NCSB Disciplinary Hearings Commission, the Board of Directors and Claims Committee of North Carolina Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company and as Senior Warden and Vestryman at Christ Episcopal Church of Elizabeth City.

He was married in 1963 to Harriett Lang of Kinston. Their 55-year marriage has been blessed with two sons, Phillip (a lawyer) and Lang, their marriage to wonderful wives, Kristy and Ann-Patton (also a lawyer) and seven grandchildren. Harriett and Tony have lived in Elizabeth City since 1965, where their active involvement includes their service a co-chairs of the fund raising campaign for construction of the new Museum of the Albemarle in downtown Elizabeth City.
Hon. Timothy W. Smith

Tim Smith was born and raised on a farm in Duplin County and graduated from East Duplin High School in 1978. He obtained his bachelor’s degree in business administration from East Carolina University in 1982 and his law degree from Campbell Law School in 1986.

Throughout his career Smith has served as the attorney for Duplin County and the Beulaville Board of Commissioners. He has served as a sole practitioner and for the past 19 years as a partner in Smith & Blizzard, P.A., in Kenansville. Smith has also served as a member and chair of the Duplin County Board of Commissioners. In April he was appointed to the District Court bench by Gov. Cooper, filling a vacancy in the Fourth Judicial District (Duplin, Sampson, Onslow and Jones counties). He was sworn in on May 30.

Smith is married to Jill Matthews Smith and has two children, Ashley Smith Jata, who is married to Richard Jata, and Timothy Reid Smith, and two grandchildren, Shelby and Sandy Jata. The son of the late Ray Franklin and Sarah Waters Smith of Pink Hill, he is a lifelong member of Smith Presbyterian Church and a former session member.

About the Legal Practice Hall of Fame:

The Legal Practice Hall of Fame recognizes outstanding lawyers whose careers have served as models for other lawyers. Legal Practice Hall of Fame lawyers have exhibited throughout their practice the highest standards of ethics and professional competency, and have rendered a high level of service to the Bar and to their communities.
Hon. Larry D. Brown, Jr.

Larry Brown serves as a District Court judge in Alamance County. Brown was born in Henderson but grew up in Baltimore and graduated from nearby Towson State University with a degree in political science in 1999. He returned to North Carolina to attend law school, graduating from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 2008. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Brown served as an assistant district attorney in Alamance County (District 15A) from 2008-13 and as a solo practitioner from 2013-17. Brown has served his community in numerous ways, including service to Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in Mebane, the Men’s Empowering Resource Center, Piedmont Men of Steel and Sustainable Alamance. He has also provided volunteer service to Alamance Citizens for a Drug Free Community, CareNet of Alamance County and the Alamance County Teen Court Program.

Niya Fonville

Niya Fonville, a native of New Bern, serves as the Associate Director of the Career & Professional Development Center at Campbell Law School where she excitedly participates in preparing future generations of legal professionals. Prior to transitioning to higher education, she served as a supervising and staff attorney with Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc., providing free legal services to low-income families throughout the state, for over ten years. Niya has a passion for diversity and inclusion initiatives and seeks to ensure that her workplace and social circles create and maintain cultures of inclusivity for all stakeholders. She is a member of several professional affiliations including the NCBA (currently serving as a co-chair for the Minorities in the Profession Committee), N.C. Association of Black Lawyers, Wake County Bar Association, Capital City Lawyers Association, Triangle Area Legal Recruiters Association, the National Association for Law Placement and serves on the N.C. Equal Access to Justice Foundation board. Niya earned her B.A. from Salem College magna cum laude and her J.D. from the University of Miami cum laude.
Joel C. Harbinson

Joel C. Harbinson is the senior partner in the firm of Harbinson, Brzykcy & Corbett with offices in Taylorsville and Statesville. He is the former chairman of the Alexander County Board of County Commissioners, Alexander County Attorney, Taylorsville Town Attorney, chairman of the Alexander County Democratic Party and member of the Alexander County Board of Elections, and is the current School Board Attorney for the Alexander County Board of Education. He is the former chairman of the Board of Trustees for Alexander Community Hospital, a former member of the Board for the N.C. Autism Society and the Governor’s Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities, and a co-founder of the Bob Gryder Scholarship Foundation, Inc. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law.

