

Class Notes

Class Notes items listed were processed between April 1, 2024, and June 30, 2024. In the event a Class Notes entry is not correct, you are asked to contact the Law School Advancement office at lawalum@uga.edu.

Professional Class Notes entries should be submitted to lawalum@uga.edu. Photos to accompany a Class Note are welcome.

1970s

Robert O. Freeman (1972) of Atlantic Beach, FL, was honored by the Florida Bar with recognition as a 50-year member in



good standing. **Rees M.**

Sumerford (1973) of Brunswick, GA, was selected as the recipient of the

Greater Good Award presented by the Georgia Planned Giving Council. Sumerford is a shareholder at Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford & Martin. **R. Benjamine “Ben” Reid** (1974) of Coral Gables, FL, was honored by the Florida Bar with recognition as a 50-year member in good standing. **Robert M. Leen** (1979) of Sunrise, FL, was honored by the Florida Bar with recognition as a 50-year member in good standing. **Kathy**

Stephens Palmer (1979) of Swainsboro, GA, was selected as a recipient of the 24th



Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for

Community Service for Judicial District 8 presented by the State Bar of Georgia and Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism.

1980s

Vicky Ogawa Kimbrell (1980) of Atlanta, GA, was selected as a recipient of the 24th Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service for Judicial District 4 presented by the State Bar of Georgia and Chief Justice’s Commission on



Professionalism. **Roy J. Boyd Jr.** (1985) of Brunswick, GA, secured an \$8-million verdict on behalf of his clients Joshua

and Phyllis Williams. **Gerald**

L. Pouncey Jr. (1985) of Atlanta, GA, was named a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award as part of



the 2024 Southeastern Legal Awards



presented by the *Daily Report* and *Law.com*. **Steve C. Jones** (1987) of Atlanta, GA, announced he will assume

senior status effective January 1, 2025. Jones was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia in 2011.

Michael B. “Mike” Terry

(1987) of Atlanta, GA, was selected by the State Bar of Georgia to receive the



Tradition of Excellence Award. **Elizabeth B.**

“Beth” Chandler (1988) of Atlanta, GA, was named as a recipient of the 2024 OnBoard Excellence Award for her role as general counsel at Rollins Inc.

1990s



W. Benjamin “Ben”

Barkley (1991) of Atlanta, GA, was named a recipient of the Distinguished Leaders

Award as part of the 2024 Southeastern Legal Awards presented by the *Daily Report*

and *Law.com*. **Carla Wong**

McMillian (1998) of Tyrone, GA, was named to serve on the University of Georgia



Board of Visitors for the 2024-27 term.

Charles E. “Charlie” Peeler (1999) of

Atlanta, GA, was named a recipient of the Distinguished Leaders Award as part of the 2024 Southeastern Legal



Awards presented by the *Daily Report* and *Law.com*.

2000–2009

Carolyn “Tippi” Cain Burch (2001) of

Columbus, GA, was appointed by Gov. Brian Kemp to serve as a judge on the Superior Court of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit.



Tiana S. Mykkeltvedt

(2003) of Atlanta, GA, was named a recipient of the Distinguished Leaders Award

as part of the 2024 Southeastern Legal Awards presented by the *Daily Report* and

Law.com. **Gwendolyn A.**

“Gwen” Williamson (2005) of Washington, D.C., joined Faegre Drinker as partner.



Carl E. Jones Jr. (2006) of Philadelphia, PA, was selected as a recipient of the Chicago Defender 2024 Men of Excellence Award.



Vanessa E. Volz (2006) of Providence, R.I., was the keynote speaker for the advanced degree ceremony at

Rhode Island College, where she serves as an adjunct faculty member in the gender and women’s studies department. During the ceremony, Volz received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. She is also the executive director at Sojourner House.

Dar’shun Kendrick (2007) of Lithonia, GA, was featured on *TechCrunch* in a May 12 article titled “Women in AI:



Rep. Dar’shun Kendrick wants to pass more AI legislation” as reported by Dominic-Madori Davis. Kendrick is a seven-term member of the Georgia House of Representatives, serving on the Technology and Infrastructure Committee. She is also the founder of Kairos Capital Legal Advisors, a corporate securities law firm and investment advisory firm helping guide founders and funders through the capital raising process. **Patricia N. “Tricia”**



Whitten (2007) of Los Angeles, CA, joined Holland & Knight as partner in the financial services practice group.



