

LAW MATTERS

April 2015

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LAW Announces 2015 Award Recipients

Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey Award Recipient Judge Aleta Trauger



Judge Aleta Trauger has served as a U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee since 1998. Prior to that she served as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee (1993-98), Chief of Staff to Metro Nashville Mayor Philip N. Bredesen (1991-92), a partner at Wyatt, Tarrant, Combs, Gilbert & Milom, Nashville, Tennessee (1985-91), in-house Legal Counsel at the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC (1984-85), an associate at Hollins, Wagster & Yarbrough, P.C., Nashville, Tennessee (1983-84), an Assistant U.S. Attorney (1977-82), as a law clerk and then an associate at Barrett, Brandt & Barrett, P.C. in Nashville (1974-77).

Judge Trauger currently serves on the Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference Standing Committee on Judicial Conference Planning, and has served in various capacities in the following organizations: Federal Judges Association National Association of Women Judges; National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges; Tennessee Supreme Court Advisory Commission on Rules of Civil and Appellate Procedure; Tennessee Court of the Judiciary; Harry Phillips American Inn of Court; Tennessee and Nashville Bar Foundations; American Bar Association; Tennessee Lawyers' Association for Women; Lawyers' Association for Women - Marion Griffin Chapter; Vanderbilt University School of Law Alumni Board; Vanderbilt University School of Law National Advisory Council; Cornell College Board of Trustees; Nashville Institute for the Arts Board of Directors; International Women's Forum; Miriam's Promise Board of Directors; Renewal House Board of Directors; and West End United Methodist Church.

Judge Trauger is a founding member of LAW. Judge Trauger has mentored a number of female law clerks, and serves as a role model for many women interested in the legal field. Judge Trauger embodies the very essence of the Martha Craig Daughtrey Leadership Award.

Rising Star Award Elizabeth Sitgreaves



Liz Sitgreaves is a 2008 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. Prior to joining Dodson Parker Behm & Capparella PC in October 2013, Liz served as a law clerk for The Honorable Frank Clement, Tennessee Court of Appeals for five years. She served as his senior law clerk for four years.

Upon joining LAW as a new admittee, she joined the Mentoring Committee, eager to become involved in the organization and develop professional relationships. She has served as LAW's Mentoring co-chair, and held the offices of First and Second Year Director. She served as a Newsletter Editor and earned acclaim as LAW's food critic prior to becoming an editor. She pens The Culinary Docket which is published bi-monthly. She is the outgoing Secretary, and has been nominated to serve as Treasurer for 2015-2016.

Liz spearheaded LAW's Coalition for Fair Courts in March 2014. The Coalition for Fair Courts was created to organize various organizations across Tennessee, including women's bar associations and other organizations, in order to educate voters on the importance of a fair and impartial judiciary and to encourage participation in the August, 2014 retention election of the state appellate court judges. She assisted in creating educational materials that were posted on the LAW website and distributed to the Coalition members, spoke at numerous meetings and events on the retention election issue, wrote several articles for the LAW newsletter and an article for the Nashville Bar Journal on the importance of a fair and impartial judiciary and on the Coalition for Fair Courts. She drafted a weekly email on the retention election that was distributed from May 2014 till the election in August 2014.

Liz has demonstrated excellence, creativity and initiative in every aspect of her association with LAW. That is why she is LAW's 2015 Rising Star, and truly one to watch during her legal career.

Annual Banquet and Election of Officers—April 28, 2015

Music City Center - Grand Ballroom

201 5th Avenue South

Nashville, TN 37203

6:00 pm Networking

6:30 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Election and Awards Presentation

\$50.00 per person

Register online and pay via PayPal or

mail in a check made payable to LAW, P. O. Box 190583, Nashville, TN 37219.

Payments must be received by Thursday, April, 23, 2015.

(The banquet is being held in lieu of the monthly membership luncheon.)

Introducing LAW's Slate of Officers for 2015-2016

Pursuant to the LAW Bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the membership for the election of board of directors and officers for 2015-2016 will be held on April 28, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at The Music City Center, 201 5th Avenue South, Nashville, Tennessee. Nominees for the officers and directors are introduced below. Other nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting.



President—Abby Sparks. Abby is a 2006 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is employed at the Tennessee Department of Revenue where she is the Human Resources Director.



President-Elect—Yanika C. Smith-Bartley. Nikki is a 2002 graduate of Vanderbilt Law School. She is Senior Director, Lead Employment & Litigation Counsel in the Legal Department of Asurion, where she oversees litigation and manages a comprehensive range of global employment matters for the Company.