Sarah Fulton Hutchins

Sarah Fulton Hutchins is a partner at Parker Poe and leader in the Charlotte community. She is chair of the board of directors for the Humane Society of Charlotte, serves on the board of directors for the McColl Center for Art + Innovation, and recently concluded two years as a board of trustees apprentice with Blumenthal Performing Arts. In addition, Sarah serves on the board of directors for the Mecklenburg County Bar Foundation and is a past board member of the Mecklenburg County Bar. At Parker Poe, she is an experienced litigator and an integral part of the firm’s internal operations, leading the firm’s Community Service Committee and serving on its Professional Review Committee and Recruiting Committee.
Lance Lawson serves as the managing partner of Burr Forman McNair’s Charlotte office, and is a member of the firm’s Intellectual Property practice group. A licensed Professional Engineer, Lance focuses his practice on patent infringement and other intellectual property litigation including trademarks, trade dress, copyrights, and trade secrets, as well as commercial disputes involving technology. Before entering private practice, Lance was a federal law clerk for the Honorable Robert D. Potter of the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina. In addition, he was the chairman of the committee that promulgated the first set of Local Patent Rules for the Western District of North Carolina in 2010-2011 and currently is on a committee revising the Local Patent Rules for the Eastern District of North Carolina. Also, after serving as the Managing Editor and co-author for a weekly patent law update and Federal Circuit Annual Review for over eight years, Lance currently serves on the Intellectual Property Editorial Advisory Board for Law360’s nationally published IP newsletter.

William A. Oden, III

Will Oden lives in Wilmington with his wife, Katie, and their two daughters, Alston (4) and Sallie (8 months). Will has practiced employment law at Ward and Smith, P.A. since 2004. A former president of the Craven County Bar Association, New Hanover County Bar Association, and Fifth Judicial District Bar, Oden currently serves as a council member for both the NCBA Labor and Employment Section and Dispute Resolution Section.
Justin N. Outling

Justin N. Outling is a partner at Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, L.L.P. in Greensboro, practicing in business litigation and white-collar criminal defense. He is an alumnus of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Duke University School of Law. Prior to joining Brooks Pierce, Justin served as a federal law clerk to Judge William L. Osteen, Jr. of the Middle District of North Carolina in Greensboro. Subsequently, Justin practiced law at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton L.L.P. in New York City, where he represented financial institutions and multi-national corporations in securities and other complex litigation, as well as in criminal and regulatory matters. In addition to his work as an attorney, Justin is a member of Greensboro City Council and serves the Greensboro community in a number of roles, including as a board member of Carolina State Bank, the Hospice Foundation of Greater Greensboro, Preservation Greensboro, as well as the co-chair of the Board of Visitors for the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

David Redding

After graduating from Boston College in 1985, David Redding served nine years in the United States Army in the Infantry and Special Forces.

David left the Army in 1994 to attend Wake Forest University Law School. Since his graduation in 1997, his practice has been primarily located in Charlotte, North Carolina in the area of commercial litigation. He has vast experience in all facets of complex commercial disputes in state and federal courts, as well as arbitration. He has taken several cases to North Carolina’s appellate courts on complex issues involving indemnification, liability limitation and the uniform commercial code.

David is a founding member and current national leader of the men’s fitness, fellowship and faith group, F3.
Kathleen F. Treadwell practices with Pittman & Steele, PLLC in Burlington. Kathleen currently serves on the board of directors for The Open Door Clinic of Alamance County (current president), the Alamance Community Foundation, and the Alamance County Community College Foundation. Kathleen also serves on the steering committee for Women United, the advisory committee for the Innovation Fund, and on the grant advisory committee for Impact Alamance. She previously served on the board of directors for the Alamance Regional Medical Center Charitable Foundation (past president), the board of directors of Healthy Alamance, the advisory board of Alamance County Recreation and Parks and the board of directors of the Alamance Medication Assistance Program. Kathleen is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of Mississippi School of Law.