James E. “Jeb” Butler III (2008) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$28-million verdict against Mary Angela Bell.

2010–2019

Kate L. Jensen (2010) of Washington, D.C., rejoined Steptoe as partner in the government affairs and public



policy practice. **Timothy H. “Tim” Lee** (2010) of Brookhaven, GA, joined AT&T as assistant vice president



and senior legal counsel. **J.**

Thomas “Tom” Clarkson (2011) of Atlanta, GA, was named a recipient of the On the Rise Award as part of the 2024



Southeastern Legal Awards presented by the

Daily Report and *Law.com*.



Amanda M. Waide (2011) of Atlanta, GA, was named a recipient of the On the Rise

Award as part of the 2024 Southeastern Legal Awards presented by the *Daily Report* and *Law.com*.

Elizabeth Googe Brunette (2012) of Atlanta, GA, was



named partner at Fox Rothschild. **William R.**



“Will” Keyes (2013) of Macon, GA, was named a recipient of the On the Rise Award as part of the 2024 Southeastern Legal Awards presented by the *Daily Report* and *Law.com*. Keyes was also promoted to deputy criminal chief for the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Georgia. A captain in the Army Reserves, he recently became qualified as a paratrooper upon graduation from the U.S. Army Airborne School.

Allison W. Pryor (2013) of Atlanta, GA, was named a recipient of the On the Rise Award as part of the 2024 Southeastern Legal Awards presented by the *Daily Report* and *Law.com*. **David B.**



Dove (2014) of Atlanta, GA, was appointed by Gov. Brian Kemp to serve on the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia as the Eleventh Congressional District Representative. **David**

M. Ehrlich (2014) of New York, NY, joined Holland & Knight as partner.



Benjamin W. “Ben” Thorpe (2014) of Atlanta, GA, rejoined Bondurant Mixson & Elmore as partner. **Andrew C.**

Wills (2014) of Washington, D.C., was featured in the Spring 2024 edition of the UGA School of Public & International Affairs online magazine *We The People* in the article “Overcoming the Odds” by J. Ryan Leonard.

Wills is senior vice president at Invenergy. **Matthew C.**



“Matt” Wilmot (2014) of Savannah, GA, joined HunterMaclean as partner in the firm’s health care and litigation group.

Colby L. Keefe (2016) of Fort Myers, FL, was elevated to chair of the real estate department at Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt. **Riane N. Sharp** (2017)

of Decatur, GA, was selected as the recipient of the 20th Annual Ethics and



Professionalism Award by the State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division. **Michael L.**

Thompson (2019) of Atlanta, GA, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy.



Thompson is an associate at the McArthur Law Firm.

2020s



William D. "Will" Ortiz (2020) of Atlanta, GA, joined Warshauer Woodward Atkins as a trial attorney. **Amelia C.**

Stevens (2020) of Savannah, GA, was named a recipient of the On the Rise Award as part of the 2024 Southeastern



Legal Awards presented by the *Daily Report* and *Law.com*.

Amelia K. Ortiz (2021) of Atlanta, GA, joined the Davis Injury Firm.



Holly K. Stephens (2021) of Atlanta, GA, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy.

Stephens is an associate at the McArthur Law Firm. **Joshua L. "Josh"**

Bearden (2022) of Gainesville, GA, secured a \$10.1-million settlement on



behalf of his client Ana Prieto.



Amy Lynn Morgia (2022) of Atlanta, GA, joined Freed Grant as an associate. **Reed**

Ferguson Lemasters (2023)

of Macon, GA, was the recipient of the 2023 Brown Award for Excellence in Legal



Writing presented by the Judge John R. Brown Scholarship Foundation for the article titled "Traditional Notions" in the Modern Age:

Reassessing Keeton Through a Post-Bristol-Myers Lens.

In Memoriam

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

Patrick T. "Pat" Beall (1975)

Bogart, GA

May 8, 2024

Julie Childs (1978)

Decatur, GA

June 14, 2024

James Dower Comerford Sr. (1984)

Atlanta, GA

April 21, 2024

Richard Alan "Rick" Katz (1965)

Roswell, GA

May 30, 2024

William Washington "Wash" Larsen III (1952)

Dublin, GA

June 27, 2024

John Merritt Shiver (1971)

Cairo, GA

May 24, 2024

Michael Dawson Usry (1979)

Albany, GA

April 20, 2024

Ronald Calvin "Ron" Williams (1963)

Greensboro, NC

April 4, 2024