

Legal
Elite

Business North Carolina 2024

BE IT RESOLVED

By Kevin Ellis

Performing a daily act of kindness. Connecting more with family and friends. Being more present.

Those were a few of the responses *Business North Carolina* received when we asked this year's Legal Elite winners to share their New Year's resolutions.

We also asked them their favorite lawyer joke. Our favorite: Attorneys don't get dumped, they just lose their appeal. Favorite fictional lawyer? More than a few picked Atticus Finch. These top professionals also share best career advice and debunk myths surrounding their work among other insights.

Business North Carolina appreciates the attorneys who took time to vote on their peers as well as those who participated in this feature.



It's the 23rd class of Legal Elite, which honors lawyers chosen by their peers. *Business North Carolina* contracted DataJoe Research to facilitate an online peer-voting and internet research process. About 1,300 lawyers received votes, with those receiving the most getting recognition in 17 specialties as Hall of Fame members.

The responses have been edited for length and clarity. Previous Hall of Fame members are listed by their firm at the time of selection, unless otherwise noted.

DataJoe Research is a Boulder, Colorado-based software and research company specializing in data collection and verification, and it conducts various nominations across the nation on behalf of publishers. DataJoe confirmed that each published winner had, at time of review, a current, active license status with the appropriate state regulatory board. If unable to find evidence of a lawyer's active registration with the state regulatory board, that lawyer was excluded from the list. In addition, we checked available public sources to identify lawyers disciplined for an infraction by the state regulatory board. They were excluded from the list. DataJoe presented the tallied results to *Business North Carolina* for its final review and adjustments.

DataJoe and *Business North Carolina* recognize that there are many talented lawyers who are not listed. This is a subset of talented professionals across the state. Inclusion in the list is based on the opinions of responding lawyers in North Carolina. DataJoe thoroughly ensures fair voting but the company understands that the results of this survey nomination and internet research campaign are not an objective metric.

.....

Disclaimers: DataJoe uses best practices and exercises great care in assembling content for this list. DataJoe does not warrant that the data contained within the list are complete or accurate. DataJoe does not assume, and hereby disclaims, any liability to any person for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions herein whether such errors or omissions result from negligence, accident, or any other cause. All rights reserved. No commercial use of the information in this list may be made without written permission from DataJoe. For research/methodology questions, contact the research team at surveys@datajoe.com.

CATEGORY WINNERS

ANTITRUST	John A. Price
APPELLATE	Troy D. Shelton
BANKRUPTCY	Jeffrey E. Oleynik
BUSINESS	Heather Culp
CONSTRUCTION	Greg C. Ahlum
CORPORATE COUNSEL	Greg Murphy
CORPORATE LAW	John David Love
CRIMINAL	Caitlin Poe
EMPLOYMENT	Alex Maultsby
ENVIRONMENTAL	Natalie D. Potter
FAMILY	Heidi Bloom
IMMIGRATION	Laura Deddish Burton
INTELLECTUAL	John Owen
LITIGATION	W. Scott Jones
REAL ESTATE	Julian Robb
TAX & ESTATE PLANNING	Amy H. Kincaid
YOUNG GUNS	Katie Wong

JOHN A. PRICE

FIRM: Calhoun, Bhella, & Sechrest, *Durham*

HOMETOWN: Maryville, Missouri

UNDERGRAD: Northwest Missouri State University

LAW SCHOOL: Kansas University School of Law, 1972

PRACTICE LAW: 51 years



BE PRESENT AND ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULLEST.

FAMILY: Two grown sons, six grandchildren, wife passed away in 2020

GO-TO ACTIVITY STRESS RELIEVER: Long walks in nature and non-legal reading.

BUCKET LIST: Go back to Maui, my favorite vacation spot.

LEGAL WORK MYTH: Lawyers bill all the time they spend on client matters.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: "You seem to be in some distress," says the kindly judge to the witness. "Is anything the matter?" "Well, your Honor," says the witness, "I swore to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, but every time I try, some lawyer objects."

LAST SHOW BINGED-WATCHED: "Suits"

COMFORT FOOD: Ice cream

SPECIAL DISH: My wife's lasagna

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Atticus Finch from "To Kill a Mockingbird."

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Blowing Rock

BBQ - EAST OR WEST?: Texas barbecue

LEGAL INSPIRATION: Helping the poor and weak.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: As a trial lawyer – be yourself and be authentic.

FICTIONAL COURTROOM WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: "To Kill a Mockingbird" – fighting prejudice.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: Teacher

DEFINE SUCCESS: Doing what you love the best you can.

ANTITRUST

JOHN A. PRICE

Calhoun Bhella & Sechrest, *Durham*

Cassandra J. Creekman

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Lisa F. Garrison

Garrison Law Group, *Asheboro*

Henry L. Kitchin Jr.

McGuireWoods, *Raleigh*

Larry S. McDevitt

Van Winkle Law, *Asheville*

Michael T. Medford

Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Lawrence C. Moore III

Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte*

John D. Noor

Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Clinton R. Pinyan

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

George Sanderson

The Sanderson Law Firm, *Raleigh*

HALL OF FAME: Matthew W.

Sawchak, Ellis & Winters, *Cary* (2002,

2003); **Rodrick J. Enns**, Enns &

Archer, *Winston-Salem* (2004); **Larry**

B. Sifton, Smith Moore, *Greensboro*

(2005); **Everett J. Bowman**, Robinson,

Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2006

); **Douglas Wayne Kenyon**, Hunton

& Williams, *Raleigh* (2007); **Mark**

W. Merritt, Robinson, Bradshaw &

Hinson, *Charlotte* (2008); **Mark J.**

Horoschak, Womble Carlyle Sandridge

& Rice, *Charlotte* (2009); **Jennifer K.**

Van Zant, Brooks, Pierce, McLendon,

Humphrey & Leonard, *Greensboro*

(2010); **Catharine B. Arrowood**,

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein, *Raleigh*

(2011); **Jonathan Heyl**, Smith Moore

Leatherwood, *Charlotte* (2012); **Noel**

L. Allen, Pinnix & Nichols, *Raleigh*

(2013); **John F. Graybeal**, Parker

Poe Adams & Bernstein, *Raleigh*

(2014); **Press Millen**, Womble Carlyle

Sandridge & Rice, *Raleigh* (2015); **W.**

Andrew "Andy" Copenhaver, Womble

Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, *Winston-*

Salem (2016); **Stephen Feldman**,

Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh* (2017); **Brad**

Evans, Ward and Smith, *Greenville*

(2018); **Henry "Hal" L. Kitchin Jr.**,

McGuire Woods, *Wilmington* (2019);

Brian Hayles, Bradley Arant Boulton

Cummings, *Charlotte* (2020); **Alan**

Duncan, Turning Point Litigation,

Greensboro (2021); **Dhamian Blue**,

Blue, Raleigh (2022); **Denise M.**

Gunter, Nelson Mullins Riley &

Scarborough, *Winston-Salem* (2023)

APPELLATE

TROY D. SHELTON

Fox Rothschild, *Raleigh*

Steven Andrew Bader

Cranfill Sumner, *Raleigh*

Jaye Elizabeth Bingham-Hinch

Batten Lee, *Raleigh*

Bo Brandon Caudill

Villmer Caudill, *Charlotte*

Adam Howard Charnes

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton,

Winston-Salem

Charles Clanton

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Alexander C. Dale

Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Robert H. Edmunds Jr.

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Chris S. Edwards

Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Samuel J. Ervin IV

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Stephen D. Feldman

Robinson Bradshaw, *Raleigh*

Kaitlyn Elizabeth Fudge

James Scott Farrin, *Raleigh*

Ross Fulton

Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte*

Narendra K. Ghosh

Patterson Harkavy, *Chapel Hill*

Robert Daniel Gibson

Stam Law Firm, *Apex*

Bonnie Lynn Keith Green

The Green Firm, *Charlotte*

Karen Marie Hinkley

Davis Hartman Wright Attorneys, *New Bern*

Adam Samuel Hocutt

Dozier Miller Law Group, *Charlotte*

Amy Purwin Hunt

Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Lucy Inman

Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips

Grossman, *Raleigh*

Duane Jones

Hedrick Gardner, *Charlotte*

Alicia Jurney

Smith Debnam, *Raleigh*

Patrick Michael Kane

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

J. Blakley Kiefer

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

John Joseph Korzen

Wake Forest Law, *Winston-Salem*

Lorin J. Lapidus

Nelson Mullins, *Winston-Salem*

Michelle Ann Liguori

Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

John M. Martin

Ward and Smith, *Greenville*

Kip David Nelson

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Preston O. Odom III

James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Jonathan D. Sasser

Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

Matthew W. Sawchak

Robinson Bradshaw, *Raleigh*

Michael G. Schietzelt

Michael Best & Friedrich, *Raleigh*

Mark Russell Sigmon

Sigmon Law, *Raleigh*

Amie Carol Sivon

Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Christopher G. Smith

Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

D. Martin Warf

Nelson Mullins, *Raleigh*

Christopher Watford

Surraatt and Thompson, *Winston-Salem*

Rebecca K. Watts

Collins Family & Elder Law Group, *Monroe*

John R. Wester

Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte*

Erik Randall Zimmerman

Robinson Bradshaw, *Chapel Hill*

HALL OF FAME: Matthew Nis

Leerberg, Smith Moore Leatherwood,

Raleigh (2018); **Toby Hampson**,

Wyrick Robbins / N.C. Court of

Appeals, *Raleigh* (2019); **Drew**

Erteschik, Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh*

(2020); **Beth Brooks Scherer**, Fox

Rothschild, *Raleigh* (2021); **Michelle**

D. Connell, Fox Rothschild, *Raleigh*

(2022); **Angela Farag Craddock**, Young

Moore and Henderson, *Raleigh* (2023)

BANKRUPTCY

JEFFREY E. OLEYNIK

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Rayford K. Adams III

Spilman Thomas & Battle, *Winston-Salem*

Brian Richard Anderson

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Charles N. Anderson Jr.

Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

James B. Angell

Howard, Stallings, From, Atkins,

Angell & Davis, *Raleigh*

David R. Badger

David R. Badger, *Charlotte*

Paul Rudd Baynard

Offit Kurman, *Charlotte*

Laurie B. Biggs

Biggs Law Firm, *Raleigh*

John C. Bircher III

Davis Hartman Wright, *New Bern*

William E. Brewer Jr.

Sasser Law Firm, *Cary*

Samantha K. Brumbaugh

Ivey McClellan, *Greensboro*

Daniel C. Bruton

Bell Davis Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

William E. Burton III

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Algernon L. Butler III

Butler & Butler, *Wilmington*

Oliver Carter III

Carter And Carter, *Wilmington*

Stacy C. Cordes

Cordes Law, *Charlotte*

Robert Cox

Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Hillary B. Crabtree

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Damon Terry Duncan

Duncan Law, *Greensboro*

Ashley A. Edwards

Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

Benjamin Robert Eisner

Oliver & Cheek, *Wilson*

William L. Esser IV

Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

Paul A. Fanning

Ward and Smith, *Greenville*

Joseph Zachary Frost

Buckmiller Boyette Frost, *Raleigh*

John Russell Gardner

K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

Joseph W. Grier III

Grier Wright Martinez, *Charlotte*

Stephen E. Gruendel

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

David J. Haidt

Ayers Haidt, *New Bern*

Jeremy Harn

John T Orcutt, *Raleigh*

Erik Mosby Harvey

Bennett Guthrie, *Winston-Salem*

Cole Hayes

Hayes Law, *Charlotte*

Jason L. Hendren

Hendren Redwine & Malone, *Raleigh*

Ashley Lee Hogewood III

K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

Andrew Thomas Houston

Moon Wright Houston, *Charlotte*

Charles M. Ivey III

Ivey McClellan, *Greensboro*

Britton C. Lewis

Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

Jennifer Lyday

Waldrep Wall Babcock & Bailey,

Winston-Salem

Lance P. Martin

Ward and Smith, *Asheville*

Michael Leon Martinez

Grier Wright Martinez PA, *Charlotte*

Jack Miller

Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte*

Clinton Shepperd Morse

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Kathleen O'Malley

Stevens Martin Vaughn & Tadych, *Raleigh*

Ashley B. Oldfield

Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte*

George M. Oliver

Oliver & Cheek, *New Bern*

Felton E. Parrish

Young Conaway, *Charlotte*

Walter W. Pitt Jr.

Bell Davis Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Benson Thomas Pitts

Pitts Hay & Hugenschmidt, *Asheville*

Alan W. Pope

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

James Price

TROY D. SHELTON

FIRM: Fox Rothschild, *Raleigh*

HOMETOWN: Midway (Davidson County)

UNDERGRAD: Duke University

LAW SCHOOL: UNC School of Law, 2014

PRACTICE LAW: 10 years



FAMILY: Married my high school sweetheart, Molly. We have two boys and a girl, ages 5, 3 and 1.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: I started doing Brazilian jiu-jitsu with my son. Unlike anything I've done before. I'm hoping we keep it up in 2024.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Prayer, journaling and exercise to reduce stress in my soul, mind and body.

BIGGEST RISK: Choosing to focus nearly exclusively on appellate work. I knew if I was going to continue being a litigator, this would be my path.

COMFORT FOOD: Detroit-style pizza.

FAVORITE NORTH CAROLINA HANGOUT: Sitting on the beach, watching the waves roll in and out.

BBQ – EAST OR WEST?: Lexington-style barbecue. Everything else is just pulled pork with vinegar.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: Being a lawyer is stressful, so it's important to learn the difference between the things you can control and the things you can't. Deal with the things you can control and let go of the things that you can't.

ALTERNATE CAREER: I'm terribly jealous of novelists and short story writers.

2024 MILESTONES: A decade of lawyering.

DEFINE SUCCESS: For me, professional success is getting to do work that I enjoy without it taking away from time with my family.

Dirk W. Siegmund
Ivey McClellan, *Greensboro*

Kevin L. Sink
Waldrep Wall Babcock & Bailey, *Raleigh*

William C. Smith Jr.,
Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Emily K. Steele
KL Gates, *Raleigh*

Glenn Clark Thompson
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Landon Van Winkle
Smith Debnam, *Charlotte*

Joseph Jude Vonnegut
Hutchens Law Firm, *Fayetteville*

Thomas William Waldrep Jr.
Waldrep Wall Babcock & Bailey,
Winston-Salem

Jill C. Walters
Baker Donelson, *Raleigh*

Margaret R. Westbrook
K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

Matthew Alexander Winer
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Brent Wootton
Wootton & Wootton, *Durham*

HALL OF FAME: J. Michael Booe, Kennedy Covington, *Charlotte* (2002, 2003); Gregory B. Crampton, Nicholls & Crampton, *Raleigh* (2004); Richard M. Hutson II, Hutson Hughes & Powell, *Durham* (2005); C. Richard Rayburn Jr., Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte* (2006); Terri

L. Gardner, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, *Raleigh* (2007); John A. Northen, Northen Blue, *Chapel Hill*, (2008); Holmes P. Harden, Williams Mullen, *Raleigh* (2009); Christine Myatt, Nexsen Pruet, *Greensboro* (2010); Gerald A. "Jeb" Jeutter Jr., Gerald A. "Jeb" Jeutter Jr. Attorney at Law, *Raleigh* (2011); Kenneth M. Greene, Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro* (2012); Trawick H. "Buzzy" Stubbs Jr., Stubbs & Perdue, *New Bern* (2013); Benjamin Kahn, Nexsen Pruet, *Greensboro* (2014); James S. "Charlie" Livermon, Poyner Spruill, *Rocky Mount* (2015); Richard S. Wright, Moon Wright and Houston, *Charlotte* (2016); Heather W. Culp, Essex Richards, *Charlotte* (2017); William P. Janvier, Janvier Law Firm, *Raleigh* (2018); Richard D. Sparkman, Richard D. Sparkman & Associates, *Angier* (2019); George Sanderson, The Sanderson Law Firm, *Raleigh* (2020); John "Woody" C. Woodman, Essex Richards, *Charlotte* (2021); Rebecca Finch Redwine, Hendren Redwine & Malone, *Raleigh* (2022); Matt Tomsic, Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte* (2023)

BUSINESS

HEATHER CULP
Essex Richards, *Charlotte*

Justin Evan Agans
Spengler & Agans PLLC, *Charlotte*

Nicholas John Bakatsias
Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

Catherine A. Barnes
James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Marc D. Bishop
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Matthew S. Black
Envisage Law, *Raleigh*

William P. Bray
Bray & Long, *Charlotte*

Elizabeth S. Brewington
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

William Matthew Buckmiller
Buckmiller, Boyette & Frost, *Raleigh*

Michael Burger
NC Planning, *Cary*

Stephen T. Byrd
Manning, Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Steven Carr
Ellinger & Carr, *Raleigh*

Vincent D. Childress Jr.
Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Ryan William Coffield
Van Winkle Law, *Asheville*

Scott Cooper
Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte*

Edward "Trip" Coyne III
Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Anne E. Croteau
McGuireWoods, *Raleigh*

Scott Dillon
Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

Kurtis R. Dumaw
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Alan W. Duncan
Turning Point Litigation, *Greensboro*

Joshua B. Durham
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Charlotte*

Katie M. Ertmer
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Joseph A. Fernandez
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Kerry A. Friedman
Patla, Straus, Robinson & Moore, *Asheville*

Milton Heath Gilbert Jr.
Baucom Claytor, *Charlotte*

Richard Lewis Glenn III
Garrett Walker Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

H. Brent Helms
Robinson & Lawing, *Winston-Salem*

Mark A. Hiller
Robinson Bradshaw, *Raleigh*

Lee Carlton Hodge
Ward and Smith, *New Bern*

Nathan M. Hull
Hull & Chandler, *Charlotte*

Gregory D. Hutchins
Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Scott Jackson
Maynard Nexsen, *Greensboro*

Jonathan Jenkins
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Congratulations to our 2024 Legal Elite!