Henry P. Van Hoy, II

Hank Van Hoy is the senior partner of Martin & Van Hoy, LLP, in Mocksville, the firm he joined upon his graduation from the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1974, and is engaged in the general practice of law. Hank and his wife Polly have been married for 46 years and they have three sons. Brad is a partner at Moore & Van Allen, PLLC. Scott is a partner of Leeds Equity Partners in New York. Matt is an associate with Moore & Van Allen, PLLC. Hank and Polly have four grandchildren. Hank is a past president of the North Carolina Bar Association and Foundation, and has been involved in many bar and local activities, the proudest of which is coaching one of his 4th grade rec basketball teams to a perfect 10 and 0 season.
Lee Zachary was born in Yadkin County on Dec 8, 1946, to attorney Walter Zachary and Mary Jo Zachary. He graduated from Yadkinville High School in 1965 and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1969 with a B.S. in History. From 1970-72 Zachary served in the Navy Reserves in Vietnam. He returned to North Carolina following military service and graduated from the UNC School of Law in 1975. That same year he was elected mayor of Yadkinville and served four years, and also served four years on the town board. Zachary served as chairman of the Hoots Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees for 10 years. He has practiced law for more than 38 years and served as attorney for the Yadkin County Board of Education for 19 years. In 2014 he was elected to the N.C. House of Representatives and is serving his third term in the General Assembly. Zachary considers his greatest accomplishment to be his marriage of 30 years to Judge Valerie Zachary, and is also extremely proud of his three great daughters and two wonderful grandchildren.

About Citizen Lawyer:

The Citizen Lawyer Award recognizes lawyers who, in addition to their legal work, exemplify the ideals of a citizen lawyer by volunteering their time for worthy community or civic causes to improve the quality of life of those in their local or statewide communities. This award recognizes role models who inspire other lawyers to invest their time and talents in service-oriented activities.
North Carolina Bar Association
William Thorp Pro Bono Service Award

Brent A. Torstrick

As a real estate attorney at Robinson Bradshaw in Charlotte, Brent Torstrick provides essential pro bono services using the expertise he has gained through decades of work with commercial developers of real estate ventures. Brent is in Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite Hall of Fame for real estate and has been named Charlotte’s real estate “Lawyer of the Year” by Best Lawyers multiple times, alongside other impressive recognitions in Chambers, Super Lawyers, and more.

Brent quickly, competently and compassionately rises to the task when called upon by executive directors, presidents, or pastors of local nonprofit entities to provide legal assistance to help those organizations achieve their visions of expansion and renovation. The considerable hours Brent has spent negotiating and drafting ground leases, construction contracts and providing zoning and subdivision advice on important real estate projects have allowed organizations to provide services to homeless clients, shelter to battered mothers, and increased affordable housing.

About this award:

Presented to an NCBA member attorney who practices in North Carolina and has provided substantial legal services, in excess of the aspirational goals of Rule 6.1, with no expectation of receiving a fee, to a client or client group that could not otherwise afford legal counsel.
TeAndra Miller

Since 2002, the Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative at Legal Aid has been shaped and influenced by TeAndra Miller’s vision for high quality domestic violence legal services to North Carolinians. TeAndra has been a tireless and nimble leader and her stewardship of Legal Aid’s Domestic Violence program means that over 5,000 survivors a year have an opportunity to be represented by a skilled and zealous advocate at a critical moment in their lives. TeAndra leads the program as well as represents survivors herself. From housing cases to consumer advocacy to immigration and human trafficking work, TeAndra has cultivated the skills to advocate for our state’s most vulnerable and she has ensured that the 40-plus lawyers she supervises across the state are equally well-prepared to represent this vulnerable population of clients.

In her work on behalf of survivors of domestic violence, TeAndra has influenced the creation of a network of Family Justice Centers around North Carolina, as well as the Human Trafficking Commission and Legal Aid’s Battered Immigrant Project.

About this award:

Presented to a lawyer who is employed full time by a legal services program in North Carolina and who has made an exemplary contribution to the provision of legal assistance to help meet the needs of the poverty population in North Carolina.
North Carolina Bar Association
Outstanding Collaborative Pro Bono Award

The City of Durham’s Expunction And Restoration (DEAR) Program

The City of Durham’s Expunction And Restoration (DEAR) Program, established in 2018, began with volunteer attorneys, community partners, and court partners collaborating to find a way to increase access to expunctions, certificates of relief and driver’s license restorations. The program’s diverse partners now include: governmental partners City of Durham, Durham County, Durham City Attorneys, the Durham County Clerk of Court, the Durham County District Attorney, and the Durham County Public Defender; volunteer lawyers from the Durham County Bar (including the YLD and the George White Bar), pro bono contributions from NC Central University School of Law and Duke University School of Law, and the NC Equal Access to Justice Commission’s Pro Bono Resource Center; and community partners Legal Aid of North Carolina, the NC Justice Center, the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, All of Us or None, the Criminal Justice Resource Center, and Race Forward. The partners of the DEAR Advisory Board, co-chaired by Judge Josephine Kerr Davis and Judge Amanda L. Maris, have been swift in creating an innovative program, unique in its efforts to bring relief to a large number of justice-involved individuals.

