

## Class Notes

Class Notes items listed were processed between October 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022. In the event a Class Notes entry is not correct, you are asked to contact the Law School Advancement office at [lawalum@uga.edu](mailto:lawalum@uga.edu).

Professional Class Notes entries come directly from School of Law alumni and alumnae and should be submitted to [lawalum@uga.edu](mailto:lawalum@uga.edu). Photos to accompany a Class Note are welcome.

### 1970s



**Richard R. Carlson** (1979) of Houston, TX, completed the 5th edition of *EMPLOYMENT LAW 2023* (by Carlson, Duff, Flake,

Bales), a law school textbook-casebook.

Carlson is on faculty at South Texas College of Law Houston where he teaches and writes in the fields of employment law (including discrimination and collective bargaining), family law and contracts.

### 1980s



**Frank Maxwell “Max” Wood** (1985) of Macon, GA, was named a recipient of the Shackelford Alumni Achievement Award

presented by LaGrange College at their annual 2022 Alumni Awards luncheon.

Wood is the director of the Office of Hearings and Appeals at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



**Marlan B. Wilbanks** (1986) of Atlanta, GA, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Taxpayers Against Fraud at the

organization’s awards dinner held in Washington, D.C. Wilbanks is a founding partner of Wilbanks & Gouinlock. **David**



**A. Fugett** (1989) of Lakeland, FL, joined Florida Polytechnic University as vice president and general counsel.

### 1990s



**Verda M. Colvin** (1990) of Atlanta, GA, was featured in the Fall 2022 edition of the *Georgia Magazine* in the article “Verda Colvin:

A Higher Calling” in which she reflects on her path to becoming a justice on the Supreme Court of Georgia and her commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. [Read the full article](#)

**Timothy “Tim” Mann Jr.**

(1992) of Atlanta, GA, rejoined Jones Day as partner in the Mergers and Acquisitions



practice. **E. Stephanie Stuckey** (1992) of

Atlanta, GA, was named the keynote speaker at the third annual Virtually Unstoppable Women’s



Conference 2022 hosted by World Financial Group Insurance Agency. Stuckey is president and CEO of



Stuckey’s Corporation. **Jon R. Hawk** (1997) of Macon, GA, launched the Jon Hawk Law Firm on October 1, 2022, and

specializes in automobile and commercial vehicle collision cases throughout the state of Georgia. Hawk also secured a \$1.5-million-plus verdict on behalf of his clients Joseph and Romaine Blazys, and on October 29, 2022, led a break-out group on voir dire techniques in Las Vegas, Nevada, at *Live Vegas 2022*, hosted by *Trial Lawyers University*.

**2000–2009**



**James L. “Jay” Roberts IV** (2001) of St. Simons Island, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2023

Bulldog 100\*.

**Charles S. “Charley” Smith** (2001)

of Indianapolis, IN, will continue to serve on the board of the Defense



Trial Counsel of Indiana for 2023. Smith is a partner at Schultz & Pogue. The DTCI is the professional organization of civil defense attorneys in Indiana promoting excellence in civil litigation and supporting the administration of justice in the courts and mediation. **Christopher H. “Chris” Atkinson** (2002) of Monroe, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2023

Bulldog 100\*.

**Darren E. Gaynor** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, joined Novelis as senior



litigation counsel. **Seth M. Diamond** (2003) of

Savannah, GA, secured a \$2-million verdict on behalf of his client Shawn Heath. **Charles M. “Chip” Ferguson Jr.** (2003) of Monroe, GA, was

named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2023 Bulldog 100\*.



**Christopher J. Buccafusco** (2004) of Durham, NC, joined Duke University School of Law as the Edward & Ellen Schwarzman Distinguished

Professor of Law, where he will teach intellectual property courses and first

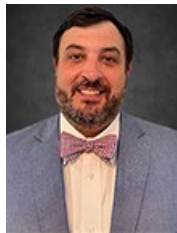
year torts. **Francys**



**Johnson** (2004) of Statesboro, GA, was selected as the recipient of the R.E. Thomas Jr. Civil Rights Lawyer of the Year Award by the Gate City Bar Association.



**Michael A. "Mike" Caplan** (2006) of Atlanta, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni



Association's 2023 Bulldog 100\*. **Edgar M. Smith** (2006) of Savannah, GA, secured a \$2-million verdict on behalf of his client Shawn Heath.



**Ansly P. Moyer** (2007) of Atlanta, GA, joined Arnall Golden Gregory as partner in the Corporate & Finance practice and as a

member of the Public Finance & Economic Development team.