Secretary—Rebekah Baker. Rebekah is a 2002 graduate of Appalachian School of Law. She is an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Tennessee, working in the Tobacco Enforcement Division.



Treasurer—Elizabeth Sitgreaves. Liz is a 2008 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an associate at Dodson Parker Behm & Capparella, PC, where she practices in the area of civil litigation with a focus on appellate practice and also provides general business advice to clients. Prior to joining the firm, she served as law clerk to Judge Frank G. Clement, Jr. on the Tennessee Court of Appeals for the Middle Section.



Archivist—Andrea Perry. Andrea is a 2000 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law school. She is a member of Bone McAllester Norton, PLLC and practices in the areas of real estate, corporate law, exempt entities, and commercial lending.



Archivist—Helena Walton Yarbrough. Helena is a native of Connecticut and a 1989 graduate of the University of Connecticut's School of Law. She is Associate General Counsel with Bridgestone Americas, Inc. where she focuses on a variety of commercial transactions for the company's North American Business Units.



Newsletter—Alicia Cottrell. Alicia is 2008 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is Associate Counsel in Tenet Healthcare's Law Department and formerly practiced with Butler Snow LLP in Nashville and Hodges, Doughty & Carson PLLC in Knoxville. Her practice is focused on health care regulatory, operational, transactional and compliance.



Newsletter—Mandy Floyd. Mandy is a 2012 graduate of the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is a member of Bone McAllester Norton, PLLC where she practices in the areas of intellectual property, labor and employment, and other litigation.



Newsletter—Lora Fox. Lora is a 1995 graduate of Georgetown University Law Center. She has been providing client advice and litigating cases for the Metropolitan Department of Law from 2000 to the present.



Newsletter—Lynne T. Ingram. Lynne is a 2003 graduate of Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She is an Assistant United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee where she handles primarily criminal cases. She currently serves as Human Trafficking Task Force Coordinator for the office.



Second Year Director—Ashonti Davis. Ashonti is a 2009 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is an associate at Butler Snow O'Mara Stevens where her emphasis of practice is general civil and appellate litigation.



Second Year Director—Leighann Ness. Leighann is a 2012 graduate of the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is an associate at Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC where she practices in the areas of general liability and workers' compensation.



First Year Director—Mary Katherine Bratton. Mary Katherine graduated from Regent University, School of Law in 2011. She serves as a Deputy General Counsel with the Office of General Counsel for the Department of Health. She advises some of the Health Related Boards, but her primary focus is litigation in the area of inappropriate prescribing.



First Year Director—Lynn Lawyer. Lynn graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Juris Doctor and Masters in Business Administration in 2002. She is Assistant General Counsel of the Business Operations Practice Group of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.



Immediate Past President—Laura Baker. Laura is a 2006 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is a partner at the Law Offices of John Day, P.C. and practices in the area of personal injury and other tort litigation.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by *Laura B. Baker*



As this Board year comes to an end, I would like to thank everyone who worked so diligently this year in furtherance of LAW's purposes. This was an eventful year for LAW and I'm going to attempt to recognize the many successful programs and the outstanding leadership that we've seen this year from our LAW Board and Committee Chairs, though there are too many accomplishments to fully recount here.

We started the year by establishing the Coalition for Fair Courts, our state-wide voter education initiative to educate Tennessee voters on the importance of a fair and impartial judiciary in the election of our appellate court judges. This initiative brought together various bar associations and community groups across the state including our sister women's bar associations, the Southeast Tennessee Lawyers' Association for Women in Chattanooga and the Anne Schneider Chapter of LAW in Jackson, along with the Nashville Bar Association, Napier-Looby, TABL, the League of Women Voters, the Women's Political Collaborative, and Women for Tennessee's Future. Thanks to Liz Sitgreaves, our Secretary, for her leadership in this effort, and to all LAW members who took time to educate their family and friends about these important elections.

Our Judicial Appointments, Elections & Awards Nominations Committee, co-chaired by Rebekah Baker and Shana Fannesbeck, also contributed substantial work to the Coalition for Fair Courts, in addition to spearheading the nominations of our members for awards in our community and profession. Shana and Rebekah have also worked tirelessly on our upcoming Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet.

As you know, we have established two awards this year to recognize the outstanding leadership of our members. As you will read in this issue, the inaugural Martha Craig Daughtrey Award will be awarded to the Honorable Aleta Trauger. In addition to her distinguished career and many contributions to the legal profession, Judge Trauger remains an active and engaged member of LAW. The inaugural Rising Star Award will be awarded to Liz Sitgreaves who continues to demonstrate her leadership in our organization.