Vince Eisinger



Patrick Flanagan



Kara Gansmann



Deedee Gasch



Dan Katzenbach



Rebecca Knudson



Patrick Mincey



Benton Toups



Marshall Wall



RaShawnda Williams



RALEIGH CHARLOTTE WILMINGTON
WWW.CSHLAW.COM

JEFFREY E. OLEYNIK

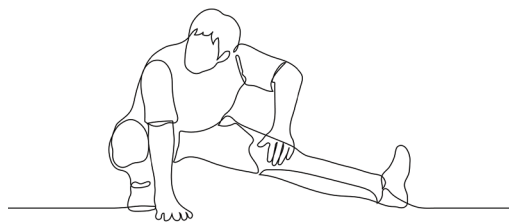
FIRM: Brooks Pierce, Greensboro

HOMETOWN: Raleigh, but moved a lot with dad's job

UNDERGRAD: William and Mary University

LAW SCHOOL: University of Virginia, 1983

PRACTICE LAW: 40 years



FAMILY: Wife, Michelle; daughters, Kaleigh and Megan and sons-in-law, Luke and Hugh

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Stretch more before getting on my bike, try to consistently go to gentle yoga once a week.

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: Delegate and mentor more.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Long bike ride, off road, or long lap swim during the summer.

BUCKET LIST: Hike Machu Picchu

BIGGEST RISK: Following my law partner, an expert skier, down a serious black diamond run at Sun Valley while in Utah for depositions.

LEGAL WORK MYTH: That the only thing lawyers want to do is bill more hours.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: A lawyer dies and is greeted by Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates. The young lawyer complains, "This is a mistake, I wasn't meant to die this young." Saint Peter responds, "Young? According to your timesheets you're 93."

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "Killing Eve"

COMFORT FOOD: My mom's spicy meatloaf with mashed potatoes and green beans.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Atticus Finch from "To Kill a Mockingbird."

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: North Topsail, where our friend Joe has a house with a great deck and even better view from the crow's nest.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: My love for economics and how that fits with analysis of business deals gone bad.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: Advice received: The best way to settle a case, get a good settlement for your client, is to show the other side you are prepared and ready to try the case.

FICTIONAL COURTROOM WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: The courtroom in "Boston Legal," with Denny Crane (actor William Shatner) as my "senior partner" who helps me try the case.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: Teach high school economics and coach the cross-country team.

DEFINE SUCCESS: A client who appreciates your effort and recognizes that you were always prepared for negotiations or hearings.

Merrill G. Jones II
Ward and Smith, *Greenville*

Nick Kendall
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Robert D. Kidwell
Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

April Epley Kight
Schell Bray, *Greensboro*

Ben E. Klein
Sigmon Klein, *Greensboro*

Katherine Kliebert
Kliebert Law, *Charlotte*

Christopher Henry Kouri
Maynard Nexsen, *Charlotte*

Stephen F. Later
Robbins May & Rich, *Pinehurst*

David K. Liggett
Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Thomas I. Lyon
Manning Fulton, *Raleigh*

Edward Hallett Maginnis
Maginnis Law, *Raleigh*

Robert R. Marcus
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings, *Charlotte*

Jeffrey Michael McCraw
Crisp Cherry McCraw, *Charlotte*

J. Dickson McLean
Block, Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed, *Wilmington*

Carolyn P. Meade
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Jason A. Miller
Miller Monroe Plyler, *Raleigh*

Joseph William Norman
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Joshua J. Otto
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

James Ashley Pearce
James Ashley Pearce, *Raleigh*

Lonnie M. Player Jr.
Player McLean, *Fayetteville*

Christopher Poe
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Kevin A. Prakte
Manning Fulton, *Raleigh*

V. Vaughn Ramsey
Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Amy Risseuw
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

James A. Roberts III
Lewis Roberts, *Raleigh*

David Scott Rugani
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Robert Rust
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Caroline Wannamaker Sink
Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte*

George W. Sistrunk III
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

James B. Snow
Hogue Hill, *Wilmington*

Matthew H. Stabler
Maynard Nexsen, *Raleigh*

W. Berry Trice
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, *Wilmington*

Clayton Trice
NC Planning, *Raleigh*

Bryan Lee Tyson
Marcellino & Tyson, *Charlotte*

Elizabeth Vennum
Hull & Chandler, *Charlotte*

Stephen Brian Walker
Garrett, Walker, Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

Frank Marshall Wall
Cranfill Sumner, *Raleigh*

Jeffrey R. Wolfe
Schell Bray, *Greensboro*

Robert B. Womble
K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

HALL OF FAME: Russell M. Robinson II, Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2002, 2003); Doris R. Bray, Schell Bray PLLC, *Greensboro* (2004); J. Norfleet Pruden III, Kennedy Covington, *Charlotte* (2005); William M. Flynn, Hunton & Williams, *Raleigh* (2006); Robin L. Hinson, Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2007); Peter C. Buck, Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2008); Gerald F. Roach, Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan, *Raleigh* (2009); Mark Davidson, Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, *Greensboro* (2010); Stephen M. Lynch, Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2011); Amalie L. Tuffin, Whitmeyer Tuffin, *Raleigh* (2012); Grayson S. Hale, Morningstar Law Group, *Morrisville* (2013); David D. Beatty, Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, *Raleigh* (2014); Charles S. Baldwin IV, Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, *Wilmington* (2015); James R. Forrest, Forrest Firm, *Durham* (2016); Gregory S. Connor, The Connor Law Firm, *Raleigh* (2017); John Babcock, Waldrep Wall Babcock & Bailey, *Winston-Salem* (2018); M. Keith Kapp, Williams Mullen, *Raleigh* (2019); Matthew Marcellino, Marcellino & Tyson PLLC, *Charlotte* (2020); George Stephen Diab, Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, *Wilmington* (2021); Daniel Stephen Trimmer, Skufca Law, *Charlotte* (2022); John M. Cross Jr., Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro* (2023).

CONSTRUCTION

GREG C. AHLUM
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Ryan James Adams
Adams Howell, *Raleigh*

Aleksandra Elzbieta Anderson
Anderson Legal, *Cary*

Stacey Denise Bailey-Pharr
Pharr Law, *Winston-Salem*

Ryan Lee Beaver
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings, *Charlotte*

Christopher K. Behm
Block, Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed, *Wilmington*

John T. Benjamin Jr.
John T. Benjamin Jr., *Raleigh*

Eric H. Biesecker
Maynard Nexsen, *Greensboro*

Steven Allen Bimbo
Windle Terry Bimbo, *Charlotte*

William A. Blancato
Blancato Legal Services, *Winston-Salem*

Matthew C. Bouchard
Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh*

Ross Joseph Bromberger
Rosenwood, Rose & Litwak, *Charlotte*

Daniel K. Bryson
Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, *Raleigh*

Thomas M. Buckley
Goldberg Segalla, *Raleigh*

Carl Jeffress Burchette
Rosenwood, Rose & Litwak, *Charlotte*

Benjamin Thomas Buskirk
Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh*

Christopher J. Campbell
Corporate Counsel, True Homes, *Charlotte*

David Anderson Carmen
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Ben David Carson
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Rebecca K. Cheney
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Adrianne Huffman Chillemi
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

David S. Coats
Bailey & Dixon, *Raleigh*

Ashley M. Coghill
Davis Hartman Wright, *New Bern*

Keith E. Coltrain
Wall Templeton & Haldrup, *Raleigh*

Ward Davis
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Charlotte*

Adam Reese Denobriga
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Charlotte*

William S. Durr
Ward and Smith, *Asheville*

Luke J. Farley
Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

John Thomas Floyd
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

David B. Hamilton
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Mark Hamlet
Hamlet & Associates, *Wilmington*

Harvey M. Hamlet
Hamlet & Associates, *Wilmington*

Scott C. Harris
Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, *Raleigh*

Robert Jason Herndon
Parker Poe, *Raleigh*

Anna-Bryce Hobson
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings, *Charlotte*

William E. Hubbard
John T. Benjamin Jr., *Raleigh*

Jessica Soles Humphries
Hamlet & Associates, *Wilmington*

Edward Aubin Jesson
Jesson & Rains, *Charlotte*

Neale T. Johnson
Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Wesley S. Jones
Wesley Scott Jones, *Wilmington*

Daniel G. Katzenbach
Cranfill Sumner, *Raleigh*

Russell B. Killen
Parker Poe, *Raleigh*

David C. Kimball
Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte*

Rebecca Ann Knudson
Cranfill Sumner, *Wilmington*

Michael Aaron Lay
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Nancy Stewart Litwak
Rosenwood Rose & Litwak, *Charlotte*

Rod Malone
Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

Carmela Mastrianni
Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Joseph W. Moss Jr.
Maynard Nexsen, *Charlotte*

Evan Monroe Musselwhite
Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*

Joseph Raymond Pellington
Devore Acton & Stafford, *Charlotte*

J. Anthony Penry
Penry Riemann, *Raleigh*

William W. Pollock
Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Lindsey Ellis Powell
Anderson Jones, *Raleigh*

Jeffrey M. Reichard
Maynard Nexsen, *Greensboro*

Neil Riemann
Parry Law, *Chapel Hill*

Richard Lee Robertson Jr.
Robertson & Associates, *Charlotte*

John C. Rogers III
Allen, Moore & Rogers, *Raleigh*

Whitaker Boykin Rose
Rosenwood Rose & Litwak, *Charlotte*

Perry Safran
Safran Law, *Raleigh*

Stephen Safran
Safran Law, *Raleigh*

Byron Lee Saintsing
Smith Debnams, *Raleigh*

Bryan G. Scott
Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Nicole B. Slaughter
Hamlet & Associates, *Wilmington*

Mitzi Riana Smith
Smith Bowers, *Raleigh*

Kevin J. Stanfield
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Colin Stockton
Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Walter L. Tippet Jr.
Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Jay P. Tobin
Young Moore, *Raleigh*

Daniel S. Trimmer
Skufca Law, *Charlotte*

Scott M. Tyler
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Matthew Van Sickle
Van Sickle Law, *Cary*

Jay M. Wilkerson
Conner Gwyn Schenck, *Raleigh*

Steele B. Windle III
Windle Terry Bimbo, *Charlotte*

HALL OF FAME: James A. Roberts III, Lewis & Roberts, *Raleigh* (2004); Jeffrey J. Davis, Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte* (2005); John L. Shaw, Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh* (2006); Dudley Humphrey, Kilpatrick Stockton, *Winston-Salem* (2007); James S.

HEATHER CULP

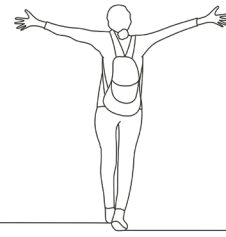
FIRM: Essex Richards, *Charlotte*

HOMETOWN: Lexington, Kentucky

UNDERGRAD: Miami University (Oxford, Ohio)

LAW SCHOOL: University of Kentucky, 1997

PRACTICE LAW: 26 years (5 years in Kentucky; 21 years in North Carolina)



FAMILY: Husband Chris, stepson Christopher, stepdaughter Jessica, her husband and their daughter

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Lose weight and work less – the two are connected!

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Watching true crime series and listening to true crime podcasts. They are engrossing and remind me that things could be a lot worse. Good jigsaw puzzles are also a great escape.

BUCKET LIST: Visit Nantucket, Massachusetts. I've read every Elin Hilderbrand book, all of which are set in Nantucket, and it sounds like my kind of place.

BIGGEST RISK: Over the past several months, I have tried to publicly, consistently, and meaningfully stand up for North Carolina's LGBTQ+ attorneys. It would have been easier to keep my head down, but I'm glad I didn't.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: A law school professor's exam questions involved the hypothetical law firm "Dewey, Cheatem & Howe." That still makes me laugh.

COMFORT FOOD: Three-way Skyline chili

SPECIAL DISH: My late maternal grandmother's homemade bourbon balls

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Grace Van Owen (actor Susan Dey's character on "L.A. Law")

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: The mountains; cooler weather, spectacular nature and views.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: A combination of "L.A. Law" and encouraging junior high school mock trial coaches.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: Leave your desk to take advantage of the slower work days because you'll make up for it during the busier work days – received from a supervising partner in the 1990s and given ever since.

CAREER ALTERNATIVE: Headhunting/recruiting. I like introducing and connecting people.

2024 MILESTONES: Come September, I'll have been at Essex Richards for 10 years.

DEFINE SUCCESS: Sleeping well at night.

NOTE: Culp was a 2017 Legal Elite winner in the bankruptcy category.

Schenck IV, Conner Gwyn Schenck, *Raleigh* (2008); **Michael Wilson**, Johnston, Allison & Hord, *Charlotte* (2009); **John B. "Jack" Taylor**, Nexsen Pruet, *Charlotte* (2010); Peter J. Marino, Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan, *Raleigh* (2011); **William H. Gammon**, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, *Raleigh* (2012); **Richard D. Conner**, Conner Gwyn Schenck, *Greensboro* (2013); **Joseph H. Nanney Jr.**, Meynardie & Nanney, *Raleigh*, (2014); **Bob Meynardie**, Meynardie & Nanney, *Raleigh* (2015); **Harper Heckman**, Nexsen Pruet, *Greensboro* (2016); **Nan E. Hannah**, Hannah Sheridan Loughridge & Cochran, *Raleigh* (2017); **James Johnson**, Smith Terry & Johnson, *Asheville* (2018); **Tracy James**, Hamilton Stephens Steele & Martin, *Charlotte* (2019); **Jason James**, Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Charlotte* (2020); **Bentford "Ben" Martin**, Hamilton Stephens Steele & Martin, *Charlotte* (2021); **Erik Rosenwood**, Rosenwood, Rose & Litwak, *Charlotte* (2022); **Arty Bolick II**, Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh* (2023).

CORPORATE COUNSEL

GREG MURPHY

Nucor, *Charlotte*

Noel Anderson

Daly Seven Hotels, *Greensboro*

David Boaz
Replacements Ltd., *Greensboro*

Christopher F. Bucholtz
RTI International, *Durham*

J. Ford Eubanks
UNC Chapel Hill, *Chapel Hill*

John N. Fleming
McGuire Wood & Bisette, *Asheville*

Paul Jason Griffin
The Select Group, *Raleigh*

Kimberly S. Owens
Nuveen, *Charlotte*

Stuart Hale Russell
Truliant, *Winston-Salem*

Katherine Twiddy
AutoCruitment, *Raleigh*

Michael L. Wilson
Northwood Ravin LLC, *Charlotte*

Brian K Zuercher
Duke University School of Law, *Durham*

HALL OF FAME: James E. Creekman, First Citizens Bank & Trust Co., *Raleigh* (2003); **Douglas R. Edwards**, Wachovia, *Charlotte* (2005); **Stephen K. Coss**, Sonic Automotive, *Charlotte* (2006); **Keith Smith**, Carolinas HealthCare System, *Charlotte* (2007); **John Taggart**, Genworth Financial, *Raleigh* (2008); **B. Judd Hartman**, Pharmaceutical Product Development, *Wilmington* (2009); **Gaither M. Keener**, Lowe's, *Mooresville* (2010); **Meredith B. Stone**, NACCO Materials Handling

Group, *Greenville* (2011); **Lisa D. Inman**, Waste Industries USA, *Raleigh* (2012); **Robert Wicker**, General Parts International, *Raleigh* (2013); **Michael A. Springs**, Bank of America, *Charlotte* (2014); **Santiago Estrada**, Quintiles Transnational Holdings, *Durham* (2015); **Jeffrey M. Davis**, Lincoln Financial Group, *Greensboro* (2016); **Gerald L. Walden Jr.**, The Fresh Market, *Greensboro* (2017); **Andrew Spainhour**, Replacements Ltd., *Greensboro* (2018); **Chris Matton**, Bandwidth Inc., *Raleigh* (2019); **Jennifer Venable**, Capitol Broadcasting Co., *Raleigh* (2020).