DEAR’s work exponentially increases Durham’s capacity to provide legal relief from the collateral consequences of justice involvement by making legal services easier and safer for residents to access, faster for courts to administer and more efficient for pro bono attorneys to provide.

About this award:

Presented to a law firm, local, district, or statewide bar organization whose members have engaged in significant and notable legal services or have contributed outstanding support and assistance to the maintenance of pro bono legal services for low-income individuals. This award recognizes creativity in the provision of pro bono legal services, as well as innovative approaches to engage and encourage North Carolina attorneys to participate in pro bono legal service. Honorees have demonstrated a commitment to pro bono service by engaging a group of attorneys in a cooperative pro bono effort that has deep impact on the lives of low-income North Carolinians.
The Service Animal Project (SAP) was created in 2015 to provide for the needs of North Carolina’s service animal community. In conjunction with Campbell Law School’s Pro Bono Council, more than 50 members of the SAP work to empower local businesses, organizations, governmental agencies, and community leaders through free workshops.

The project educates the community on the rights and needs of service animal teams, as well as provides information on preferred service animal etiquette.

Almost 80 percent of disabled persons are unemployed and the project works to foster an inclusive environment for service animal users who, for accessibility and financial reasons, may only rarely enjoy public accommodations. With these twin goals of empowerment and education in mind, the student-lead Service Animal Project has provided workshops with support from Disability Rights N.C. and literature to local restaurants, municipal representatives, law enforcement agencies, public schools, and private networking organizations.

About this award:

Presented to an outstanding law student group whose pro bono project advanced access to justice in North Carolina. Consideration will be given to law school groups or projects engaging two or more North Carolina law school students who are not receiving law school academic credit for their work and who have provided assistance to low-income people in North Carolina.
The attorneys at the firm of Stone & Christy, P.A. have been the heart of the Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyer Program (MAVL) for two decades. This firm contributes more pro bono time and financial contributions “per capita/per attorney” to Pisgah Legal Services and the MAVL program than any other law firm or attorney in the Western North Carolina service area.

Each of the four attorneys currently at Stone & Christy have been dedicated to pro bono and community service throughout their tenure at the firm, with Bill Christy, Bryant Webster and James Ellis each having provided pro bono service to low-income clients through the Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyer Program for 18 or more years. Barrett McFatter has provided pro bono service since joining the firm four years ago.

Together these four attorneys have contributed 6,904 hours on a total of 2,023 pro bono cases and they have contributed hundreds of additional hours of service to provide leadership to expand access to legal help for low-income people. Through their casework, Stone & Christy attorneys have improved the lives of more than 4,000 low-income people in western North Carolina.

About this award:

The Law Firm Pro Bono Award recognizes law firms for their commitment to pro bono service through the contribution of pro bono hours, the percentage of billable hours devoted to pro bono work, the number and percentage of firm attorneys providing pro bono legal service, the firm’s creative approach to pro bono engagement, the consistency and sincerity of its pro bono program, and the presence of a law firm culture that is grounded in the observance of Rule 6.1 (Voluntary Pro Bono Publico Service) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
Manisha P. Patel

Manisha P. Patel may be a young lawyer, but she has already had a long career serving others. In addition to maintaining a family law firm in Greensboro as a solo practitioner, she gives a significant amount of time to pro bono service. Since 2015, Manisha has served as a volunteer for Legal Aid of North Carolina’s pro se divorce clinics and Lawyer on the Line Program. She has also consistently participates in the North Carolina Bar Foundation’s 4ALL and NC Free Legal Answers pro bono programs. She was recently sworn in as a Guardian ad Litem so that she can provide support and assistance to some of our state’s most vulnerable children. Manisha has been recognized by the Triad Business Journal: 2019 Top 40 Leaders Under 40, Super Lawyers: Rising Star 2019, and the Business North Carolina: Legal Elite for Family Law 2018 and 2019.

Manisha’s recognized commitment to pro bono service is further demonstrated by her selection and service on the NCBA Young Lawyers Division Nominating Committee, her two years of service as the NCBA Family Law Section’s Pro Bono Committee co-chair, and her work as chair of the Greensboro Bar Association’s Herb Falk Society (which recognizes pro bono service by GBA members).