These awards will be given at the Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet on April 28 at the Music City Center. I'm excited that we have revived the annual banquet this year to celebrate our successes, honor our members, and welcome the new Board. I hope you all will make plans to attend.

We have had many other successes this year. Our Board unanimously voiced its support to the Board of Law Examiners for a proposed rule change to accommodate military spouse attorneys who seek admission to the Tennessee bar. It is incumbent upon our organization to take a stand on issues like this that affect women in the profession. Thank you to our Legislation and Litigation Committee co-chairs, Susan Neal Williams and Nikki McCain, and LAW member, Josie Beets, for educating our Board on this important proposal.

We have successfully partnered with other organizations this year. In February, we hosted a Mayoral Forum along with the NBA and Napier-Looby to allow our members to meet and learn about the candidates for Nashville's next mayor. Thanks to Libby Burke for taking the lead on organizing this program. We also partnered with the YWCA this year to educate lawyers about the resources availa-

2014-2015 LAW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura B. Baker *President*
Abby Sparks, *President-Elect*
Liz Sitgreaves *Secretary*
Yanika C. Smith-Bartley, *Treasurer*
Karla Campbell, *2nd Year Director*
Casey Truelove, *2nd Year Director*
Ashonti Davis, *1st Year Director*
Leighann Ness, *1st Year Director*
Nancy Krider Corley, *Archivist*
Martha Trammell, *Archivist*
Heather Chesser, *Newsletter Editor*
Sherie Edwards, *Newsletter Editor*
Lora Barkenbus Fox, *Newsletter Editor*
Cheyanne Kinghorn, *Newsletter Editor*
Jude White, *Immediate Past President*

Committee Co-Chairs

Arrangements

Amber Rutherford

Breakfast Committee

Sara Anne Quinn

Bernadette Welch

Community Relations

Tracy Alcock

Marnie Huff

Cy Pres

Meera Ballal

Shanna Hughey

Domestic Violence

Marissa Campbell

Mary Head

Judge Lynda Jones

Health & Wellness

Lynn Lawyer

Sally Ramsey

Judicial Appointments & Elections

Rebekah Baker

Shana Fannesbeck

Legislation & Litigation

Nikki McCain

Susan Neal Williams

Membership

Jenney Keaty

Beth Sims

Mentoring

Kay Caudle

Lynne Ingram

Minorities Outreach

Alicia Cottrell

Mandy Floyd

Networking

Mary Katherine Bratton

Tony Orlandi

Practicing Parents

Cate Dugan

Claudia Levy

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Christen Blackburn

Libby Burke

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Allison Thompson

Executive Director

Melanie Gober Grand

LAW Matters is a monthly publication of the Lawyers' Association for Women, Marion Griffin Chapter, P. O. Box 190583, Nashville, Tennessee, 37219. Voicemail: 615.708.1827; Fax: 888.834.7370; www.law-nashville.org. To submit articles for the May issue, contact Sherie Edwards at SherieE@svmic.com.

ble to domestic violence victims by offering a free one-hour CLE. Thanks to Meera Ballal for her leadership in this effort, and the Domestic Violence Committee co-chairs, Marissa Campbell, Mary Head, and Judge Lynda Jones.

As always, the Annual New Admittees' Breakfast was a success with Justice Holly Kirby as our keynote speaker. Under the leadership of Bernadette Welch, Sara Anne Quinn, and Melanie Grand, we moved to a new location at the Music City Center, which provided a wonderful atmosphere in which to welcome the newest members of the Bar.

Following the breakfast, the Mentoring Committee hosted a Committee Fair to provide new members and current members alike the opportunity to get more involved in our association by serving on our many committees. In partnership with the Networking Committee, the Mentoring Committee also hosted a meet and greet for new graduates of Vanderbilt and Belmont Law Schools. We have seen increasing numbers of law students attending our networking events and lunch programs this year thanks to our Mentoring Committee Co-Chairs, Kay Caudle and Lynne Ingram, and our Networking Co-Chairs, Tony Orlandi and Mary Katherine Bratton.

In fact, our Networking Committee has been very busy this year. Over the past year, they have held (at least) ten events with another event coming up this month. The majority of these networking events have had themes including meeting the new LAW Board, ADR, pro bono, and domestic violence. Thank you, Tony and Mary Katherine, for providing our members with many valuable networking opportunities this year.