CORPORATE LAW

JOHN DAVID LOVE

Michael Best & Friedrich, *Raleigh*

Alexander R. Atchison
Young Moore, *Raleigh*

Evan K. Auberry
Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

W. Alexander Audilet
Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

John W. Babcock
Waldrep Wall Babcock & Bailey, *Winston-Salem*

Sarah Elizabeth Barnes
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Amy Meyers Batten
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Nicole Elizabeth Bleuer
Stephenson Law, *Cary*

Scott Bowers
Baker Donelson, *Raleigh*

David P. Broughton
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

Brian R. Brown
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Galen G Craun III
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

C. Stephen Diab
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, *Wilmington*

James N. Duggins Jr.
Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Kenneth E. Ehemann Jr.
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

John R. Erwin
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

John Fallon
Fallone, *Raleigh*

Paul Joseph Foley
Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

John Charles Gilson
Holland & Knight, *Charlotte*

John B. Hoke
McGuireWoods, *Charlotte*

Cyrus M. Johnson Jr.
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

G. William Joyner III
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Winston-Salem*

Byron B. Kirkland
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Stephen E. Klee
Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

2024 Business North Carolina Legal Elite



L. Penn Clarke | Real Estate



James McCaskill | Real Estate



Max Isaacson | Young Guns



Brinson Taylor | Real Estate



T. Carlton Younger, III | Real Estate



Worth Mills | Young Guns

Congratulations to these outstanding attorneys!



LONGLEAF
LAW PARTNERS

(919) 645-4300
longleaflp.com

GREG C. AHLUM

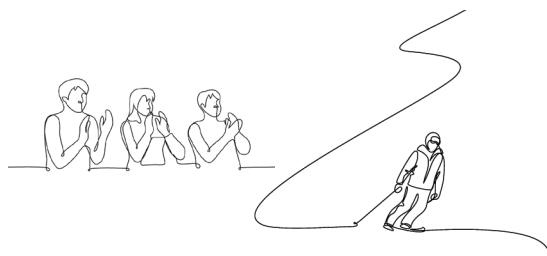
FIRM: Johnston Allison Hord, Charlotte

HOMETOWN: Lititz, Pennsylvania

UNDERGRAD: Wake Forest University

LAW SCHOOL: Wake Forest University School of Law, 1987

PRACTICE LAW: 36 years with the same firm.



FAMILY: Wife Emily (married 36 years) and two adult sons, Stuart and Will

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: To become more involved with the performing arts, especially attending more theater productions. Second, to restart our annual family ski trip out West.

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: I currently mediate about 15 construction-related disputes a year. I plan to make myself more available as a mediator.

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Lake James in Nebo. It is my escape away from the bright lights and the hustle of the city to crystal clear water, nature, the stars and mountain views all around.

SPECIAL DISH: Hands down, my mom's apple pie.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Vinny Gambini (actor Joe Pesci) from "My Cousin Vinny." Underestimated by everyone, Vinny prevails based on his persistence, his grit and the help of his fiancée, Ms. Vito.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Long walks with Oakley, our field golden retriever.

BUCKET LIST: To see the Northern Lights. However, if Pink Floyd ever plays together again, it would be to see that concert with my sons.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: I acted in several high school theater productions. Back then, I equated courtroom drama and being a lawyer with being on stage and playing a role. I then worked summers during college at the Trial Court Administrator's office where I saw lawyers appear in court.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: As a construction litigator, you need to be fully prepared and know the case better than anyone, including your client.

2024 MILESTONES: My sons are recently engaged to wonderful women. We have two upcoming weddings.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: An architect

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "All the Light We Cannot See"

DEFINE SUCCESS: My wife was diagnosed with breast cancer and successfully underwent several surgeries. Watching her go through what she did made me realize that having time is one of life's precious treasures. Success is having the time to do the things you want to do in life and being able to spend that time with those you love and care about.

C. Caroline Grier Kraich
McGuireWoods, *Charlotte*

J. Christopher Lynch
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Carmen Joseph Marzella
Marzella Law Group, *Cary*

John H. McTyre
Parker Poe, *Raleigh*

Robert E. Monroe
Monroe, Wallace, Morden & Sherrill, *Raleigh*

Annalise F. Perry
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Thomas Duke Ricks
Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Gerald F. Roach
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Larry E. Robbins
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Brian Everett Russ
Nelson Mullins, *Charlotte*

Caroline Marie Richardson Scarff
Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Jason Robert Schneider
Schneider Law Group, *Raleigh*

Scott D. Syfert
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Bryan Thompson
Surratt and Thompson, *Winston-Salem*

David Lee Tkach
David Lee Tkach, *Charlotte*

Amalie L. Tuffin
Hutchison, *Raleigh*

Neal Steven Van Vynckt
K&L Gates, *Charlotte*

HALL OF FAME: Russell M. Robinson II, Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2002); David L. Ward Jr., Ward and Smith, *New Bern* (2004); John M. Cross Jr., Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro* (2021); Jonathan Jenkins, Jenkins Haynes, *Greensboro* (2022); Rob Rust IV, Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte* (2023).

CRIMINAL

CAITLIN M. POE
Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

A. Brennan Aberle
Aberle Wall, *Greensboro*

Daniel D. Adams
Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

F. Hill Allen IV
Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

James Thomas Amburgey
Amburgey Law, *Asheville*

Patrick Todd Apple
Dummit Fradin, *Greensboro*

Russell D. Babb
Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

Bradley J. Bannon
Patterson Harkavy, *Chapel Hill*

Andrew B. Banzhoff
Devereux Banzhoff, *Asheville*

Christopher Anthony Beechler
Beechler Tomberlin, *Winston-Salem*

David G. Budd II
David G. Budd, *Asheville*

Jones Pharr Byrd Jr.
Bell Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Timothy Michael Cannady
Jetton Meredith PLLC, *Charlotte*

Ashley E. Cannon
Ashley Cannon, *Statesville*

Stephen Lacy Cash
Barbour, Searson, Jones and Cash, *Asheville*

Ames C. Chamberlin
Federal Public Defender's Office, *Greensboro*

Damon Chetson
The Chetson Firm, *Raleigh*

Chrissy Clarke-Peckham
Chrissy Clarke-Peckham, *Charlotte*

Andrew Carter Clifford
Clifford & Harris, *Greensboro*

Andrew Nicholas Clifford
The Clifford Law Group, *Raleigh*

Christopher R. Clifton
Grace, Tisdale, Clifton, *Winston-Salem*

Christopher A. Connelly
Christopher A. Connelly, *Charlotte*

Brandy L. Cook
27 District Attorney's Office, *Salisbury*

Collin Patrick Cook
Cheshire Parker Schneider, *Raleigh*

David T. Courie
Beaver Courie, *Fayetteville*

Kenneth F. Crow
Greene Wilson Crow & Smith, *New Bern*

C. Melody Cunningham Davalos
Life Law, *Raleigh*

Russell W. Dement III
Dement Askew & Johnson, *Raleigh*

Christopher Ryan Detwiler
Detwiler Law, *Raleigh*

Sean P. Devereux
Devereux Banzhoff, *Asheville*

Niccoya Dobson
iTicket Law, *Chapel Hill*

Michael Dowling
The Dowling Firm, *Raleigh*

Sharon E. Dunmore
Triad Legal Group, *Greensboro*

Douglas Perry Edwards
Edwards Law, *Asheville*

James J. Exum
JJ Exum Law, *Charlotte*

Paige Dorothy Miles Feldmann
Granados Law Group, *Cary*

Anna Elizabeth Felts
Anna Smith Felts, *Raleigh*

Christopher C. Fialko
Fialko Law, *Charlotte*

William F. Finn Jr.
Sandman, Finn & Fitzhugh, *Raleigh*

Berryman J. Fitzhugh III
Sandman, Finn & Fitzhugh, *Raleigh*

Deno Thomas Frangakis
Williford, Crenshaw, Boliek & Frangakis, *Fayetteville*

Shana LaVerne Fulton
Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Joseph J. Garcia
Eric M. Williams, *Durham*

Chad Garrett
Garrett Walker Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

Emily Gladden
Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, *Raleigh*

Michael A. Grace
Grace Tisdale Clifton, *Winston-Salem*

Lindsey D. Granados
Wiley Nickel, *Cary*

Elizabeth Freeman Greene
Flannery Georgalis, *Charlotte*

Kelly L. Greene
Greene Wilson Crow & Smith, *New Bern*

Lambert Franklin Guinn
Flannery Georgalis, *Charlotte*

Kristi Haddock
Haddock Law, *Cary*

Christon Stephanie Halkiotis
Christon S Halkiotis, *Greensboro*

William Scott Harkey
Harkey Law, *Winston-Salem*

Daniel Allen Harris
Clifford & Harris, *Greensboro*

Adam Hauser
Mecklenburg County Public Defender's Office, *Charlotte*

Edward L. Hedrick V
Edward L. Hedrick V, *Taylorsville*

Marcus E. Hill
Marcus E. Hill, *Durham*

Joseph Edward Houchin
Kaufman & Canoles, *Raleigh*

Meredith Woods Hubbard
Hubbard Law, *Raleigh*

Banks Hudson Huntley
Banks Huntley, *Charlotte*

Bradford F. Icard
Icard Law, *Charlotte*

Gintaras Krulikas
Minick Law, *Wilmington*

Peter Ryburn Lamm
Peter R. Lamm Law, *Greensboro*

George V. Laughrun III
Goodman, Carr, Laughrun, Levine & Greene, *Charlotte*

Aaron Raymond Lee
Lee & Lee, *Huntersville*

Thomas Courtenay Leitner Jr.
Leitner, Bragg & Griffin, *Monroe*

James Prescott Little
Hatch, Little & Bunn, *Raleigh*

Thomas K. Maher
Amos Tyndall, *Carrboro*

Thomas C. Manning
Manning Law, *Raleigh*

T. Taylor Manning
Manning Law, *Raleigh*

Joseph Alexander Marshall
Dement Askew Johnson & Marshall, *Raleigh*

Clarke S. Martin
Manning Law, *Raleigh*

Bruce A. Mason
Mason, Mason & Smith, *Wilmington*

Duncan A. McMillan
McMillan & Smith, *Raleigh*

Aria Merle
North Carolina Judicial Branch, *Raleigh*

Keith Brentten Metz
Metz Law, *Charlotte*

Joel Hart Miles Jr.
Cheshire Parker Schneider, *Raleigh*

Patrick Melton Mincey
Cranfill Sumner, *Wilmington*

M. Rashad Moore
Moore Law, *Graham*

John P. O'Hale
John P. O'Hale, *Smithfield*

Sean Michael Olson
Garrett, Walker, Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

C. Melissa "Missy" Owen
Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, *Charlotte*

Nicholas Patrick
Wendy Hudson & Nicholas Patrick, *Thomasville*

James Ashley Pearce
James Ashley Pearce, *Raleigh*

Gregory Plumides
Plumides, Romano & Johnson, *Charlotte*

Bill Powers
Powers Law, *Charlotte*

Jan E. Pritchett
Schlosser & Pritchett, *Greensboro*

Emily Jones Queen
Burney & Jones, *Wilmington*

Claire J. Rauscher
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

Eben Turner Rawls III
Rawls, Scheer, Clary & Mingo, *Charlotte*

Edd K. Roberts III
Roberts Law, *Raleigh*

James F. Rutherford
James Rutherford, *Wilmington*

Steven Saad
Saad Law, *Raleigh*

Elisa June Salmon
Salmon Law, *Lillington*

Tony Scheer
Rawls, Scheer, Clary & Mingo, *Charlotte*

Adam M. Seifer
SeiferFlatow, *Charlotte*

Ronald James Shook II
Ronald J. Shook, *Gastonia*

Scott K. Skidmore
Farver & Skidmore, *Reidsville*

William Gray Smith
Mason, Mason & Smith, *Wilmington*

Roger W. Smith Jr.
Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

Blake J. Spale
Shotwell Law, *Wilmington*

Ryan Stowe
Stowe Law, *Salisbury*

Paul K. Sun Jr.
Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

Raymond Tarlton
Tarlton Law, *Raleigh*

Noell P. Tin
Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, *Charlotte*

Donald Kenneth Tisdale Jr.
Grace, Tisdale & Clifton, *Winston-Salem*

Anne M. Tompkins
Cadwaladar, *Charlotte*

Otha B. Townsend
Seegars & Townsend, *Charlotte*

Amos G. Tyndall
Amos Tyndall, *Carrboro*

Jamie Vavonese
Vavonese Law, *Raleigh*

Brett Thomas Wentz
Wentz Law, *Wilmington*

Edwin L. West III
Brooks Pierce, *Wilmington*

GREG MURPHY

TITLE: Executive VP, Business Services, Sustainability and General Counsel

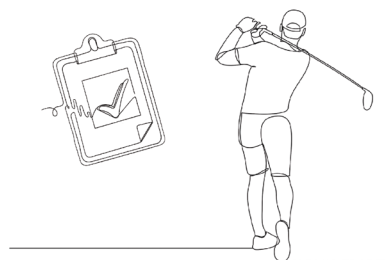
BUSINESS: Nucor, *Charlotte*

HOMETOWN: Lockport, New York

UNDERGRAD: Canisius University

LAW SCHOOL: University of Michigan

PRACTICED LAW: 35 years



FAMILY: My wonderful spouse of 35 years, Marcy. Two adult children – Sean (30) (married to Anna); and Alexandra (27).

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: I try to set short-term goals rather than annual resolutions. I find it easier to stay on track.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Get outside to walk or go to the gym to get some exercise every day. It refreshes me, clears my mind and (hopefully) keeps me healthy. On the weekends, I like to play golf.

BUCKET LIST: Attend a Ryder Cup; a Masters; a PGA Championship; a US Open; and an Open Championship all in the same year!

LEGAL WORK MYTH: People tend to see legal principles and concepts as straightforward, well defined and clear. They rarely work that way.

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "Blacklist." I know it's old, but it's new to me!

COMFORT FOOD: Pizza

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Atticus Finch from "To Kill a Mockingbird."

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Pretty much any hiking in the North Carolina mountains. I love being outside and the solitude of nature.

BBQ - EAST OR WEST?: Lexington barbeque!

LEGAL INSPIRATION: I rode my bike to a county courthouse one summer day in the mid 1970s and was instantly hooked! I had no lawyers in my family or social contacts.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: Take the time to fully understand the facts. The facts decide cases; not the law. Advice given to me by U.S. District Court Judge James B. McMillan.

MOVIE WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: The trial scene from "My Cousin Vinny." Love that dialogue.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: Setting aside the utter lack of talent part, a PGA Tour golf professional.

DEFINE SUCCESS: Developing, inspiring and nurturing the talent and dreams of others. Leaving the world a little better.