About this award:

Presented by the NCBA Young Lawyers Division to an NCBA Young Lawyers Division member who has made extraordinary contributions by providing exemplary legal services without a fee and increased access to justice on behalf of persons of limited means and/or charitable groups or organizations.
Lisa W. Arthur

Lisa defends municipalities in a variety of disputes in state and federal court, including excessive force claims, negligence actions, constitutional claims, zoning disputes and breach of contract litigation. She recently defended a police officer in North Carolina state court against claims of assault, battery, false arrest, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution.

Lisa also handles a variety of business litigation matters, including cases involving breach of contract, breach of noncompetition clauses, Woodson and Pleasant claims and condemnation actions.

Before Fox Rothschild, Lisa was a senior associate at Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP, which merged with Fox Rothschild in 2018.

While in law school, she served as editor in chief of the North Carolina Journal of Law and Technology and received the 2010 Gressman-Pollitt Award for Outstanding Oral Advocacy, Best Overall; Ferebee Taylor Award for UNC Honor System, Chancellor’s Award; Hampton Shuping Prize for Kenan-Flagler Business School, Chancellor’s Award; Hal Kears Reynolds Class of 1924 Memorial Scholarship; and Jimmy Garrell-Tabor City Award for Excellence in Leadership.

Beyond Fox Rothschild, Lisa volunteers with Legal Aid of North Carolina’s Lawyer on the Line pro bono program. She co-chaired the Triad Associates’ Drive for Legal Aid and participated in Smith Moore Leatherwood’s Meals on Heels Group. She is a member of the Class of 2015 of Other Voices, a leadership development and community-building experience of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce.

About this award:

The Young Lawyers Division of the North Carolina Bar Association elected Charles F. Blanchard as its first chair in 1953 and he served until June 1955. The Division annually recognizes one of its members for their distinguished and meritorious service not only to the community and/or the profession, but also to the Division; and the member who is recognized is presented with the “outstanding” Young Lawyer Award.
Jonathan M. Bogues

Jonathan Bogues is an associate attorney with Moore & Alphin, PLLC in Raleigh, North Carolina. Jonathan was born and raised in Durham, North Carolina. Jonathan is a graduate of North Carolina State University and North Carolina Central University School of Law. Jonathan was a member of the 2017 North Carolina Bar Association Leadership Academy and currently serves as co-chair of the Communications Committee to the North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. Next year, Jonathan will take on a new role within the Young Lawyers Division as Communities Outreach Division Director.

About this award:

In June of 2010, the Young Lawyers Division decided to honor recently deceased Robinson O. Everett by naming a special “Professionalism” Award for him. The award is given to an attorney whose commitment of time to be active in civic, bar, law school education and community service activities exemplifies enthusiasm for achievement and excellence in the betterment for all.
Lakisha Chichester

Lakisha Chichester is a corporate paralegal at FHI 360, a global health and development organization headquartered in Durham. She previously worked as a paralegal at Self-Help, a national community development financial institution, the North Carolina Community College System Office, and Richardson Law Firm, PLLC.

Lakisha earned her undergraduate degree in Business Administration from SUNY Empire State College in 2001. After receiving her paralegal certificate from Meredith College in 2012, she earned her North Carolina Certified Paralegal and NALA Certified Paralegal designations. In 2013, Lakisha obtained an advanced paralegal certification in contract administration from NALA.

Lakisha is currently serving as a member of the North Carolina State Bar Board of Paralegal Certification, the NC State Bar Paralegal Certification Committee, and the North Carolina Bar Foundation Scholarships & Grants Committee. She is the Section Liaison chair for the NCBA Paralegal Division, District II Director and Long-Range Planning chair for the North Carolina Paralegal Association, and a mentor for Meredith College and the North Carolina Paralegal Association.

In addition to her involvement with professional associations, Lakisha is active in supporting her community. She is currently serving her first term on the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission. She has previously volunteered with Legal Aid, the Durham Eviction Diversion Program, Lawyer on the Line, Big Brother Big Sister, Dress for Success and the Community Empowerment Fund. In 2018, Lakisha donated a kidney to her sister and is an advocate of living organ donation.