**James E. "Jeb" Butler III** (2008) of Atlanta, GA,



secured a \$1.5-million settlement on behalf of his client Rakeem Woodall. **T.**



**Chase Samples** (2008) of Greenville, SC, was elevated to office litigation manager at Jackson Lewis. Samples focuses his

practice on employment litigation, including both state and federal claims, and individual and class action suits.

## 2010–2020



**Benjamin J. Osorio** (2011) of Fairfax, VA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association's 2023 Bulldog



100\*. **David B. Dove** (2014) of Atlanta, GA, will continue to serve as executive counsel for Gov. Brian Kemp's second term.

**Heather N. Percival** (2014) of Washington, D.C., was selected by Chair Gary Gensler at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to serve as policy counsel for the Division of Trading and



Markets. **Kristyn A. Long** (2015) of Atlanta, GA, was promoted to chief operating officer for

Gov. Brian Kemp's second term. **Hannah E. Heltzel** (2016) of Macon, GA,



secured a \$7-million wrongful death verdict against M.D. Shafiullah and NRM



Atlanta. **Colby L. Keefe** (2016) of Fort Myers, FL, was elected stockholder at Henderson Franklin Starnes &

Holt. **Marshall S. Sims** (2016) of Atlanta, GA, joined Wood Smith Henning & Berman as senior associate.



**Thomas A. “Tom” Giannotti** (2017) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$1.5-million settlement on behalf of his client Rakeem Woodall. **Andrew Z. Smith**



(2017) of Atlanta, GA, was appointed chair of the Quality Care for Children’s executive committee.

Smith is an associate at Greenberg Traurig.



**Eric S. Abney** (2020) of Carrollton, GA, launched his firm Law Offices of Eric S. Abney & Associates specializing in personal injury, estates, criminal, and family law.

#### 2021-2022



**Olivia B. Landrum** (2022) of Atlanta, GA, joined Berman Fink Van Horn as litigation associate.

**Richmond B. Wrinkle** (2022) of Athens, GA, was selected as the 2022 individual recipient of the Law School Excellence in Access to Justice Award, presented by the State Bar of Georgia Access to Justice Committee and the Pro Bono Resource Center.

\*The Bulldog 100 list celebrates the top 100 fastest growing organizations owned or operated by UGA alumni and alumnae.

***In Memoriam***

*The School of Law expresses sympathy to the family and friends of the following law school graduates:*

**Benjamin L. "Ben" Bagwell** (1992)

Cumming, GA

December 26, 2022

**Michael Neil Herndon** (1965)

Columbus, GA

December 22, 2022

**Robert Spencer "Bob" Bomar**

(1968)

Atlanta, GA

December 31, 2022

**Ryan T. Lloyd** (2015)

Hendersonville, TN

September 7, 2022

**J. Franklin Edenfield** (1975)

Swainsboro, GA

December 4, 2022

**Thaddeus Penn McWhorter** (1958)

Winder, GA

November 13, 2022

**Denny C. Galis** (1959)

Athens, GA

October 4, 2022

**Robert Jackson "Bob" Middleton Jr.**

(1982)

Albany, GA

December 16, 2022

**Wright W. Gellerstedt** (1951)

Marietta, GA

November 6, 2022

**Jerry Lee Minge** (1959)

Rome, GA

October 27, 2022

**Richard C. Hagler** (1977)

Columbus, GA

November 10, 2022

**Donald Roscoe "Don" Moorhead**

(1976)

Greenville, SC

December 30, 2022

**Richard R. "Rick" Harste** (1986)

Savannah, GA

November 20, 2022

**Harold Loyd Murphy** (1949)

Rome, GA

December 28, 2022

**Alton G. Hartley** (1974)

Tucker, GA

October 19, 2022

**David Edmond Ralston** (1980)

Blue Ridge, GA

November 16, 2022

Herbert William "Bill" Sams Jr.

(1964)

Evans, GA

December 24, 2022

Ramon A. Silverman (1954)

Savannah, GA

November 4, 2022

Berrien Loyd Sutton (1975)

Homerville, GA

November 25, 2022

Kenneth Graydon "Ken" Vinson

(1973)

Dallas, GA

November 3, 2022

Michael Nelson "Mike" Weathersby

(1984)

Atlanta, GA

November 3, 2022

E. Ritchie Williams (1988)

Atlanta, GA

December 28, 2022

Frank A. Young (1950)

Chamblee, GA

December 20, 2022