Norman Cole WilliamsCole Williams Law, *Durham***William D. Young IV**Hatch, Little & Bunn, *Wilmington***Joseph E. Zeszotarski Jr.**Gammon, Howard & Zeszotarski, *Raleigh***HALL OF FAME: Wade M. Smith,**Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh* (2004);**James F. Wyatt III,** Wyatt & Blake,*Charlotte* (2005); **David Freedman,**White and Crumpler, *Winston-Salem*(2006); **Joseph B. Cheshire V,**

Cheshire, Parker, Schneider, Bryan

& Vitale, *Raleigh* (2007); **James****P. Cooney III,** Womble CarlyleSandridge & Rice, *Charlotte* (2008);**Stephen T. Smith,** McMillan, Smith& Plyler, *Raleigh* (2009); **T. Patrick****Matus II,** Essex Richards, *Charlotte*(2010); **David S. Rudolf,** Rudolf,Widenhouse & Fialko, *Charlotte* (2011);**Locke T. Clifford,** Clifford Clendenin& O'Hale, *Greensboro* (2012);**Peter C. Anderson,** Beveridge &Diamond, *Charlotte* (2013); **Michael****J. Greene,** Goodman, Carr, Laughrun,Levine & Greene, *Charlotte* (2014);**Robert K. Corbett III,** Law Officesof Harold Cogdell Jr., *Charlotte*(2015); **Ryan T. Smith,** RTS LawGroup, *Charlotte* (2016); **George****V. Laughrun II,** Goodman, Carr,Laughrun, Levine & Greene, *Charlotte*(2017); **Les Robinson,** RobinsonLaw Firm, *Greenville* (2018); **Wes J.****Camden,** Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*(2019); **Kearns Davis,** Brooks Pierce,*Greensboro* (2020); **Cristopher L. Oring,**Oring Law, *Wilmington* (2021); **Elliot****Abrams,** Cheshire Parker Schneider,*Raleigh* (2022); **Rob Heroy,** Goodman

Carr Laughrun Levine & Greene,

Charlotte (2023).**EMPLOYMENT****ALEX MAULTSBY**Ramseur Maultsby, *Greensboro***G. Bryan Adams III**Van Hoy Reutlinger Adams Pierce, *Charlotte***Heather Bell Adams**Parry Law, *Chapel Hill***Zachary S. Anstett**Parker Poe, *Raleigh***William P. Barrett**Barrett Law, *Raleigh***Patricia T. Bartis**Parker Poe, *Raleigh***Samuel Eric Bass**Venn Law, *Charlotte***Bridget A. Blinn-Spears**Maynard Nexsen, *Raleigh***Kenneth P. Carlson Jr.**

Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete,

*Winston-Salem***Connie E. Carrigan**Smith Debnam, *Raleigh***Jonathan Tristram Coffin**Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte***Seth R. Cohen**Deuterman Law, *Greensboro***Philip A. Collins**Bailey & Dixon, *Raleigh***Edward G. Connette III**Essex Richards, *Charlotte***Kelly Margolis Dagger**Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh***Nia Doaks**

Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete,

*Winston-Salem***Cate Edwards**Edwards Beightol, *Raleigh***Ashley L. Felton**Michael Best & Friedrich, *Raleigh***Patrick H. Flanagan**Cranfill Sumner, *Raleigh***Jared Edgar Gardner**Gardner Skelton, *Charlotte***Philip J. Gibbons Jr.**Gibbons Law, *Charlotte***Elizabeth R. Gift**Ogletree Deakins, *Charlotte***Marc E. Gustafson**Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Charlotte***Holly Hammer**Hammer Law, *Raleigh***Michael Clyde Harman**Harman Law, *Huntersville***Katie Weaver Hartzog**Hartzog Law, *Raleigh***Sean Franklin Herrmann**Herrmann Murphy, *Charlotte***Elizabeth Binion Hilker**EMP Law, *Charlotte***Philip Andrew Hinson**Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, *Charlotte***J. Travis Hockaday**Smith Anderson, *Raleigh***Benjamin J. Holland**Ogletree Deakins, *Charlotte***Paul Siegfried Holscher**Ogletree Deakins PC, *Raleigh***Tamara Lynn Huckert**Strianese Huckert, *Charlotte***John C. Hunter**John C. Hunter, *Asheville***Charles E. Johnson**Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte***Lori P. Jones**Jordan Price Wall Gray Jones Carlton, *Raleigh***Kevin S. Joyner**Ogletree Deakins, *Raleigh***Patrick E. Kelly**Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte***Rosemary Gill Kenyon**Smith Anderson, *Raleigh***Michael A. Kornbluth**Kornbluth Ginsberg, *Durham***Dena Beth Langley**Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro***Kudos.**

koo dōs

noun:

praise and honor received for an achievement.



Rod Malone

Russell D. Babb

Roger W. Smith, Jr.

F. Hill Allen

Mary Aiken Barrow

Alice Stubbs

Evan Horwitz

Casey Fidler

Congratulations to this year's Legal Elite!
**THARRINGTON
SMITH LLP**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

TharringtonSmith.com

JOHN DAVID LOVE

FIRM: Michael Best & Friedrich, *Raleigh*

HOMETOWN: Lancaster, South Carolina

UNDERGRAD: Clemson University

LAW SCHOOL: Campbell University School of Law, 2004

PRACTICED LAW: 16 years



FAMILY: Father Ray, mother Debbie, twin brothers Scott and Steve

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: I'm over New Year's resolutions at this point in my life.

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: Get more efficient with my time.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Any number of things – a snowboarding trip (season permitting), a walk in the woods, a workout, listening to some relaxing music.

BUCKET LIST: Take a cross-country RV trip. There's no better way to experience America.

BIGGEST RISK: I'm subject to a confidentiality agreement on that.

LEGAL WORK MYTH: They think it's as sexy and exciting as what they see on TV.

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "House of Lies." Due to some questionable values at that stage of my life, the lawyer version of Don Cheadle's character in that show was my aspiration.

COMFORT FOOD: I can make ice cream disappear faster than you can say "shot of insulin."

SPECIAL FOOD: My mom's quinoa

FAVORITE FICTIONAL ATTORNEY: Sean Penn as David Kleinfeld in "Carlito's Way."

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Hanging Rock

BBQ - EAST OR WEST?: South Carolina mustard-based is better than both.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: A business law class at Clemson in the fall of 1998. And watching Matt Damon in "Rounders."

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: "Sometimes the only justice you get is the justice you take." I've passed that one along many times since I heard it.

FICTIONAL COURTROOM WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: This question is discriminatory against transactional attorneys. We are lawyers too! And I have zero and I mean zero desire to argue a case in a courtroom, either in real life or make-believe.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: Either an investment banker or a CFO. Maybe a blackjack dealer. Or a professional snowboarder.

2024 MILESTONES: Hopefully several large M&A deals to run point on.

DEFINE SUCCESS: Finding true happiness in helping others succeed, doing it the right way and having others aspire to be like you.

Roberta King Latham
King Latham, *Winston-Salem*

Wood W. Lay
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Matthew E. Lee
Milberg, *Raleigh*

Catherine E. Lee
Hedrick Gardner, *Raleigh*

Andrew William Legg
Kornbluth Ginsberg, *Durham*

Mary-Ann Leon
Leon Law, *Greenville*

Xavier Lightfoot
Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*

Kathleen K. Lucchesi
Jackson Lewis, *Charlotte*

Daniel Christopher Lyon
EMP Law, *Charlotte*

Alice Y. Magnuson
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Emily G. Massey
Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*

Christine Fernicola Mayhew
Anderson Jones, *Raleigh*

Karin M. McGinnis
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Michael Douglas McKnight
Ogletree Deakins, *Raleigh*

William Joseph McMahon IV
Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, *Winston-Salem*

Andrew K. McVey
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, *Wilmington*

J. Griffin Morgan
EMP Law, *Winston-Salem*

Alice N. Moscicki
McGuireWoods, *Charlotte*

Kevin Patrick Murphy
Herrmann Murphy, *Charlotte*

Laura Lee Noble
Noble Law, *Charlotte*

William Augustus Oden III
Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Daniel J. Palmieri
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Sunny Panyanouvong-Rubeck
HKM Employment Attorneys, *Charlotte*

Sanyam D. Parikh
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Linda Nicole Patino
L. Nicole Patino, *Greensboro*

Jeffrey D. Patton
Spilman Thomas & Battle, *Winston-Salem*

J. Heydt Philbeck
Bailey Dixon, *Raleigh*

John E. Pueschel
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

Richard L. Rainey
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

Sabrina P. Rockoff
McGuire Wood & Bisette, *Asheville*

Nicholas J. Sanservin Jr.
Edwards Beightol, *Raleigh*

Robert A. Sar
Ogletree Deakins PC, *Raleigh*

Jeremy Regan Sayre
Fox Rothschild, *Raleigh*

Edward S. Schenk III
Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

Kerry A. Shad
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Brandon M. Shelton
Ogletree Deakins, *Charlotte*

Mimi Soule
Soule Employment Law, *Raleigh*

Shannon Sumerell Spainhour
Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, *Asheville*

Sarah Jo Spangenburg
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Theresa M. Sprain
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Raleigh*

T. Cullen Stafford
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

David Erik Stevens
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Phillip John Strach
Nelson Mullins, *Raleigh*

Christopher Robert Strianese
Strianese Huckert, *Charlotte*

Jill Susanne Stricklin
Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, *Winston-Salem*

Tory I. Summey
Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

Jessica Beauvais Thaller-Moran
Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Linda D. Tindall
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Allison Clarice Tomberlin
Beechler Tomberlin, *Winston-Salem*

Benton Louis Touns
Cranfill Sumner, *Wilmington*

Joshua Reed Van Kampen
Van Kampen Law, *Charlotte*

Stase Vonsiatsky
Oxner + Permar, *Charlotte*

Jonathan Wall
Higgins Benjamin, *Greensboro*

Kyle T. Watson
Watson Law, *Charlotte*

Hayley Roper Wells
Ward and Smith, *Asheville*

Laura J. Wetsch
Winslow Wetsch, *Raleigh*

Devon Diane Williams
Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*

Jeremy R. Williams
Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, *Raleigh*

Benjamin Winikoff
EMP Law, *Winston-Salem*

Virginia M. Wooten
Ogletree Deakins, *Charlotte*

Kathleen N. Worm
Worm Law, *Raleigh*

John A. Zaloom
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

HALL OF FAME: Philip M. Van Hoy, Van Hoy, Reutlinger, Adams & Dunn, *Charlotte* (2002); George J. Oliver, Smith Moore, *Raleigh* (2003); Penni Pearson Bradshaw, Constangy, Brooks & Smith, *Winston-Salem* (2004); Jonathan R. Harkavy, Patterson Harkavy, *Greensboro* (2005); Patricia L. Holland, Jackson Lewis, *Cary* (2006); Louis L. Lesesne Jr., Essex Richards, *Charlotte* (2007);

Robert M. Elliot, Elliot Pishko Morgan, *Winston-Salem* (2008); Sarah J. Kromer, Sara J. Kromer, *Charlotte* (2009); Susan Brown Grady, SPX, *Charlotte* (2010); Lisa Grafstein, Disability Rights North Carolina, *Raleigh* (2011); N. Renee Hughes, Essex Richards, *Charlotte* (2012); W. Randall Loftis Jr., Constangy, Brooks & Smith, *Winston-Salem* (2013); Amie F. Carmack, Morningstar Law Group, *Morrisville* (2014); Nicole Gardner, Gardner Skelton, *Charlotte* (2015); Mike Okun, Patterson Harkavy, *Chapel Hill* (2016); Bryan L. Tyson, Marcellino & Tyson, *Charlotte* (2017); Susie Gibbons, Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh* (2018); Denise Smith Cline, Law Offices of Denise Smith Cline, *Raleigh* (2019); Kyle R. Still, Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh* (2020); David C. Lindsay, K&L Gates, *Charlotte* (2021); Meredith Jeffries, Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte* (2022); Patti W. Ramseur, Ramseur Maulsby, *Greensboro* (2023).

ENVIRONMENTAL

NATALIE D. POTTER
Essex Richards, *Charlotte*

Stanford D. Baird
K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

F. Bryan Brice Jr.
F. Bryan Brice Jr., *Raleigh*

Charles S. Carter
Earth and Water Law, *Raleigh*

Billy Clarke
Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Boyd Alexander Correll Jr.
Caudle & Spears, *Charlotte*

Hayes Jernigan Finley
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Raleigh*

John M. Flynn
Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

David A. Franchina
McGuireWoods, *Charlotte*

Robert J. King III
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Steven J. Levitas
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Alan H. McConnell
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Peter J. McGrath Jr.
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Kathleen Elizabeth Perkins
Hunton Andrews Kurth, *Charlotte*

Melissa A. Romano
Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte*

Amanda Kitchen Short
Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

Benjamin William Smith
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Benjamin Lee Snowden
Fox Rothschild, *Raleigh*

Mona Lisa Wallace
Wallace & Graham, *Salisbury*

Steven D. Weber
Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

James Smarr Whitlock
Davis Whitlock, *Asheville*

Whitney Wallace Williams
Wallace & Graham, *Salisbury*

Noelle E. Wooten
Nelson Mullins, *Charlotte*

I. Clark Wright
Davis Hartman Wright, *New Bern*

HALL OF FAME: Charles D. Case, Hunton & Williams, *Raleigh* (2002; 2003); H. Glenn Dunn, Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh* (2004); George W. House, Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro* (2005); William D. Dannelly, Hunton & Williams, *Raleigh* (2006); Benne C. Hutson, Helms Mulliss & Wicker, *Charlotte* (2007); Amos C. Dawson III, Williams Mullen, *Raleigh* (2008); Richard C. Gaskins Jr., Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, *Charlotte* (2009); Stephen W. Earp, Smith Moore Leatherwood, *Greensboro* (2010); Ramona Cunningham O'Bryant, Smith Moore Leatherwood, *Greensboro* (2011); William Clarke, Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville* (2012); Grady L. Shields, Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh* (2013); Craig A. Bromby, Hunton & Williams, *Raleigh* (2014); Garry S. Rice, Duke Energy, *Charlotte* (2015); Sean M. Sullivan, Troutman Sanders, *Raleigh* (2016); Carol Jones Van Buren, Van Buren Law, *Charlotte* (2017); Steve Berlin, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Winston-Salem* (2018); Keith Johnson, Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh* (2019); Amy Wang, Ward and Smith, *New Bern* (2020); Susan H. Cooper, Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte* (2021); Mary Katherine Stukes, Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte* (2022); Amy Rickers, Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte* (2023).

FAMILY

HEIDI C. BLOOM
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Carole R. Albright
Black, Slaughter & Black, *Greensboro*

Janet Haney Amburgey
GHMA Law, *Asheville*

Marcia H. Armstrong
Armstrong Law Firm, *Smithfield*

Matthew Robert Arnold
Arnold & Smith, *Charlotte*

Lillie Ashworth
Marshall & Taylor, *Raleigh*

Carly Grace Baker
Wake Family Law Group, *Raleigh*

Margaret Aiken Barrow
Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

Rachel Carter Beard
Wake Family Law Group, *Raleigh*

Jennifer Bell
Strickland Agner Pittman, *Goldsboro*

Shelby D. Benton
Benton Family Law, *Goldsboro*

Tamla Tymus Beverly
Tymus Beverly, *Raleigh*

Andrea Bosquez-Porter
Bosquez Porter Family Law, *Raleigh*

CAITLIN POE

FIRM: Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

HOMETOWN: Raleigh

UNDERGRAD: University of Georgia

LAW SCHOOL: University of Virginia School of Law, 2012

PRACTICED LAW: 10 years



FAMILY: Husband Christopher Poe, and children Poppy and Colin

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Go to bed earlier.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Exercise – movement is medicine!

BUCKET LIST: My husband and I love going to sporting events. Top of the list would probably be a Final Four or a Masters Sunday.

BIGGEST RISK: Moving down the street from my parents.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: Lawyers don't get dumped, they just lose their appeal.

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "Righteous Gemstones"

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Bob Loblaw (actor Scott Baio) from "Arrested Development."

LEGAL INSPIRATION: My grandfather, Don McLaughlin, is the coolest person I've ever known. He was a career FBI agent and attorney, and literally wrote the book for them on how to follow the Miranda rule. Later in life he was the judge of the Quantico moot court. He's deceased now, but I've got his Black's Law Dictionary on my office bookshelf.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: "Facts animate legal principles." I received it, and now I give it.

FICTIONAL COURTROOM WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: Defending the theory of evolution – not in the Scopes Monkey Trial, but in [TV sitcom] "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" when Mac convinces the gang it isn't real.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: Luxury hotel management

DEFINE SUCCESS: With two little kids and two working parents, success is getting through a day without too many tears and without visible stains on my clothing.