About this award:

Recognizes the outstanding achievements, professionalism and contributions to the paralegal profession by a member of the NCBA Paralegal Division. The recipient of the award is a paralegal who has actively participated in paralegal activities including professional leadership, education, promotion of the profession and civic/community volunteering.
North Carolina Bar Association
H. Brent McKnight Renaissance Lawyer Award

Hon. Robert F. Orr

Bob Orr was licensed as an attorney in North Carolina in 1975 and practiced law in Asheville for eleven years prior to serving on the N.C. Court of Appeals and as an associate justice on the N.C. Supreme Court. He won four statewide elections over the course of his judicial career, retiring in 2004. Since then, Bob has served as the founding Executive Director of the N.C. Institute for Constitutional Law; taught as an adjunct professor at UNC School of Law; and since 2010 has returned to the private practice of law.

Bob has been involved throughout his career in a number of civic organizations including vice-president of the North Carolina Bar Association and as a member and Chairman of the Secretary of the Interior’s National Park System Advisory Board. He currently serves on the boards of the Clemson Institute for Parks and GoGlobal NC. A double Tar Heel, Bob attended UNC-Chapel Hill followed by three years in the U.S. Army, then graduated from law school in 1975. Having grown up in Hendersonville, Bob currently divides his time between Raleigh and his mountain home in Yancey County. He’s married with four grown children and four grandchildren and is a member of St. Michael’s Episcopal Church.

About this award:

The H. Brent McKnight Renaissance Lawyer Award recognizes attorneys who demonstrate the “Renaissance Lawyer” qualities embodied by Judge McKnight, former chair of the Professionalism Committee who died in 2004 while serving on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of N.C. The award seeks to recognize those North Carolina attorneys whose trustworthiness, respectful and courteous treatment of all people, enthusiasm for intellectual achievement and commitment to excellence in work, and service to the profession and community, inspire others.
Reid L. Phillips has practiced his entire career with Brooks Pierce, serving as its Managing Partner since 2016. An experienced trial and appellate attorney, he is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is a frequent speaker and writer on both civil litigation and law firm management matters. Reid’s enthusiasm for Greensboro has led him to serve in many volunteer roles, including initiatives to build the Greensboro Aquatics Center, expand Haw River State Park, and build the Steven Tanger Performing Arts Center. He has served as chair of the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro; chair of the committee that planned and oversaw construction of the $12 million LeBauer Park; chair of the War Memorial Commission (which oversees the Greensboro Coliseum Complex); and chair of the Greensboro Metropolitan YMCA. He has served on the boards of directors for the Weatherspoon Art Museum Association, the Greensboro Bar Association and the Green Hill Center for North Carolina Art. Reid received his law degree with honors from the University of Texas School of Law and his bachelor’s degree with honors from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1974. Reid and his wife, Gloria, are proud parents of two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne, and they have four grandchildren.

About this award:

The Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake Jr. Public Service Award recognizes an outstanding North Carolina lawyer who has performed exemplary public service in his or her community. The voluntary service of this attorney may have occurred with a nonprofit organization or with a number of groups in the community, as well as through elective or appointive office. Nominees may have made significant contributions to the legal profession, legal education, or other legal institution. Each year nominations are sought from throughout the legal community including judicial district and voluntary bars.
Hon. Howard E. Manning Jr.

The Honorable Howard E. Manning Jr. of Raleigh is the 39th recipient of the Judge John J. Parker Award, considered the highest award bestowed by the NCBA. A native of Raleigh, Manning is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1965) and UNC School of Law (1968). He served as a JAG officer in the U.S. Navy from 1968-72 and practiced in his father’s firm, Manning, Fulton & Skinner, from 1972-88.

Manning served on the Superior Court bench for Wake County for 25 years, beginning with his appointment by Gov. Martin in June 1988. Later that year Manning became the first Republican elected to the Superior Court in the 20th century and served through 1992. He was reappointed by Gov. Hunt in 1996 and served until reaching the state’s mandatory retirement age in 2015.

Manning will be forever linked to Leandro v. State, the landmark education lawsuit over which he presided for nearly two decades. Following the Supreme Court ruling guaranteeing every child in North Carolina the “right to a sound basic education,” Judge Manning was assigned to oversee the state’s compliance with the ruling, which he did from 1997 through his retirement until October 2016.

*Photo courtesy of WRAL News.*

About this award:

The Judge John J. Parker Award was established in 1959 by the NCBA as “the highest honor of this association bestowed in recognition of conspicuous service to the cause of jurisprudence in North Carolina.” Underscoring the significance of the award is the fact that recipients are chosen as merited, not annually.