We continued our tradition of giving our members a two-hour free CLE before our annual holiday party in December. This year, we brought Tennessean reporter, Anita Wadhvani, Vanderbilt Professor Bonnie Dow, and former News Channel 5 anchor, Amy Marsalis, to speak on the topic of the Misrepresentation of Women in the Media, and we provided media training for our members from Susan Morganstern of DVL Seigenthaler. Afterwards, we celebrated the holidays with members new and long-standing at Sole Mio.

The Community Relations Committee, led by Marnie Huff and Tracy Alcock, organized several community service projects for LAW. They started the year by forming a team and raising more than \$800 for the fifth-annual Lawyers for Littles bowling fundraising benefitting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee. LAW members taught negotiations to Girl Scouts at the annual Win/Win Negotiation Patch program. Our members participated in Hands on Nashville Day by landscaping, weeding, and improving the exterior of West End Middle School. When LAW was notified that children at Tusculum Elementary School were coming to school in shorts and flip flops in January, our members answered the call and donated weather-appropriate clothing items to the school.

The Diversity Committee, led by Mandy Floyd and Alicia Cottrell, spearheaded our annual essay contest for high school students giving them an opportunity to write on a current events topic for a cash prize. The committee also partnered with the Health and Wellness Committee this year to host a book club focusing on *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, a book that tells the story of Henrietta Lack's immortal cells that were taken from her without consent when she was a patient in the "colored" ward at Johns Hopkins.

The Health and Wellness Committee has organized several other book club meetings this year. We've read *Thrive* by Arianna Huffington, *The Vacationers* by Emma Staub, *Essentialism* by Greg McKeown, and on deck for this month: *The Inner Circle* by T.C. Boyle. We also have a very active 30 Day Wellness Challenge going on right now in which members are collaborating on their efforts to improve their overall health and wellness. Thanks to co-chairs Lynn Lawyer and Sally Ramsey for their leadership of these programs.

The Practicing Parents Committee, co-chaired by Claudia Levy and Cate Dugan, recently hosted a music class for young children of LAW members. The event was a huge success providing our members with children the chance to get to know one another while their children enjoyed singing songs, playing instruments, and dancing.

The Solos are as active as ever. Over the last year, they have continued to hold monthly meetings focusing on issues of interest to solo and small firm practitioners. Thank you, Allison Thompson and Dot Dobbins, for your leadership of this group.

Our Programs have been interesting this year with diverse topics ranging from the annual legislative update presented by Mandy Haynes Young, to a discussion of the current state of the law on where you can make, drink, and sell alcohol in Tennessee with panelists Will Cheek, Emily Ogden, Will Newman (Edley's Bar-B-Que), and Bailey Spaulding (Jackalope Brewing Co.), to a presentation entitled "Copyrights, Trademarks, and Patents, Oh, My" by Amy Everhart. Thanks to the Programs Committee, Anne Martin, Libby Burke, Christen Blackburn, and Marcia McShane, for their work in bringing interesting and educational programs to our members.

As always, our newsletter has been top-notch this year. We've had many wonderful contributions, including "Financing the Growth of your Practice" by Rachel Schaffer, "Are You Pregnant? And Other Illegal Interview Questions You Can't Ask and How to Answer Them" by Rachel Ross Rosenblatt, "Basic Dos and Don'ts of Written Discovery for the New(ish) Practitioner" by Susan Neal Williams, and "How much is that doggy in the window? Animal Trusts and How They Can Protect Your Pets" by Jillian Mastroianni. Thank you to our Newsletter Editors, Sherie Edwards, Lora Barkenbus Fox, Heather Chessner, and Cheyanne Kinghorn for a great year of LAW Matters. Thank you also to Hannah Lanford, our Social Media Chair, for her work to promote LAW through our Facebook page and Twitter account.

We also owe thanks to our Archivists, Martha Trammell and Nancy Corley, for their work in developing a records retention policy and collecting years' worth of records for cataloging at the library so that generations of LAW members to come will have the benefit of knowing our history.

Thanks also goes to our Board of Directors, Abby Sparks (President-Elect), Jude White (Immediate Past President), Liz Sitgreaves (Secretary), Nikki Smith-Bartley (Treasurer), Karla Campbell (Second Year Director), Casey Truelove (Second Year Director), Ashonti Davis (First Year Director), and Leighann Ness (First Year Director) for their support of all of these programs and initiatives.