Jennifer M. Bradley
Triangle Smart Divorce, *Cary*

Molly Lyle Brazil
Dummit Fradin, *Greensboro*

Andrew Steven Brendle
Soni Brendle, *Winston-Salem*

Amy Lynn Britt
Parker Bryan Family Law, *Raleigh*

Chad M. Buckingham
Regent Law, *Charlotte*

Laura B. Burt
Wofford Burt, *Charlotte*

Lindsay Byers
Dummit Fradin, *Winston-Salem*

Ashley B. Bonomini
Sodoma Law North, *Charlotte*

Adrienne R. Cherry
Leitner, Bragg & Griffin, *Monroe*

Holden Blake Clark
Hometown Counsel, *Gastonia*

James A. Clyburn
J. Albert Clyburn, *Wilmington*

Charles W. Coltrane
Coltrane & Overfield, *Greensboro*

Michelle D. Connell
Cranfill Sumner, *Raleigh*

Stephen Corby
Emblem Legal, *Charlotte*

Amanda Marie Cubit
Dozier Miller Law Group, *Charlotte*

Jessica Ketchem Culver
Dummit Fradin, *Greensboro*

Samuel Thomas Currin II
Rik Lovett & Associates, *Raleigh*

Nicholas Lee Cushing
Miller Bowles Cushing, *Charlotte*

Taylor Raine d'Alelio
Parker Bryan Family Law, *Raleigh*

Paul A. DeJesse Jr.
Hatcher Law Group, *Charlotte*

Kavita Christina Desai
James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Nathalie M. Doran
Wilson, Reives, Silverman & Doran, *Sanford*

Nicole Applefield Engel
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Steven Bruce Epstein
Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh*

David W. Erdman
Erdman Hockfield, *Charlotte*

Candace Strickland Faircloth
Collins Family Law Group, *Monroe*

Christine R. Farrell
Mulligan Attorneys, *Wilmington*

Jonathan Daniel Feit
James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Marilyn Feuchs-Marker
Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Joshua L. Finney
Sodoma Law, *Charlotte*

Katherine Wiggins Fisher
Battle Winslow, *Rocky Mount*

Kathryn Foster Fowler
Fitzgerald Hanna & Sullivan, *Raleigh*

Kyle Frost
Offit Kurman, *Charlotte*

Katherine Ann Frye
Frye Law, *Raleigh*

Maren Tallent Funk
Godley Glazer + Funk, *Mooreville*

Chelsea Elise Gajewski
Sodoma Law, *Charlotte*

Kaylan M. Gaudio
Sodoma Law, *Charlotte*

Wesley Peter Gelb
Connell & Gelb, *Raleigh*

Seth Andrew Glazer
Godley Glazer + Funk, *Mooreville*

Kelley Louise Gondring
Gondring Law, *Winston-Salem*

Nancy M. Grace
Wake Family Law Group, *Raleigh*

Marli Dabareiner Grady
Godley Glazer + Funk, *Cornelius*

Jordan Marie Griffin
Leitner, Bragg & Griffin, *Monroe*

Jordan Hardy Gross
Stauff & Gross, *Raleigh*

Monica R. Guy
Kurtz Whitley Guy Sanders & Rainey, *Winston-Salem*

Michael S. Harrell
Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Tia G. Hartley
Tia G. Hartley, *Charlotte*

James Gregory Hatcher
Hatcher Law Group, *Charlotte*

R. Maria Hawkins
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Jessica B. Heffner
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Penelope Lazarou Hefner
Sodoma Law, *Charlotte*

Kara Q. Helms
The Helms Firm, *Winston-Salem*

Kimberly Herron
Tamela T. Wallace, *Charlotte*

Molly Amanda Hilburn-Holte
ER Law, *Greensboro*

David Eric Holm
Parker Bryan Family Law, *Holly Springs*

Paul Doughton Horton
Sodoma Law, *Charlotte*

Evan Horwitz
Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

Christine Houston
Collins Family & Elder Law Group, *Monroe*

Hilary Workman Hux
Garrett, Walker, Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

Clara Ann Ignich
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Paige E. Inman
Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Juliana S. Inman
Ward and Smith, *New Bern*

Jill Schnabel Jackson
Jackson Family Law, *Raleigh*

Stephanie Jenkins
Parker Bryan Family Law, *Raleigh*

**Congratulations,
Christopher Buchholtz**

Top Lawyer in NC

**SVP, Assistant Corporate
Secretary & Assistant
General Counsel**



ALEX MAULTSBY

FIRM: Ramseur Maultsby, Greensboro

HOMETOWN: Spartanburg, South Carolina

UNDERGRAD: Davidson College

LAW SCHOOL: UNC Chapel Hill School of Law, 1991

PRACTICED LAW: 32 years



FAMILY: Wife, Terri Maultsby, daughter Katherine Maultsby Harris, sons Mac and Perrin Maultsby

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Exercise more. Fix my herniated disks from sitting at a desk all these years. Shout out to Katie Curry at Body Balance Pilates in Greensboro!

2024 WORK LIFE CHANGE: Learn something new about employee benefits law – it's so complicated and I sorta hate it.

BIGGEST RISK: Starting our own law firm in 2020 during a global pandemic. Like any good lawyer, though, I mitigated my risk by doing it with Patti Ramseur.

LEGAL WORK MYTH: That it is about the courtroom, when in reality most of it is decidedly not.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: Don't like them. It's fine to make fun of me, but I get defensive about our profession. Who else has such stringent ethics rules that, if violated, can ruin your livelihood? Yet still, all these supposed jokes about unethical lawyers. After 30-plus years, I still have not met any. Seriously.

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: Season One of "True Detective". It's older, but I never saw it until last month.

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Two words: "Asheville. Breweries." Or wait, "Beach. Sunshine." Coin toss.

BBQ - EAST OR WEST?: Eastern. I mean, when you grow up with grandparents in Whiteville and have had many a Joe's BBQ meal, you are set for life.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: Davidson College taught me a sense of service and an appreciation for excellence. I chose the law because it provides intellectual challenges, you can help people, and a legal career offers great flexibility. That's no exciting origin story, but it's the truth.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: College basketball coach. However, I would have needed to play more hoops growing up than merely church league with my dad as coach and intramurals at Davidson.

2024 MILESTONES: Fifteen-year wedding anniversary to my very patient wife, Terri.

DEFINE SUCCESS: Having your family love you and loving them back. And, side note: getting all your kids through all their years of education.

Jonathan Mack Jerkins

Jerkins Family Law, *Raleigh*

Emily Catherine Jeske

Bosquez Porter Family Law, *Raleigh*

Richard B. Johnson

Plumides, Romano & Johnson, *Charlotte*

Bradley C. "Brad" Jones

Parker Bryan Family Law, *Morehead City*

Jana Kelly Jones

Jana K. Jones, *Charlotte*

David Meade Kern

James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Irene Patrice King

King Collaborative Family Law, *Charlotte*

Kate A.D. Kovats

Kate A.D. Kovats, *Charlotte*

Carolyn Lovejoy Krueger-Andes

Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

David Matthew Krusch

Plumides, Romano & Johnson, *Charlotte*

Jon B. Kurtz

Kurtz Whitley Guy Sanders & Rainey,
Winston-Salem

Dara Duncan Larson

Duncan Larson Law, *Charlotte*

Daniel Larson

Duncan Larson Law, *Charlotte*

Lydia Bree Laughrun

Essex Richards, *Charlotte*

James W. Lea III

The Lea Schultz Law Firm, *Wilmington*

Kyle Wesley LeBlanc

Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Lisa LeFante

Triangle Smart Divorce, *Cary*

Tiffany Anne Lesnik

Lesnik Family Law, *Raleigh*

Lauren Vaughn Lewis

Essex Richards, *Charlotte*

Alexa Noelle Litt

Collins Family & Elder Law Group, *Monroe*

Kristen Longmire

The Law Corner, *Raleigh*

Rik Lovett

Rik Lovett & Associates, *Raleigh*

Jeffrey E. Marshall

Marshall & Taylor, *Raleigh*

Justin L. Mauney

Wake Family Law Group, *Raleigh*

David Michael McCleary

Dozier Miller Law Group, *Charlotte*

Laura Anderson McCoy

Howard, McCoy & Bolton, *Raleigh*

Patrick S. McCroskey

GHMA Law, *Asheville*

Joy Gragg McIver

Montford Family Law, *Asheville*

Benjamin McLawhorn

McLawhorn & Russell, *Raleigh*

John P. McNeil

McNeil Law Firm, *Raleigh*

Jonathan Stephen Melton

Gailor Hunt Davis Taylor & Gibbs, *Raleigh*

Christopher D. Miller

Miller Bowles Cushing, *Charlotte*

Jennifer P. Moore

Marcellino & Tyson, *Charlotte*

Barbara R. Morgenstern

Morgenstern & Associates, *Greensboro*

Gena G. Morris

James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Bethany M. Mulhern

Miller Bowles Cushing, *Charlotte*

Anna Warburton Munroe

Allman Spry, *Winston-Salem*

Erica R. Nesmith

The Nesmith Firm, *Charlotte*

Corey Alexander Noland

Arnold & Smith, *Charlotte*

Daniel O'Malley

McIveen Family Law, *Raleigh*

Steven Blaine Ockerman

Epperson Law Group, *Charlotte*

W. Carey Parker

Harbinson Parker, *Statesville*

Kisha Patel

McIveen Family Law Firm, *Raleigh*

Cheri Patrick

Patrick Law, *Durham*

Carolyn T. Peacock

Peacock Family Law, *New Bern*

Chelsea Anderson Peele

Cordell & Cordell, *Greensboro*

LeeAnne Quattrucci

LeeAnne Quattrucci, *Wilmington*

Lauren Taylor Quinn

Ward and Smith, *New Bern*

Bennett D. Rainey

Kurtz Whitley Guy Sanders & Rainey,

Winston-Salem

Katherine Adkins Rech

Rech Law, *Charlotte*

Andrew Charles Rheingrover

Conrad Trosch & Kemmy, *Charlotte*

Mark D. Riopel

Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte*

Kimberly R. Robertson

Dozier Miller Law Group, *Charlotte*

Stephen Edward Robertson

Stephen E. Robertson, *Greensboro*

Casey Taylor Robinson

Garrett, Walker, Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

William F. Rogers Jr.

Billick Rogers, *Concord*

Rachel D. Rogers Hamrick

Tom Bush Law Group, *Charlotte*

Michael Romano

Plumides, Romano & Johnson, *Charlotte*

Thomas R. Sallenger

Sallenger Law, *Wilson*

Claire Joanne Samuels

Charlotte Collaborative Divorce

Professionals, *Charlotte*

Deborah Sandlin

Sandlin Family Law Group, *Raleigh*

Linda B. Sayed

Block, Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed,

Wilmington

Ryan Binderup Schultz

Lea/Schultz Law, *Wilmington*

David Kenneth Self

David Self Law, *Cornelius*

Abigail Comfort Seymour

Camino Law, *Greensboro*

CE&C

CULP ELLIOTT & CARPENTER, P.L.L.C.

Attorneys at Law

Christopher
(Chris) E. Hannum
2024 winner

William
(Bill) L. Mills, IV
2024 winner

John J.
(Jody) Carpenter
2024 winner

W. Curtis Elliott, Jr.
Hall of Fame

Congratulations to our Legal Elite

You earned it. We help you keep it.

Culp Elliott & Carpenter, PLLC | 6801 Carnegie Boulevard, Suite 400, Charlotte, North Carolina 28211 | (704) 372-6322

HEIDI BLOOM

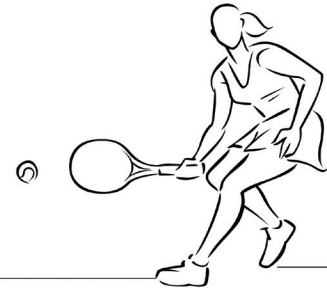
FIRM: Wyrick Robbins, Raleigh

HOMETOWN: Yonkers, New York

UNDERGRAD: UNC Chapel Hill

LAW SCHOOL: Wake Forest School of Law, 1995

PRACTICED LAW: More than 25 years



FAMILY: Husband Woofer Davidian is a Wake County District Court judge; two kids, Pierce and Isabel

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: I prefer "annual aspirations" – things I want to accomplish or do, places I hope to go, people I want to see more, new things to try, etc. For 2024, I "aspire" to relish every minute of the remainder of my son's senior year and my time with him; focus more on my health; improve my tennis and pickleball game; and cheer unabashedly for my Carolina Tar Heels and Dallas Cowboys.

BUCKET LIST: A toss-up between going to Iceland and seeing the Northern Lights and playing Pebble Beach golf course.

LAST SHOW BINGED-WATCHED: "Ted Lasso" – which combined my love of sports, humor and positive messaging.

SPECIAL DISH: My mom is German and her German beef rouladen, which are rolled strips of beef, filled with bacon, onions, mustard and spices, makes me crave them just writing about them.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: According to my longtime associate and now partner, this is my best advice:

1. Give back to your profession;
2. Don't take yourself too seriously or be too critical of anyone – especially in family law which is extremely challenging and at times emotionally charged;
3. Before agonizing over something, consider whether it will matter in five years. If not, slow down and keep things in perspective;
4. Exercise the 24-hour rule before reacting;
5. If you want to solve a problem, pick up the phone and call people; and
6. Listen more than you speak; ask questions if you don't understand or can't relate; and as much as possible err on the side of compassion.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: ESPN sportscaster. Erin Andrews is my idol.

Jim Siemens
Siemens Family Law Group, *Asheville*

Susan Sullivan Simos
Craig Jenkins Liipfert & Walker,
Winston-Salem

Tonya Graser Smith
Grasersmith, *Charlotte*

Sean P. Smith
Grasersmith, *Charlotte*

Megan E. Spidell
Spidell Family Law, *Greensboro*

Dale Virginia Stephenson
Ward Family Law Group, *Cary*

Robin J. Stinson
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Alice Stubbs
Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

Carrie Tortora
Tortora Family Law, *Raleigh*

John Paul Tsahakis
James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Shannan Barclay Tuorto
Tuorto Family Law, *Asheville*

Zachary Michael Underwood
Wake Family Law Group, *Raleigh*

Meghan A. Van Vynckt
Cordes Law, *Charlotte*

Theresa Eileen Viera
Modern Legal, *Charlotte*

Adam Vorhis
Asheville Family Law Group, *Asheville*

Jammie Lynn Wacenske
Matheson & Associates, *Raleigh*

Tamela T. Wallace
Tamela T. Wallace, *Charlotte*

Danielle Jessica Walle
Marcellino & Tyson, *Charlotte*

Elise Morgan Whitley
Kurtz Whitley Guy Sanders & Rainey,
Winston-Salem

Lindsay Woodard Willis
Rosen Law Firm, *Raleigh*

Anna N. Westmoreland
Westmoreland Legal, *Charlotte*

Rebecca Wofford
Wofford Burt, *Charlotte*

Tiasha L. Wray
Wray Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Melissa Davis Wright
Block, Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed,
Wilmington

Arlene M. Zipp
Roberson Haworth & Reese, *High Point*

HALL OF FAME: John H. Parker, Cheshire, Parker, Schneider, Bryan & Vitale, *Raleigh* (2007); Carlyn Poole (retired), Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh* (2008); Richard D. Stephens, Dozier, Miller, Pollard & Murphy, *Charlotte* (2009); Lana S. Warlick, Law Office of Lana S. Warlick, *Jacksonville* (2010); Michael F. Schilawski, Wake Family Law Group, *Raleigh* (2011); D. Caldwell Barefoot Jr., Barefoot Family Law, *Raleigh* (2012); Stan Brown, Hamilton Stephens Steele + Martin, *Charlotte* (2013); Lori M. Vitale, Vitale Family Law, *Raleigh* (2014); Kimberly Bryan, Cheshire Parker Schneider & Bryan, *Raleigh* (2015); Rob Blair,

Essex Richards, *Charlotte* (2016); Afi S. Johnson-Parris, Ward Black Law, *Greensboro* (2017); Chris Eatmon, Eatmon Law Firm, *Wake Forest* (2018); Kristin M. Hampson, Hampson Family Law, *Raleigh* (2019); Mariana Godwin, Barefoot Family Law, *Raleigh* (2020); Cary Close, Close Smith Family Law, *Raleigh* (2021); Richard Gantt, Gantt Family Law, *Raleigh* (2022); Ketan P. Soni, Soni Brendle, *Charlotte* (2023).

IMMIGRATION

LAURA D. BURTON
Fox Rothschild LLP, *Greensboro*

Sauna A. Arroyo
Arroyo Law, *Raleigh*

Cynthia A. Aziz
Aziz Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Omar Baloch
Law Offices of Omar Baloch, *Raleigh*

Penni B. Bradshaw
Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete,
Winston-Salem

Rosa Maria Corriveau
Ogletree Deakins, *Raleigh*

Jennifer Cory
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

David Andrew Creech
David Creech Law Firm, *Wilmington*

Amanda Carrano Franklin
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Steven H. Garfinkel
Garfinkel Immigration Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Vanessa Ann Gonzalez
Vanessa A. Gonzalez, *Wilmington*

Rebekah Goncarovs Grafton
Fay Grafton Nunez, *Raleigh*

Jordan Forsythe Greer
Cauley Forsythe Immigration, *Charlotte*

Hannah Faith Little
Garfinkel Immigration Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Catherine Lafferty Magennis
Garfinkel Immigration Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Jeremy L. McKinney
McKinney Immigration Law, *Greensboro*

George N. Miller
Dozier Miller Law Group, *Charlotte*

Colleen Forcina Molner
Garfinkel Immigration Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Thomas Spencer Morrow
Butler, Quinn & Hochman, *Charlotte*

Ana Sofia Nunez
Fay Grafton Nunez, *Raleigh*

Jorge Ivan Pardo
Pardo Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Helen Louise Parsonage
EMP Law, *Winston-Salem*

John L. Pinnix
Allen Pinnix, *Raleigh*

Susan Waller Ramos
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

Emily Elizabeth Scotton
EMP Law, *Winston-Salem*

Stephen Hugh Smalley
Ogletree Deakins, *Raleigh*

Julie Christine Spahn
Spahn Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Helen Laura Tarokic
Helen Tarokic Law, *Wilmington*

Douglas Bradley Thie
Clawson and Staubes, *Charlotte*

Joan M. Waldron
Waldron Law Firm, *Matthews*

Elizabeth Ann Wood
EA Wood Law, *New Bern*

HALL OF FAME: Laura Edgerton, Edgerton Immigration Law, *Raleigh* (2018); Gerard M. "Gerry" Chapman, Chapman Law Firm, *Greensboro* (2019); Murali Bashyam, Bashyam Shah, *Raleigh* (2020); Gigi Gardner, Gardner Gordon, *Charlotte, Raleigh* (2021); Devon Senges, Dummit Fradin Attorneys at Law, *Greensboro* (2022); Benjamin A. Snyder, Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi, *Charlotte* (2023).