Last, and definitely not least, LAW would not be what it is today without the dedication and enthusiasm (not to mention patience!) of our Executive Director, Melanie Grand. Melanie truly cares about every member and every program. None of the initiatives, programs, and events we have held this year would be possible without her guidance and assistance. Thank you so much, Melanie!

We started this Board year reflecting on why LAW was founded 33 years ago and thinking about the continued need for LAW in the future. We endeavored to focus on our purposes and to continue to fulfill the dreams of our founders of an active bar association dedicated to addressing issues of concern to women. I'm proud of our work this year and I know that LAW will continue to thrive in the coming year under the leadership of our incoming President, Abby Sparks. I look forward to supporting her ideas, programs, and vision in the coming year. It has been a privilege and an honor to have served as President this year. I have truly enjoyed working with the Board and our members.

March Meeting Recap

Recognizing Sacrifice: A Licensing Accommodation to Support Military Spouse Attorneys

LAW welcomed Josie Beets, Martha Boyd and Kathy Pohlid on March 17, 2015 to speak about a proposed amendment to Supreme Court Rule 7. Josie Beets is the Public Policy Coordinator with the TBA and serves on the board of the Military Spouse JD Network. Martha Boyd is partner at Baker Donelson. She is a US Army veteran and a former Major in the US Army Reserves serving as a Civil Affairs officer with the 350th Civil Affairs Command in Baghdad, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Kathy Pohlid recently launched her own firm, Pohlid, PLLC. Prior to entering private practice, Kathy served as a US Marine Corps Colonel and naval judge advocate. She served two combat deployments.

The amendment to Rule 7 would allow attorneys licensed in another state, whose military spouse attorney is stationed in Tennessee or Fort Campbell, to practice in Tennessee on a temporary license. The rule would allow the spouse attorneys to avoid the time-consuming steps and fees required to obtain a permanent bar license. Permanent licensing can take up to a year for the application, character and fitness review, bar examination, and processing. Licensing can cost \$4-5,000 in each state.

This rule change is part of a national effort by the Military Spouse JD Network (MSJDN) to remedy a very real difficulty associated with military families – geographic insecurity. Military families often move every 2 to 3 years.

According to data from the MSJDN, women make up 95 percent of military spouse attorneys nationwide. Ninety-eight percent of those attorneys maintain an active law license, but less than one-third of MSJDN members have full-time legal employment. Half of MSJDN members are unemployed and actively looking for work, under-employed in non-attorney positions as paralegals/secretaries, or can only find part-time work.

The LAW Board has voted unanimously to support this rule change. The proposal is currently pending before the Board of Law Examiners (<http://www.tsc.state.tn.us/boards-commissions/boards-commissions/board-law-examiners>). LAW urges members to contact the Board of Law Examiners and ask the Board to send the proposal to the Tennessee Supreme Court for consideration.



Lora is a 2014/15 Newsletter Editor. She is a litigator for the Metropolitan Department of Law.

Diversity Committee 2015 Essay Contest Winners

In celebration of the holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and as a component of LAW's focus on social justice, the Diversity Committee sponsors an essay contest for high school students (Grades 9 through 12) each year. The prompt for this year's contest focused student attention on competing priorities in the administration of justice, using the case of Rekia Boyd as a springboard for wider discussion. The full prompt for this year's essay was as follows:

Consider that on March 21, 2012, twenty-two year old Rekia Boyd was shot by a police officer, Officer Smith, in Chicago, Illinois. Unfortunately, Ms. Boyd died as a result of her gunshot wounds. The circumstances surrounding her death are in dispute. In an effort to bring attention to Ms. Boyd's death, and force an arrest of the officer, many citizens protested outside the home of Officer Smith. The protesters were criticized for frustrating the administration of justice and encouraged to allow the investigation into the shooting to run its course. In November 2013, more than a year since Ms. Boyd's death, Officer Smith was charged with involuntary manslaughter. He awaits trial, which is scheduled to begin in January 2015. Sun Tzu, the Chinese military general, strategist and philosopher, once said, "the wheels of justice grind slow but grind fine." In light of the pace with which life moves now, do you agree or disagree with Sun Tzu's statement? Why or why not?

Working with the criminal justice programs of several high schools in the Metropolitan Nashville Public School system and publicizing the contest with both public and private high schools in Davidson County, the Diversity Committee received more than 25 high quality student submissions. The Committee co-chairs plan to meet with students from the criminal justice program to discuss and provide feedback to the students regarding their submissions and to encourage them to pursue a career in the law.