INTELLECTUAL

JOHN R. OWEN
Coats & Bennett, *Cary*

Alton Luther Absher III
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton,
Winston-Salem

Ani Agrawal
NK Patent Law, *Charlotte*

Albert P. Allan
Allan IP Litigation, *Charlotte*

Michael J. Allen
Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

Stephen Smith Ashley Jr.
Ashley Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Sloan L.E. Carpenter
Parker Poe, *Raleigh*

Carla Hermida Clements
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

Kathryn Gusmer Cole
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Ticora Elaine Davis
The Creator's Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Arthur J. Debaugh
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Angela Powers Doughty
Ward and Smith, *New Bern*

Nicolas Eason
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Amy H. Fix
Barnes Thornburg, *Raleigh*

Eva Gullick Frongello
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Darrell A. Fruth
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Stephen D. Gardner
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton,
Winston-Salem

Michelle M. Glessner
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Arlene D. Hanks
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Rebecca E. Harasimowicz
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

William G. Heedy
Van Winkle Law Firm, *Asheville*

Blake Patrick Hurt
Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Ashley Johnson
Dogwood Patent and Trademark Law,
Raleigh

John Timothy Kivus
Morningstar Law Group, *Raleigh*

Shawna Cannon Lemon
Stanek Lemon, *Raleigh*

James L. Lester
MacCord Mason, *Greensboro*

Robert Joseph Morris
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

John Morrow
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

Justin Robert Nifong
NK Patent Law, *Raleigh*

Kelli Ovies
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Raleigh*

Gavin Bryce Parsons
Coats & Bennett, *Cary*

William Kevin Ransom
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Erica BE Rogers
Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*

David W. Sar
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Trevor P. Schmidt
Hutchison, *Raleigh*

Jeffrey J. Schwartz
Schwartz Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Andrew R. Shores
Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

Reinier R. Smit
Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Jason M. Sneed
Sneed, *Davidson*

Eric Stevens
Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh*

Todd C. Taylor
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Steven N. Terranova
Withrow Terranova, *Cary*

Christopher M. Thomas
Parker Poe, *Raleigh*

Christina Davidson Trimmer
Shumaker Loop & Kendrick, *Charlotte*

Robert Charles Van Arnham
Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

Jennifer Van Doren
Morningstar Law Group, *Raleigh*

Thomas Glenn Varnum
Brooks Pierce, *Wilmington*

Devon E. White
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Lance S. White
Apollo Sports & Entertainment Law
Group, *Charlotte*

Benjamin Withrow
Withrow + Terranova, *Cary*

HALL OF FAME: Mitchell S. Bigel, Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, *Raleigh* (2002; 2003); Kenneth D. Sibley, Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, *Raleigh* (2004); Wesley Thaddeus Adams III, Adams Evans, *Charlotte* (2005); J. Scott Evans, Yahoo!, *Charlotte* (2006); Philip Summa, Summa, Allan & Additon, *Charlotte* (2007); Susan Freya Olive, Olive & Olive, *Durham* (2008); David M. Carter, Carter & Schnedler, *Asheville* (2009); David M. Krasnow, Smith

LAURA DEDDISH BURTON

FIRM: Fox Rothschild, Greensboro

HOMETOWN: Charleston, South Carolina

UNDERGRAD: Duke University

LAW SCHOOL: University of Virginia, 1997

PRACTICED LAW: 26 years



FAMILY: Husband, Will, also a partner at Fox Rothschild; daughter Sarah, son Billy

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: To keep in closer and more meaningful touch with family and friends.

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: Keep on keepin' on.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Reading a good book on our front porch swing.

BUCKET LIST: Travel around the Greek islands by sailboat; they are so beautiful in photos, and I've always wanted to see them in person.

LEGAL WORK MYTH: Every minute is fast-paced courtroom drama and/or that all lawyers are unscrupulous bad apples.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: Why don't sharks bite attorneys? Professional courtesy.

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "Daisy Jones and the Six"

SPECIAL DISH: Lamb tagine – my mother learned how to make it in Morocco, and it was perfect and delicious.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Lt. Cdr. Joanne Galloway (actor Demi Moore), "A Few Good Men." Haven't we all wanted to say, "I strenuously object!" at one time or another? Now it's a family inside joke.

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Blowing Rock

BBQ - EAST OR WEST?: Eastern, of course. I do cheat with South Carolina mustard-based from time to time.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: Watching my father, a career Navy JAG attorney, while I was growing up inspired me to become an attorney as well. It turns out that private practice is just a little bit different.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: The importance of "planting the seed" for both professional and business development. You won't see the results immediately, but with time your career will grow strong and be fruitful. This was particularly helpful for me as patience is not my strong suit.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: When I generously provide my thoughts on medical symptoms or diagnoses, my husband points out that I am neither a doctor nor do I play one on TV.

DEFINE SUCCESS: To have family and friends you treasure and a career you love. I feel truly fortunate to have achieved this measure of success.

Moore Leatherwood, *Raleigh* (2010); William J. Mason, MacCord Mason, *Wilmington* (2011); E. Eric Mills, Ward and Smith, *New Bern* (2012); Anthony Biller, Coats & Bennett, *Cary* (2013); Larry L. Coats, Coats & Bennett, *Cary* (2014); Sarah E. Nagae, Triangle Trademarks, *Raleigh* (2015); Maury M. Tepper III, Tepper & Eyster, *Raleigh* (2016); John C. Nipp, Additon, Higgins & Pendleton, *Charlotte* (2017); Matthew Ladenheim, Trego, Hines & Ladenheim, *Charlotte* (2018); Julie H. Richardson, Myers Bigel, *Raleigh* (2019); Russ Racine, Cranfill Sumner, *Charlotte* (2020); Rick McDermott, McDermott IP Law, *Charlotte* (2021); Rebecca Crandall, McGuire Wood & Bissette, *Asheville* (2022); Kimberly Bullock Gatling, Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro* (2023).

LITIGATION

W. SCOTT JONES

Searson, Jones, Gottschalk & Cash, *Asheville*

Douglas B. Abrams

Abrams & Abrams, *Raleigh*

Noah Breen Abrams

Abrams & Abrams, *Raleigh*

Eric M. Albright

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

David Neal Allen

Allen Chesson, *Charlotte*

Karl J. Amelchenko

Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, *Raleigh*

Chad Alan Archer

Blanco Tackabery Attorneys, *Winston-Salem*

Katherine Marie Barber-Jones

Hartzog Law Group, *Raleigh*

Dauna L. Bartley

The Bocker Law Firm, *Cary*

Stephen Mark Bennett

Arnold & Smith, *Charlotte*

Jonathan A. Berkelhammer

Ellis & Winters, *Greensboro*

Ryan D. Bolick

Cranfill Sumner, *Charlotte*

Robert C. Bowers

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

J. Bryan Boyd

Edwards Beightol, *Raleigh*

Ashley Kamphaus Brathwaite

Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

Seth Peter Buskirk

Clark, Newton & Evans, *Wilmington*

Anthony T. Capitano

Erwin, Capitano & Moss, *Charlotte*

Andrew S. Chamberlin

Ellis & Winters, *Greensboro*

Benjamin Smith Chesson

Allen Chesson, *Charlotte*

Steven Corriveau

Martin & Jones, *Raleigh*

Richard A. Coughlin

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Dale A. Curriden

Van Winkle Law Firm, *Asheville*

Eric M. David

Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Alexandra "Alli" Davidson

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

SAFRAN LAW OFFICES

Congratulations

PERRY SAFRAN

on being named to
Business North Carolina's
LEGAL ELITE 2024



SERVING THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Find us online: **safranlaw.com**

2024

TOP LAWYER AWARD RECIPIENTS
UPHOLD THE HUTCHENS LEGACY



TERRY HUTCHENS



J. SCOTT FLOWERS



SUSAN R. BENOIT



HILTON T. HUTCHENS, JR.



JOSEPH J. VONNEGUT

Over 44 years
of unwavering
commitment to
Ethics, Integrity,
and Hard Work

HUTCHENS
— LAW FIRM —

HIGH PERFORMANCE LAW™

Serving the Carolinas in the practice areas of business law, civil litigation, commercial and residential real estate, default services and creditor's rights, and more. **HutchensLawFirm.com**

JOHN OWEN

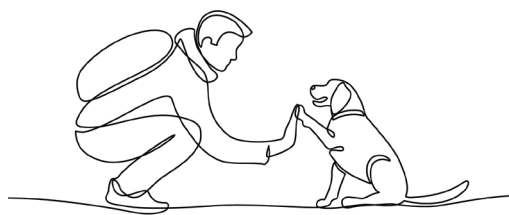
FIRM: Coats & Bennett, Cary

HOMETOWN: Cary

UNDERGRAD: Duke University

LAW SCHOOL: UNC Law School, 1996

PRACTICED LAW: 27 years



FAMILY: Wife Denise

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Find more joy and share it.

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: Cut back on the number of days I am working as part of the glide path to retirement.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Go for a long walk with the dog. The dog reminds me to be present in the moment and to enjoy simple things.

BUCKET LIST: Visit New Zealand

BIGGEST RISK: Leaving a good engineering/management career to go to law school.

LEGAL WORK MYTH: It is all about conflict, when it is actually more about relationships and understanding your client.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: Only lawyers can write 80 pages on a single subject and call it a "brief."

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "Love, Death + Robots." It is alternately hilarious and thought provoking.

SPECIAL DISH: The now-closed Magnolia Grill's famous panko crusted chicken with lemon caper sauce, prepared by my wife Denise.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL ATTORNEY: Mitchell McDeere from "The Firm."

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Umstead State Park

LEGAL INSPIRATION: The challenge of continuous learning and a great example in Professor John Conley.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: A wise lawyer told me argument is not just about facts and law, it is about telling a compelling story.

FICTIONAL COURTROOM WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: The trial to determine if Lt. Cmdr. Data is sentient in "Star Trek Next Generation" because of the importance of the issue to a fundamentally good "person."

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: Wine and craft beer merchant.

2024 MILESTONES: My 13th year of waiting for Patrick Rothfuss to finish and release the sequel to "The Wise Man's Fear."

DEFINE SUCCESS: Knowing you made a positive difference.

Kearns Davis
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Brian Forrest Davis
Davis Law Group, *Asheville*

Michael D. DeFrank
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Jessica C. Dixon
Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

J. Nicholas Ellis
Poyner Spruill, *Rocky Mount*

Thomas Russell Ferguson III
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

Andrew Larry Fitzgerald
Fitzgerald Litigation, *Winston-Salem*

Paul T. Flick
Miller Monroe & Plyler, *Raleigh*

J. Scott Flowers
Hutchens Law Firm, *Fayetteville*

Deedee Rouse Gasch
Crannell Sumner, *Wilmington*

Charles George
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Matthew W. Georgitis
Spilman Thomas & Battle, *Winston-Salem*

Reginald B. Gillespie Jr.
Wilson Ratledge, *Raleigh*

Jeffrey C. Grady
J. Grady Law, *Charlotte*

Christopher T. Graebe
Morningstar Law Group, *Raleigh*

William T. Graham
John Locke Foundation, *Raleigh*

Dustin Timothy Greene
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Winston-Salem*

Kirkland Hardyman
Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte*

L. Cooper Harrell
Mullins Duncan Harrell & Russell, *Greensboro*

J.D. Hensarling
Vann Attorneys, *Raleigh*

John Alexander Heroy
James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Michael James Hoefling
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Dana H. Hoffman
Young Moore and Henderson, *Raleigh*

Ryan Hoffman
Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Gregory G. Holland
Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

John W. Holton
Miller Monroe Plyler, *Raleigh*

Mallory G. Horne
Teague Rotenstreich Stanaland Fox & Holt, *Greensboro*

Ann Patton Hornthal
Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Matthew Thomas Houston
K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

John Hughes
Wallace & Graham, *Salisbury*

Michael Ingersoll
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

Jason Burke James
JD Law Carolinas, *Charlotte*

Shannon Joseph
Morningstar Law Group, *Raleigh*

Lori R. Keeton
Law Offices of Lori Keeton, *Charlotte*

Christopher R. Kiger
Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Charles Bailey King Jr.
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, *Charlotte*

Kimberly Jill Kirk
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Heryka Rodriguez Knoespe
McGuireWoods, *Charlotte*

Adam Langino
Langino Law, *Chapel Hill*

Kenneth T. Lautenschlager
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Trey Lindley
Lindley Law, *Charlotte*

Harrison A. Lord
Lord Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette
McGuireWoods, *Raleigh*

John P. Marshall
White Allen, *Kinston*

Dennis Lee Martin Jr.
Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Thomas Richmond McPherson III
McGuireWoods, *Charlotte*

Viral Mehta
Mehta & McConnell, *Charlotte*

Carrie Meigs
Michael Best & Friedrich, *Raleigh*

Samuel C. Merritt
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Jeffrey R. Monroe
Miller Monroe & Plyler, *Raleigh*

Jacob M. Morse
Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, *Raleigh*

Allison Mullins
Turning Point Litigation, *Greensboro*

Sammy M. Naji
Triangle Legal, *Cary*

Brandon S. Neuman
Nelson Mullins, *Raleigh*

J. Thomas Neville
Yarborough, Winters & Neville, *Fayetteville*

Lauren O. Newton
Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, *Charlotte*

Amanda Pickens Nitto
Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte*

Philip Andrew Olivier
Garrett, Walker, Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

David J. Overton
Ricci Law Firm, *Raleigh*

Leslie C. Packer
Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

Paige Lorealea Pahlke
Pahlke Law, *Charlotte*

Michael J. Parrish
Ward and Smith, *New Bern*

Alan Parry
Parry Law, *Chapel Hill*

Nathaniel J. Pencook
Nelson Mullins, *Raleigh*

Jim W. Phillips Jr.
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Michael R. Phillips
Hagwood And Tipton, *Charlotte*

Robert Bryson Pike
The Pike Law Firm, *Morehead City*

Donald R. Pocock
Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Anastasia Pressel
Ricci Law Firm Injury Lawyers, *Raleigh*

Kenneth Raynor
Raynor Law Firm, *Charlotte*

David Redding
TLG Law, *Charlotte*

Joel R. Rhine
Rhine Law Firm, *Wilmington*

Amy E. Richardson
Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis, *Raleigh*

Ian Richardson
Vann Attorneys, *Raleigh*

Morgan Hunter Rogers
Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

Erik M. Rosenwood
Rosenwood, Rose & Litwak, *Charlotte*

Adam Lewis Ross
James, McElroy & Diehl, *Charlotte*

Adam M. Ruley
Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Stephen M. Russell Jr.
Mullins Duncan Harrell Russell, *Greensboro*

Megan Sadler
Venn Law Group, *Charlotte*

William Kirk Sanders
Hendrick, Bryant, Nerhood, Sanders & Otis, *Winston-Salem*

Frank E. Schall
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Bradford "Brad" Searson
Barbour, Searson, Jones & Cash, *Asheville*

Thomas Hamilton Segars
Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

WE KNOW
CONSTRUCTION.
**AND CONSTRUCTION
KNOWS US.**

IN LITIGATION,
MEASURE TWICE AND CUT ONCE.

In the high-stakes and fast-moving spheres of business, construction, and commercial real estate, Robertson & Associates has stood the test of time. For more than 25 years, we have delivered value through quality legal counsel, aggressive representation, and responsive service to our clients. We are thrilled to congratulate managing partner R. Lee Robertson, Jr. and associate Jacob A. Johnson for their inclusion in this year's *Business North Carolina Legal Elite*.



R. Lee Robertson, Jr.



Jacob A. Johnson


ROBERTSON
& ASSOCIATES

Attorneys & Counselors at Law

2730 East W.T. Harris Boulevard, Suite 101 Charlotte, North Carolina | 704-597-5774 | www.rlrobertson.com

W. SCOTT JONES

FIRM: Searson, Jones, Gottschalk & Cash, Asheville

HOMETOWN: Shelby

UNDERGRAD: UNC Chapel Hill

LAW SCHOOL: University of Virginia, 1991

PRACTICED LAW: 32 years



FAMILY: Wife Karen, children Olivia, Matthew and William

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Continue to do the work that I enjoy, run consistently and appreciate family time.

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: Fortunate to practice with three great lawyers who are also good friends. We have three additional lawyers joining us: Tikkun Gottschalk, Elizabeth Newman and Bob Deutsch.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: I started running 15 years ago to improve my physical health, but it also has benefitted my mental health.

BIGGEST RISK: Left the only law firm I had ever practiced with and some of my closest friends to start my new firm in 2008. It was scary at first, but it was a great decision.

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "Shetland"

SPECIAL DISH: My grandmother made a wonderful cubed steak. My wife's cubed steak one-ups even my grandmother.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Theo Boone, kid lawyer, from John Grisham book series about a teen who fights to right injustices.

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Asheville

BBQ - EAST OR WEST?: My favorite barbecue is my own. I have had a Big Green Egg for 20 years and have a Kamado Joe now too. I even have a "secret sauce," which has an Eastern lean.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: In elementary school, I watched the Watergate hearings. U.S. Sens. Sam Ervin, D-N.C., and Howard Baker, R-Tenn., inspired me.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: "People are complicated." Too often in litigation, the parties jump too quickly to ascribe only bad motive and evil intent to the other side. Often it is more complicated, just like people.

ALTERNATE CAREER: College chemistry professor.

2024 MILESTONES: Sons Matthew and William will become college freshmen, leaving Karen and me to start our empty nest chapter.

DEFINE SUCCESS: Raising my children to be people who contribute their skills to society and who enjoy their lives. Success in litigation is putting clients in a better position than they would have been if they had not come to see me.

Timothy Alfred Sheriff
CR Legal Team, *Charlotte*

Patricia Pursell Shields
Hedrick Gardner Kincheloe & Garofalo, *Raleigh*

Grant Sigmon
Sigmon Klein, *Greensboro*

Christopher James Skinner
Broughton Wilkins Sugg & Thompson, *Raleigh*

Samuel A. Slater
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Allen C. Smith
Hedrick Gardner, *Charlotte*

Ryan Hayden Smith
Ryan The Lawyer, *Raleigh*

Eric Spengler
Spengler & Agans, *Charlotte*

Joseph H. Stallings
Howard Stallings, *Raleigh*

James B. Stephenson II
Stephenson Law, *Cary*

Wyatt S. Stevens
Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Conrad Boyd Sturges III
Davis, Sturges & Tomlinson, *Louisburg*

E. Winslow Taylor
Taylor & Taylor, *Winston-Salem*

Christopher M. Theriault
Theriault Law, *Oak Island*

Rebecca Thornton
Michael Best & Friedrich, *Raleigh*

B. Elizabeth Todd
Law Office of B. Elizabeth Todd, *Charlotte*

Christopher Donald Tomlinson
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Anna Claire Turpin
Henson Fuerst, *Raleigh*

Andrew R. Ussery
McAngus Goudelock & Courie, *Charlotte*

Cynthia Van Horne
Poyner Spruill, *Charlotte*

Jennifer K. Van Zant
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

James R. Vann
Vann Attorneys, *Raleigh*

Matthew M. Villmer
Villmer Caudill, *Charlotte*

Stephen Brian Walker
Garrett Walker Aycoth & Olson, *Greensboro*

John Bowen Walker
Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

William W. Walker
Craig Jenkins Liipfert & Walker, *Winston-Salem*

Daniel Wallace
Wallace & Graham, *Salisbury*

Zachary D. Walton
McAngus Goudelock & Courie, *Charlotte*

Judson A. Welborn
Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Dixie T. Wells
Ellis & Winters, *Greensboro*

Jeremy M. Wilson
Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Nevin Wisnoski
Napoli Shkolnik, *Wilmington*

Ellen P. Wortman
Wortman Law Firm, *Wilmington*

HALL OF FAME: James T. Williams Jr., Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro* (2002; 2003); Clarence W. Walker, Kennedy Covington Lobdell & Hickman, *Charlotte* (2004); Gary S. Parsons, Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh* (2005); William K. Davis, Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem* (2006); Dan J. McLamb, Yates, McLamb & Weyher, *Raleigh* (2007); Robert D. Walker, Walker, Allen, Grice, Ammons & Foy, *Goldsboro* (2008); J. Donald Cowan Jr., Ellis & Winters, *Greensboro* (2009); G. Gray Wilson, Wilson, Helms and Cartledge, *Winston-Salem* (2010); James H. Kelly Jr., Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Winston-Salem* (2011); Daniel L. Brawley, Williams Mullen, *Wilmington* (2012); Lee M. Whitman, Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh* (2013); Michael J. Byrne, Byrne Law, *Raleigh* (2014); Jonathan D. Sasser, Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh* (2015); Jean Sutton Martin, Law Office of Jean Sutton Martin, *Wilmington* (2016); Greg Merritt, Harris, Creech, Ward & Blackerby, *New Bern* (2017); Ward Davis, Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Charlotte* (2018); Elizabeth Scott, Williams Mullen, *Raleigh* (2019); Clay A. Campbell, Marcellino & Tyson, *Charlotte* (2020); Kristen L. Beightol, Edwards Kirby, *Raleigh* (2021); Fred W. DeVore III, DeVore, Acton & Stafford, *Charlotte* (2022); Ross Fulton, Rayburn Cooper & Durham, *Charlotte* (2023).

REAL ESTATE

JULIAN ROBB
Blanco Tackabery & Matamoros, *Winston-Salem*

William Albert Anderson II
Kennon Craver, *Durham*

Charles V. Archie
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Mary Burgett Ashley
Ashley Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Garland L. Askew
Dement Askew Johnson & Marshall, *Raleigh*

Holly S. Bannerman
Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Catherine Price Barr
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Anthony J. Barwick
Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Paul H. Bass
Law Office of Paul H. Bass, *Charlotte*

Steven K. Bell
Steven K Bell, *Trent Woods*

Susan R. Benoit
Hutchens Law Firm, *Fayetteville*

Kenneth R. Benton
Baucom, Claytor, Benton, Morgan & Wood, *Charlotte*

Ashleigh Elizabeth Black
Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Jonathan Matthew Bagues
Michael Best & Friedrich, *Raleigh*

Justin Nicholas Bolling
Bolling & Ghannam, *Charlotte*

Joseph Beaman Brewer IV
Littlewood Law, *Raleigh*

John R. Buben Jr.
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Scott Kenyon Burger
Allen Stahl + Kilbourne, *Asheville*

William G. Burgin
Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Margaret S. Burnham
Maynard Nexsen, *Greensboro*

Michele Andrejco Callaway
Adams Howell, *Raleigh*

Kristen Kelley Callihan
Boyles & Callihan, *Wilmington*

Hope D. Carmichael
Jordan Price Wall Gray Jones & Carlton, *Raleigh*

Alison R. Cayton
Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Barbara R. Christy
Schell Bray, *Greensboro*

Louis Penn Clarke
Longleaf Law Partners, *Raleigh*

Donna R. Cohen
Donna R. Cohen Attorney at Law, *Raleigh*

William Richardson Daughtrey
Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Joseph B. Dempster Jr.
Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh*

Matthew Peter Doyle
Doyle Wallace, *Charlotte*

James Scott Efird
St. Amand & Efird, *Charlotte*

Susan Y. Ellinger
Ellinger & Carr, *Raleigh*

Randall Wayne Faircloth
Regent Law, *Charlotte*

Andrew Steven Felts
Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Walter D. Fisher Jr.
Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders, *Charlotte*

Jennifer Flynn
Carter Law Group, *Salisbury*

Samuel Benjamin Franck
Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Scott C. Gayle
Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Jonathan Peter Goldberg
Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Austin Grabowski
Grabowski Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Stephanie E. Greer Fulcher
Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders, *Charlotte*

Jennifer Hall
Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Jonathan Robert Hankin
Hankin Law, *Charlotte*

Mark Joseph Hanson
Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Hank Harrawood
Knipp Law Office, *Belmont*

Robert Charles Lawson
Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

James Bryant Haynes
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

David Layne Hillman
Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh*

Thomas Patrick Hockman
Schell Bray PLLC, *Greensboro*

Janeen Hogue
Miller-Hogue Law, *Charlotte*

George E. Hollodick
Blanco Tackabery, *Winston-Salem*

Scott Thomas Horn
Allman Spry Davis Leggett & Crumpler, *Winston-Salem*

George W. House
Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Currie Tee Howell
Adams Howell, *Raleigh*

Justin K. Humphries
Humphries Law Firm, *Wilmington*

Hilton Terry Hutchens Jr.
Hutchens Law Firm, *Fayetteville*

William T. Hutchins
Kennon Craver, *Durham*

Susan K. Irvin
Irvin Law Group, *Cornelius*

Marc L. Issacson
Isaacson Sheridan, *Greensboro*

Brooks F. Jaffa
Cranford, Buckley, Schultze, Tomchin, Allen & Buie, *Charlotte*

Trent E. Jernigan
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

Peter U. Kanipe
McGuire Wood & Bisette, *Asheville*

Jeffrey P. Keeter
Block Crouch Keeter Behm & Sayed, *Wilmington*

Michael F. King
K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

John W. King Jr.
John W. King, *New Bern*

William B. Kirk Jr.
Kirk Palmer & Thigpen, *Charlotte*

William F. Kirk
Regent Law, *Charlotte*

Benjamin R. Kuhn
Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Michael V. Lee
Lee Kaess, *Wilmington*

John Charles Livingston
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Allen Crosby Livingston III
Knipp Law, *Charlotte*

Nicole Sabourin Loeffler
Weatherspoon & Voltz, *Raleigh*

Timothy P. Logan
Parker Poe, *Charlotte*

Kathryn Maultsby Madison
Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Jeffrey J. Malarney
Jeff Malarney, *Kitty Hawk*

Joseph R. Marek
Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

LaDeidre Dianne Matthews
Fox Rothschild, *Charlotte*

William C. Matthews
Womble Bond Dickinson, *Charlotte*

Robert May Jr.
Banzet Thompson Styers & May, *Warrenton*

Craig T. McCall
McCall Law Firm, *Raleigh*

James C. McCaskill
Longleaf Law Partners, *Raleigh*

Andrew Martin McCullough
Venn Law Group, *Charlotte*

Gary T. McDermott
McDermott Law, *Waxhaw*

JULIAN ROBB

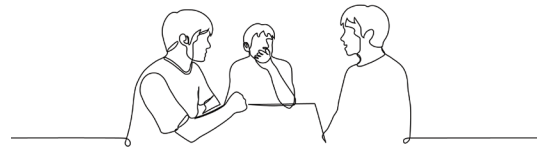
FIRM: Blanco Tackabery & Matamoros, *Winston-Salem*

HOMETOWN: Johannesburg, South Africa

UNDERGRAD: UNC Chapel Hill

LAW SCHOOL: Wake Forest School of Law, 1998

PRACTICED LAW: 25 years



FAMILY: Wife, Jessica, and children, Ellie (16) and Liam (14)

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: A better mentor to the firm's new attorneys.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: A great read shields you from the shenanigans of the workday.

BUCKET LIST: A week in the Hebrides in Scotland and leap from distillery to distillery. I love Scotland (my father was born in Greenock), but I've never been to Islay or Skye and I imagine a whisky-soaked week to be a delightful way to spend one's time.

BIGGEST RISK: Real estate attorneys take no risks. It's not in our DNA. Biggest risk was going to law school at age 22.

COMFORT FOOD: Finding a good chicken parmesan sub in North Carolina is like finding gold in the Yukon.

SPECIAL FOOD: My mom made the best mac & cheese.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Ben Stone (actor Michael Moriarty) from "Law & Order." Stone is such an ornery fellow. He has the bedside manner of an accomplished malcontent, but is stubbornly principled and highly proficient.

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: Pinehurst

BBQ – EAST OR WEST: With all the objectivity that being a non-native brings, I can say with certainty that eastern North Carolina is clearly better.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: College summers spent working for a Charlotte law firm allowed me to see behind the fourth wall, to see attorneys work hard and interact with clients and staff. It made me want to emulate the best of them.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: I was a young attorney, struggling with a demanding client. The firm's managing partner told me never let a client treat me as a functionary. He said that we are here to advise our clients, not do their bidding. I loved that advice, and with time developed the confidence and proficiency to put it into practice.

MOVIE WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: The courtroom from "A Few Good Men." I would love to yell "I want the truth" at a witness.

DEFINE SUCCESS: I define success by reputation. The attorneys I respected as a young attorney in Winston-Salem, like Kim Gallimore, Don VonCannon and Frank Bell, had unimpeachable reputations. I think the most successful of us attorneys are those who are regarded highly by our peers.

Heather Dawn McDowell

Ellinger & Carr, *Raleigh*

Daniel Adam Merlin

Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Peter F. Morgan

Peter F. Morgan, *Charlotte*

David W. Murray

Murray Law Firm, *Charlotte*

James A. Oliver

Hatch, Little & Bunn, *Raleigh*

Joseph Daniel Orenstein

Coltrane Grubbs Orenstein, *Kernersville*

Kelly Motycka Otis

Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Andrew RW Paschal

Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Jeanne A. Pearson

Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

James K. Pendergrass

Pendergrass Law Firm, *Raleigh*

Stephen J. Perry

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Nolan Ray Perry

Morgan & Perry Law, *Fuquay-Varina*

Tonya B. —

Maynard Nexsen, *Raleigh*

Samuel Sutherland Price

Stephenson Law, *Cary*

David T. Pryzwansky

Pryzwansky Law Firm, *Raleigh*

Robert J. Ramsey Jr.

Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Ashley H. Ray

Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Jonathan Scott Raymer

Black, Slaughter & Black, *Greensboro*

Holden Reaves

Reaves Law, *Fayetteville*

John F. Renger III

Renger & Reynolds, *Charlotte*

B. Ford Robertson

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

John R. Rose

Goosmann Rose Colvard & Cramer,

Asheville

Cathy M. Rudisill

Rudisill, *Raleigh*

Scott Andrew Schaaf

Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

Lawrence Joseph Shaheen Jr.

McIntosh Law Firm, *Davidson*

Douglas John Short

Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Jeremy Stephen Shrader

Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

Jonathan Trent Sizemore

Adams Howell, *Cary*

Kyle Abraham Smalling

Capital City Law, *Wake Forest*

Richard Stephenson

Stephenson Law, *Cary*

Molly Stewart

Morningstar Law Group, *Raleigh*

Brinson Taylor

Longleaf Law Partners, *Raleigh*

Ashley H. Terrazas

Parker Poe, *Raleigh*

Thomas E. Terrell Jr.

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Daniel A. Terry

Terry Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Mark V. Thigpin

King & Spalding, *Charlotte*

Lindsay Parris Thompson

Van Winkle Law Firm, *Asheville*

Anna Hartzog Tison

Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Kathline Tran

The McCall Law Firm, *Raleigh*

Christopher TG Trusk

Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

John M. Tyson

Judge John M. Tyson, *Fayetteville*

Andrea Matt Van Trigt

Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, *Wilmington*

Nikhil Pankaj Vyas

Vyas Realty Law, *Raleigh*

David Eric Wagner

K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

Henry Frazier Wallace II

Doyle Wallace, *Charlotte*

Joshua Tyler Walthall

Boerema Blackton, *Raleigh*

Cameron Todd Ware

Johnston Allison & Hord, *Charlotte*

James Matthew Waters

Jordan Price Wall Gray Jones &

Carlton, *Raleigh*

William H. Weathers Jr.

Weatherspoon & Voltz, *Raleigh*

D. Robert Williams

Price & Williams, *Wilmington*

Cameron Clark Winfrey

Adams Howell, *Cary*

Thomas Carlton Younger III

Longleaf Law Partners, *Raleigh*

HALL OF FAME: Alfred Adams, Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, *Winston-Salem* (2004); Barry D. Mann, Manning, Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh* (2005); Brent A. Torstrick, Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2006); Samuel T. Oliver Jr., Manning, Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh* (2007); Charles Gordon Brown, Brown & Bunch PLLC, *Chapel Hill* (2008); C. Steven Mason, Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan, *Raleigh* (2009); Timothy G. Sellers, Sellers, Hinshaw, Ayers, Dortch & Lyons, *Charlotte* (2010); Frank M. Bell Jr., Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem* (2011); George W. Sistrunk III, Hamilton Stephens Steele & Martin, *Charlotte* (2012); Robert Charles Lawson, Williams Mullen, *Raleigh* (2013); Michael G. Winters, Ellis & Winters, *Raleigh* (2014); Holly H. Alderman, Schell Bray, *Chapel Hill* (2015); Brian W. Byrd, Smith Moore Leatherwood, *Greensboro* (2016); Anna P. McLamb, Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh* (2017); Beth Voltz, Weatherspoon



Congratulations to our North Carolina attorneys for being named to the 2024 NC Legal Elite!



Congratulations to our attorneys!

- Brian Russ for Corporate Law
- Phillip Strach for Employment Law
- Brandon Neuman for Litigation
- Noelle Wooten for Environmental Law
- Martin Wharf for Appellate
- Nathaniel Pencook for Litigation
- Wells Hall for Estate Planning
- Lorin Lapidus for Appellate
- Jennifer Winkler as "Young Guns"

Our attorneys constantly seek the best results for their clients, and this recognition reflects their commitment to our clients and legal practice.