The Diversity Committee is proud to announce the winners of this year's essay contest and to publish the first and second place winning essays in this month's newsletter:

First Place:	Elizabeth Kimbrough
Second Place:	Lagnajita Mukhopadhyay
Honorable Mention:	Tarrus Carter

The Wheels of Justice Keep on Rolling by Elizabeth Kimbrough

On March 7, 2015, many people will converge on Selma, Alabama to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Voter's Rights Act of 1965. Although African Americans had secured the right the vote, there were still laws, especially in the South, that prevented them from voting. After having the opportunity to watch the movie "Selma," I realized the invested sacrifice and time it took to change these laws. The change did not come immediately, but the people never gave up and kept on working, and this is what Sun Tzu's statement that "the wheels of justice grind slow but grind fine" means to me. The fight for justice may take a long time and it may be difficult, but the outcome will be worth the sacrifice. The wheels of justice keep on rolling.

The deaths of Rekia Boyd, Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, and Tamir Rice are only a few examples of why the wheels of justice need to keep on rolling. They represent an injustice in our society. They represent a division between communities, power structures, and races. The die-ins in the 21st Century are the sit-ins of the 20th Century, and the protests of this nation for racial equality and justice in the legal system is the same fight that the colonists fought when they threw the Boston Tea Party. The wheels of justice keep on rolling.

As Dr. Martin Luther King said, "a threat to justice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.", Besides police brutality, there are other injustices in our community. There are too many people who are in desperate need of affordable healthcare. President Barack Obama's introduction of the Affordable Healthcare Act came over decades of other presidential administration pushing for healthcare reform and has benefitted over, and even with this progress, there are still people who are without healthcare. The wheels of justice grind slow but grind fine with places like Meharry Medical College and Matthew Walker Comprehensive Healthcare Center, which provide affordable healthcare for the uninsured.

Through my volunteerism, I have learned about services to help women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other types of abuse who cannot afford the resources, including legal help, to leave abusive relationships. This is an injustice facing our community. There are many women and children living in dangerous situations, because of courts blaming victims for their abusive situations or police officers not believing rape victims who come forward about their sexual assault. However, there are people who help victims tell their stories and change laws that will enable them to have access to what they need to leave abusive situations. These laws need improvement every year, and its organizations like the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence and the Sexual Assault Center who make change.

Like the protesters who were criticized for standing outside of the police officer's home, we have the duty to identify injustices and hold systems accountable to make sure that the wheels of justice move. Protest is the grind that keeps the wheels of justice moving. Protest demands immediate action that will turn the wheels of justice. Protest demands dialogue and change. The wheels of justice may turn slow, but protest will ensure that justice meets its destination.

The world is filled with injustices, and it will take time to rid the world of all of them. I believe if my peers are willing to speak out against injustice, instead of being Generation Y, we will be Generation C, the generation of change. We will have to keep the wheels of justice moving until all lives matter. We can do it without a fist, gun, or knife. We can do it with our minds and our faith. Our faith will give us the power to demand immediate action and the patience to wait on investigations and lawmakers and watch the wheels of justice roll.

I will keep the wheels of justice moving, even if I have to push, pull, or drag them. I am going to start with the woman in the mirror, Elizabeth Adria Kimbrough. I am going to be the change that I want others to be. I am going to speak out against injustice. I will challenge the treatment of African Americans, women, immigrants, the homeless, the poor, the abused, and the uninsured. I will keep the wheels of justice moving, because I believe in "[o]ne nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Wheels of Justice by Lagnajita Mukhopadhyay

"The wheels of justice grind slow but grind fine: is a legal maxim that is used around world. It means that justice may take time, but it's always accurately fulfilled as a result of longer evaluation. There is much debate on whether or not this statement is logical.

Justice is such a thing that is equal for all. However, there is a difference between social and legal justice. Social justice is relative, and opinions may vary in the presence of debate. There is no right or wrong that can be proved. On the other hand, legal justice is a completely professional matter. In this form of justice, nothing can breach rules, laws, and regulations. Therefore, when someone is seeking legal justice, they have every fundamental right to get the proper evaluation and a fair verdict. However, if justice is delayed, then problems and a chance for justice to be rejected may arise in the legal system.

Justice should be handled expediently. Martin Luther King said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." This means that if justice, no matter the importance, is delayed knowing that injustice is a threat to it, then justice should be considered as denied. If the case is delayed, it might mean that it wasn't important enough to be taken care of immediately. In this instance, the fulfillment of justice after a long period of time may equate to it not being fulfilled at all.

For example, there is a murder. If the verdict is delayed, what could happen? The family members of the victim that are seeking justice would have to tolerate years of stress from not knowing the result of the case. The longer it's delayed, the more intolerable

ble the tension will become. As the stress keeps building, so would the frustration towards the legal system. The family would become fed up and lose trust in the justice system, and in some instances, they may die altogether. They would never get the justice they deserved in their lifetime. Now, think about the flip-side. If the accused murderer dies before the case is solved, justice is still not fulfilled. The suspect will never receive the punishment they deserved, and the victim's family will be deprived of the proper justice. Now, for an even harsher perspective: the view of the accused. They would live everyday knowing that they may either die tomorrow from a death sentence or receive life imprisonment. Imagine waking up to more stress from the legal system every day and not knowing the verdict. What was the point of the punishment? It was either for the accused to be convicted and go to prison or receive a death sentence. But should all the stress be part of the punishment as well? In my opinion, all of these instances are examples of how justice is not fulfilled due to its delay.

This is also the case for instances relating to property, medical, or accidental injury compensation. In all three of these cases, the person seeking justice could die before any judgment is received. Even if they don't die, there can be many other issues due to the delay. In a property-related case, one might not be living in one's own house for years because of a delay in judgment on behalf of the court. In a medical or accidental injury case, one might be sitting at home injured or handicapped days upon days without a job. Without compensation, how will they feed their families, or themselves? How will they get by? In my opinion, all of these instances are even more examples of counterarguments to the maxim.

Generally speaking, the maxim varies from case to case. The legal system has to make sure that the verdict is the fair one, and the guilty aren't left innocent and the innocent, guilty. So in sensitive cases, the evidence, documents, and testimonies must be examined thoroughly to muster a proper verdict. This may take time. But it is important to make sure that when a delay occurs, there was an urgent and necessary need for it. Laziness in the Justice Department is considered injustice to justice and should never be tolerated.

As a whole, the statement "the wheels of justice grind slow but grind fine" should never be generalized. Each case is unique, and the judgment should be made specifically tailored to its individual case. Justice may sometimes be time-consuming, but it should never be time wasted.

The Culinary Docket



Chauhan Ale & Masala House

My first real experience with Indian food was not until I moved to Nashville after law school. That means I spent approximately twenty-five years of my life missing out on some of the most complex and delicious flavors which, for a foodie, is a small tragedy. I have my share of favorite places now to make up for lost time, and Chauhan Ale & Masala House has quickly climbed to the top of this list.

Chauhan is located on 12th Avenue North (think opposite side of Broadway from the Gulch). The location was previously occupied by Rooster's Barbeque but has been completely transformed into a hip and inviting restaurant of dark wood, colorful lanterns, and images that roll across the brick walls in the evening. I have visited Chauhan twice thus far, once in the evening and once in the day, and both times was incredibly impressed with the service and the overall ambience of the restaurant.

My first trip to Chauhan was on a Sunday evening for dinner and the restaurant was bustling. My dinner companions and I ordered two of the many appetizer options (really a feat of self-restraint). Both options were delicious. My favorite was the tandoori chicken poutine, a plate of fries, covered in a delicious mound of tandoori chicken, mozzarella, and makhani sauce (which reminded this Southern girl of gravy). The black-eyed peas tikki, essentially a black-eyed pea cake served with cucumber raita, was also a winner.

There were several tough choices on the dinner menu. One of my friends ordered the “meat and three”, which includes an entrée (that night’s was chicken tikka masala), three sides, naan, and raita. This is, basically, a mini smorgasboard of heavenly Indian food. Besides the flavorfulness of the food, all of us were impressed by the presentation, with the combination arriving in a cylindrical container, a “dabba” according to my internet research, which is the traditional lunchbox for workers in India. I opted for a lamb kebab, a side of the special chutney of the day, pineapple, and the vegetable stuffed parantha (flatbread). We managed just enough room in our stomachs to end our meal with an incredible rice pudding, which was served layered in a jar with pecans, and topped with gulab jaman (I cannot do enough to describe how delicious this unique dessert is), and a nan khatai cookie.

I returned a few weeks later to meet a friend for lunch. The lunch menu is more limited than the expansive dinner menu, but still offers plenty of unique dishes. I was pleased to discover Chauhan offers several daily drink specials, but I’m not referring to a mid-day cocktail. Instead, the restaurant offers a daily lassi, a daily tea, and a daily water. It was a tough decision between the mango lassi, a strawberry tea, or apple-ginger water, but I opted for the lassi. The lassi arrived in a milk bottle with a red and white striped straw, which won me over with both the taste and the adorable presentation. My lunch entrée, a warm quinoa and chicken salad (with the chicken topped in a yogurt sauce) was delicious and generous enough to cover two meals for me. My friend was just as pleased with his chicken tikka masala flatbread, which he said had the perfect amount of spice.

While I have yet to indulge in any of the cocktail options, the restaurant’s proximity to downtown, appealing cocktail menu, and impressive appetizer offerings are all criteria to make this a favorite after-work spot to meet friends. With so many items left to try on the menu, and some favorites already developed (hello mango lassi), Chauhan Masala & Ale House is welcome new treat to the Nashville food scene.¹

¹ I spent so much time discussing the deliciousness of the food, that I did not discuss the impressiveness of the female executive chef Maneet Chauhan, but I encourage you to read her bio on the restaurant’s website!



Liz is the 2014/2015 LAW Secretary and LAW's Food Critic. She is a former law clerk to Judge Frank Clement and is an associate at the law firm of Dodson, Parker, Behm & Capparella, PC.

It is almost membership renewal time.
Renewal information will be delivered
to your inbox soon!



New Member Spotlight: Elizabeth Gedmark

Where did you grow up? Tell us about your family. Are you married? Children (human, furry, or otherwise)? I grew up in Louisville, Kentucky. I live with my husband, Brad, and our Dachshund/Beagle mix, Julep.

What do you do professionally? I am the Director of the Southern Office & Staff Attorney at A Better Balance: The Work and Family Legal Center. We are a non-profit legal advocacy organization fighting to ensure working families don't have to sacrifice their economic security in order to care for themselves or their families. Go to www.abetterbalance.org to learn more about our work.

What is the favorite part of your job? Working with our brave clients who have been through so much, but still use their voices to create change—they are such powerful role models!

What is it about being a member of LAW that you enjoy the most? I am a brand new member, but am already excited about learning about all the different committees and becoming more involved.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Taking Julep for long walks, watercolors, tennis, gardening (roses & vegetables), cheering on the Louisville Cardinals, and generally spoiling Julep rotten.

What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by? Many hands make light work.

Any “fun facts” about you that other LAW members don't know? There are actually only a handful of Gedmarks worldwide. The name derives from the Swedish name, Gidmark, so family lore has it that my ancestor must have had a loopy “I” when signing his name on official paperwork.

What are you reading right now, and what book could you read over and over again? I am currently in the middle of Elena Ferrante's My Brilliant Friend series. I love learning about such a different world. I like re-reading the books I read as a child, and remembering how much I loved them back then. Do people still read Dinotopia, or was that just my bookworm family?

If someone hit “shuffle” on your iPod, what are five songs that might play? “Sunday Kind of Love,” by Etta James; “Black Star,” by Radiohead; “Carried Away,” by Passion Pit, “Ring of Fire,” by Johnny Cash; Mahler's 1st Symphony (is that cheating?).

LAW Committee Corner

Networking Committee — April Networking Event

April 29th

Details will be emailed soon!

Networking Committee March Event Recap

LAW held its monthly Networking Happy at the Vine on Thursday, March 19, which featured several guests with entertainment law experience, including LAW members Maria Spear of the Everhart law firm, Tracy Kane of Dodson Parker Behm & Caparella, and Brittany Simpson of Baker Donelson, plus a special surprise appearance by Judge Rachel Bell. Over 25 attorneys and several Belmont College of Law Schools attended the event.



Practicing Parents Recap

The Nashville Dance Center was the venue for practicing parents and their children where they participated in Music City Music Together on Saturday afternoon, March 7th.



March Event Highlights



KUDOS

- to Luther Wright Jr. who was selected as a recipient of the Napier-Looby Bar Foundation's 2015 Justice A. A. Birch Award.
- to Jillian Mastroianni for winning the 2015 NBA RaceJudicata 5k.
- to the LAW members who are in the New Class of Nashville Bar Foundation Fellows for 2015: Judge Rachel Bell, Sherie Edwards, Amy Everhart, Chandra Flint, Lynn Lawyer, Kyzonte-Hughes-Toombs, Claudia Levy, Alex McKay, Margaret Myers, Alistair Newbern, Lisa Perlen, Erin Palmer Poly, Jennifer Rusie, Elizabeth Tipping, Judge Dianne Turner and Tyler Yarbro.

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