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Attorneys & Counselors at Law

One Wells Fargo Center
301 South College Street
23rd Floor | Charlotte, NC 28202

301 Hillsborough Street
Suite 1400
Raleigh, NC 27603

The Knollwood
380 Knollwood Street | Suite 530
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

AMY H. KINCAID

FIRM: Schell Bray, Greensboro

HOMETOWN: Gainesville, Georgia

UNDERGRAD: Clemson University

LAW SCHOOL: UNC Chapel Hill School of Law, 1998

PRACTICED LAW: 25 years



FAMILY: I met John Kincaid at Clemson University, and we have been married since August 1993. We have two daughters, Ellie and Emma.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: To perform a daily act of kindness.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: I jog about two miles in the park near my house by myself without any music or podcasts. It's just nice to be outside.

BUCKET LIST: Live in Spain for six months and learn conversational Spanish.

BIGGEST RISK: I only applied to one law school.

LEGAL WORK MYTH: Any attorney can draft a good will.

FAVORITE LAWYER JOKE: What do you get when you cross the Godfather with a lawyer? An offer you can't understand.

LAST SHOW BINGE-WATCHED: "Jessica Jones" (Disney/Marvel Series)

COMFORT FOOD: Spaghetti and meatballs

SPECIAL DISH: A filet from the Fresh Market cooked medium rare with Dale's Steak Seasoning cooked by my husband, John.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Jack McCoy (actor Sam Waterston) on "Law & Order."

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: We have a cabin on Badin Lake. There are so many fun things to do. We hike in the Uwharrie National Forest, boat, ride jet skis, and paddle board. At the end of last summer, we kayaked down the Uwharrie River and learned an important lesson. It's always important to check the water levels before kayaking, or you may end up hiking down the river with a kayak in tow instead!

LEGAL INSPIRATION: My family always discussed controversial issues at dinner. My father often told me to pick a side and prove my point. I got lots of practice and learned that I enjoyed winning those debates.

FICTIONAL COURTROOM WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: I would cross-examine Jack Nicholson's character in "A Few Good Men." You can't handle the truth!

ALTERNATIVE CAREER: Pilot

DEFINE SUCCESS: "Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it." – Maya Angelou

& Voltz, *Raleigh* (2018); Annika M. Brock, The Brock Law Firm, *Asheville* (2019); Allen York, Smith Anderson, *Raleigh* (2020); Diana R. Palecek, Fox Rothschild, *Charlotte* (2021); Philip Hackley, Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh* (2022); Joanne Badr, Ward and Smith, *Asheville* (2023).

TAX & ESTATE PLANNING

AMY H. KINCAID

Schell Bray, *Greensboro*

Nathan R. Adams

Pittman & Steele, *Burlington*

S. Kyle Agee

Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

David Eric Anderson

David E Anderson, *Wilmington*

Michael F. Anderson

Anderson Law Firm, *Charlotte*

Brian Carl Bernhardt

Fox Rothschild, *Charlotte*

Andrew Blair

Poyner Spruill, *Raleigh*

Chris N. Bobby

Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Julie Marion Bradlow

Darrow Everett, *Charlotte*

Gwendolyn C. Brooks

Kennon Craver, *Durham*

Joshua D. Bryant

Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Madison E. Bullard Jr.

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

John J. Carpenter

Culp Elliott & Carpenter, *Charlotte*

Michael R. Cashin

Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

John R. Cella Jr.

Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Ansley Chapman Cella

Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

David R. Chambers

Chambers & Ennis, *Raleigh*

Christian P. Cherry

Crisp Cherry McCraw, *Charlotte*

John A. Cocklereece Jr.

Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Thomas A. Cooper

Austin Cooper, *Charlotte*

Charles M. Crisp

Crisp Cherry McCraw, *Charlotte*

Stephanie Daniel

Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, *Charlotte*

Janice L. Davies

Davies Law, *Charlotte*

C. Joseph DelPapa

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Mark Doby

Wallace & Graham, *Salisbury*

Jordan L. Faulkner

Young, Morphis, Bach & Taylor, *Hickory*

John W. Forneris

Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte*

Elinor J. Foy

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Kara Gansmann

Cranfill Sumner, *Wilmington*

Evan Michael Gilreath

Gilreath Shealy Law, *Hendersonville*

Edward Weede Griggs

Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

C. Wells Hall III

Nelson Mullins, *Charlotte*

Christopher E. Hannum

Culp Elliott & Carpenter, *Charlotte*

John Randolph Hemphill

Hemphill Gelder, *Raleigh*

Mary Robinson Hervig

Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Christopher N. Hewitt

Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

Carl W. Hibbert

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Robyn Alise Hicks-Guinn

Hicks Guinn Law, *Charlotte*

Kay Linn Miller Hobart

Parker Poe, *Raleigh*

Reed J. Hollander

Young Moore, *Raleigh*

Mary C. Immen

Cranford, Buckley, Schultze, Tomchin, Allen & Buie, *Charlotte*

Bradley L. Jacobs

Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Kelly Rains Jesson

Jesson & Rains, *Charlotte*

Ronald P. Johnson

Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

Linda F. Johnson

Senter, Stephenson, Johnson, *Fuquay-Varina*

Jacob A. Johnson

Robertson & Associates, *Charlotte*

Timothy William Jones

Jones Branz & Whitaker, *Raleigh*

Jill Lynn Peters Kaess

Lee Kaess, *Wilmington*

Warren P. Kean

Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, *Charlotte*

John G. Kelso

Van Winkle Law, *Asheville*

Adam Gates Kerr

Kerr Law, *Greensboro*

Joseph A. Kimmet

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Amy S. Klass

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Meghan Naomi Knight

Lynch & Eatman, *Raleigh*

Margaret Troy Kocaj

Kocaj Consulting, *Charlotte*

Jennifer L.J. Koenig

Schell Bray, *Greensboro*

Paula Alyse Kohut

Kohut, Adams & Randall, *Wilmington*

Zachary F. Lamb

Ward and Smith, *Asheville*

David Tyler Lewis

Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Harris M. Livingstain

McGuire Wood & Bissette, *Asheville*

Paul H. Livingston Jr.

Schell Bray, *Greensboro*

Robert D. Lyerly Jr.

Maynard Nexsen, *Charlotte*

Lauren Campbell Maxie

NC Planning, *Cary*

Blaire McClanahan

Law Offices of Cheryl David, *Greensboro*

William Thomas McCuiston Jr.

McCuiston Law, *Cary*

Robert H. Merritt Jr.

Bailey & Dixon, *Raleigh*

William Lee Mills IV

Culp, Elliott & Carpenter, *Charlotte*

Christopher Scott Morden

Monroe Wallace Morden & Sherrill, *Raleigh*

Jonathan David Morgan

Morgan & Perry Law, *Fuquay-Varina*

Mitchell Kemp Mosley

Narron Wenzel, *Raleigh*

Marcus L. Moxley

Edwards Craver Veach, *Winston-Salem*

Lawrence Moyer IV

Womble Bond Dickinson, *Raleigh*

Caroline Corry Munroe

Blanco Tackabery & Matamoros, *Winston-Salem*

Michael Christian Murray

Murray Moyer, *Raleigh*

William W. Nelson

Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Anthony D. Nicholson

McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson & Hinkle, *Durham*

Timothy A. Nordgren

Schell Bray, *Greensboro*

Holly Berry Harris Norvell

Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Tanya Nicole Oesterreich

Oesterreich Law, *Concord*

Jason R. Page

Law Office of Jason R. Page, *Wilson*

Jonathan M. Parisi

Spangler Estate Planning, *Greensboro*

Erin Bray Patterson

Erin Patterson Law, *Charlotte*

Abigail Elizabeth Peoples

Law Firm Of Abigail E Peoples, *Greensboro*

Christian Lee Perrin

Perrin Legal, *Charlotte*

Branson A. Pethel

Shelby, Pethel and Hudson, *Salisbury*

Galina "Allie" Petrova

Petrova Law, *Greensboro*

Thomas J. Rhodes

Narron & Holdford, *Wilson*

Larry H. Rocamora

McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson & Hinkle, *Durham*

Jennifer Marshall Roden

Craige & Fox, *Wilmington*

Heidi Elizabeth Royal

Heidi E. Royal Law, *Charlotte*

Maria Magdalena Satterfield

Satterfield Legal, *Charlotte*

Joseph D. Shealy

Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

John R. Sloan

Ward and Smith, *Wilmington*

Amy K. Smith

Bell, Davis & Pitt, *Winston-Salem*

Rebecca Lane Smitherman

Craige Brawley Lipfert & Walker, *Winston-Salem*

Kimberly H. Stogner

Womble Bond Dickinson, *Winston-Salem*

Kimberly Quarles Swintosky

Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Adam Patrick McInnis Tarleton

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Sarah Sparboe Thornburg

McGuire Wood & Bissette, *Asheville*

Dennis Toman

Elderlaw Firm, *Greensboro*

Jeneva Alicia Vazquez

Bray & Long, *Charlotte*

Connie J. Vetter

Connie J Vetter, *Charlotte*

Robert Hammock Wall

Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Janice A. Walston

Narron & Holdford, *Wilson*

Carter Webb

Van Winkle Law, *Asheville*

Michael J. Wenig

Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Catherine Loden Wilson

McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson & Hinkle, *Durham*

Keith A. Wood

Carruthers & Roth, *Greensboro*

H. Denton Worrell

Worrell Sides, *Raleigh*

Paul Anthony Yokabitus

Cary Estate Planning, *Cary*

HALL OF FAME: Robert C. Vaughn Jr., Vaughn Perkinson Ehlinger Moxley & Stogner, *Winston-Salem* (2002; 2003); W. Curtis Elliott Jr., Culp Elliott & Carpenter, *Charlotte* (2004); Ray S. Farris, Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte* (2005); Elizabeth L. Quick, Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, *Winston-Salem* (2006); James W. Narron, Narron, O'Hale & Whittington, *Smithfield* (2007); E. William Kratt, Herring Mills & Kratt, *Raleigh* (2008); Christy Eve Reid (died May 8, 2014), Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2009); Michael H. Godwin, Schell Bray Aycock Abel & Livingston, *Greensboro* (2010); Maria M. Lynch, Lynch & Eatman LLP, *Raleigh* (2011); Graham D. Holding Jr., Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, *Charlotte* (2012); Andrew H. Veach, Edwards Craver Veach, *Winston-Salem* (2013); Robert H. Haggard, Van Winkle Lam, *Asheville* (2014); Michael A. Colombo, Colombo, Kitchin, Dunn, Ball & Porter, *Greenville* (2015); Jason Walls, The Walls Law Firm, *Apex* (2016); Debra L. Foster, Foster Royal, *Charlotte* (2017); Elizabeth "Liz" K. Arias, Womble Bond Dickinson, *Raleigh* (2018); Jean Gordon Carter, McGuire Woods, *Raleigh* (2019); Rudy Ogburn, Young Moore & Henderson, *Raleigh* (2020); Jessica Mering Hardin, Robinson Bradshaw, *Charlotte* (2021); Brooks Jaffa, Cranford, Buckley Schultze, Tomchin, Allen & Buie, *Charlotte* (2022); Michael Cory Howes, Strauss Attorney, *Raleigh* (2023).

KATARINA “KATIE” WONG

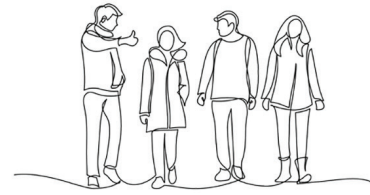
FIRM: Brooks Pierce, Raleigh

HOMETOWN: Port Jefferson, New York

UNDERGRAD: Duke University

LAW SCHOOL: Duke Law School, 2019

PRACTICED LAW: 4 years



FAMILY: Andrew (husband)

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Connect more with family, friends and colleagues.

2024 WORK-LIFE CHANGE: Answer my own questions about what we should do next so that I can better exercise the muscle of making judgment calls and developing strategy.

GO-TO STRESS RELIEVER: Running. Fresh air, beautiful places, exhaustion and disassociation.

BUCKET LIST: Follow tradition of former-English-majors-turned-lawyers-turned-novelists.

BIGGEST RISK: Teaching 12th grade English to students who were nearly the same age. What did I know about the world that they didn't?

SPECIAL DISH: In high school, the dad of my friend Patricia Luksich would bake chocolate chip cookies for our weekly viewings of "Avatar, the Last Airbender." I don't think I've ever eaten a more perfect cookie in a more welcoming place.

FAVORITE FICTIONAL LAWYER: Kim Wexler (actor Rhea Seehorn) from "Better Call Saul." She loves the law, cares deeply for her clients. Her success is based on hard work and attention to detail.

FAVORITE N.C. HANGOUT: A spot on Jordan Lake to float around and paddleboard.

LEGAL INSPIRATION: In an ethical reasoning class, the professor used cold calls similar to the Socratic settings in law school. It was terrifying and thrilling to be put on the spot. A class on religion and democracy incorporated texts from legal scholars on public discourse. I loved these classes because they were more legal-centric than public policy centric.

These undergraduate classes shaped the way I taught my high school students. My students impressed me. They were so much more aware than I was at their age. It made me want to participate in spaces where I could engage with others in dialogues about questions that did not have easy answers.

BEST PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: Take ownership of your work and drive your case forward. That principle has helped me be creative and independent.

TV SHOW WHERE YOU'RE THE LAWYER: "Trial and Error" featured a New York lawyer learning how to navigate a small-town, Southern courtroom. The big city lawyer found his home in the quirky town and its people. I wouldn't mind practicing in a court that felt like home.

DEFINE SUCCESS: Doing your best and doing the work for a cause that will serve other people well.

YOUNG GUNS

KATARINA "KATIE" WONG

Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Patrick H. Archibald

McCollum Law, *Cary*

Lisa Williford Arthur

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

Benjamin T. Aydtlett

K&L Gates, *Raleigh*

Helen Somerville Baddour

Johnson & Groninger, *Charlotte*

Heather Tonelli Baker

Teague Campbell Dennis & Gorham, *Raleigh*

Sophia V. Blair

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Kara Marie Murphy Brunk

Smith Anderson, *Raleigh*

Elizabeth Buckner

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Katie Burchette

Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Matthew C. Burke

Young Moore, *Raleigh*

Diane B. Burks

Katten Muchin Rosenman, *Charlotte*

David Busch

Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Ashley Barton Chandler

Fox Rothschild, *Greensboro*

James Bradley Cheek

Rogers Patrick Westbrook &

Brickman, *Charlotte*

Mikail Orestes Clark

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Charlotte*

Kevin Cline

NC Republican Party, *Raleigh*

Carter B. Cole

Hannah Sheridan & Cochran, *Raleigh*

Chamberlain Elizabeth Collier

McAngus Goudelock & Courie, *Raleigh*

Payton Rose Collier

Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*

Drew Culler

Johnson & Groninger, *Durham*

Tyler Andrew Diekhaus

Jones Childers Donaldson Webb,

Mooreville

Ashley Victoria DiMuzio

Surratt and Thompson, *Winston-Salem*

Christy Cochran Dunn

Young Moore and Henderson, *Raleigh*

Vince Eisinger

Cranfill Sumner, *Raleigh*

Alan Buford Felts

Tuggle Duggins, *Greensboro*

Casey Christine Fidler

Tharrington Smith, *Raleigh*

Lauren E. Fussell

Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

Alexis Gadzinski

Marcellino & Tyson, *Charlotte*

Stephen Charles Gambill

Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

James Van Cleave Gambrell

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Grace Glover

Marshall & Taylor, *Raleigh*

Aaron Michael Goforth

Hatch, Little & Bunn, *Raleigh*

William S. Graebe

Morningstar Law Group, *Raleigh*

John William Graebe

Morningstar Law Group, *Raleigh*

Linda B. Green

Law Offices of Oliver & Cheek, *Greenville*

Brian Donald Gulden

Van Winkle Law, *Asheville*

Meredith Hamilton

Ogletree Deakins, *Charlotte*

Amanda San Mei Hawkins

Brooks Pierce, *Raleigh*

Justin Tyler Hill

Ward and Smith, *Raleigh*

Fielding E. Huseh

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Michael James Hutcherson

Ragsdale Liggett, *Raleigh*

Max Edward Isaacson

Longleaf Law Partners, *Raleigh*

Christopher Ward Jackson

Ellis & Winters, *Greensboro*

Emily Catherine Jeske

Bosquez Porter Family Law, *Raleigh*

Diana Santos Johnson

Waldrep Wall Babcock & Bailey,

Winston-Salem

Mary Scott Kennedy

K&L Gates, *Charlotte*

Christian Kiechel

Pope McMillan, *Statesville*

Kristen Marie Kirby

McGuireWoods, *Raleigh*

Kasey Elizabeth Koballa

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, *Raleigh*

Anna Gray LeBlanc

Offit Kurman, *Charlotte*

Scottie Forbes Lee

Ellis & Winters, *Greensboro*

Benjamin Leighton

Alexander Ricks, *Charlotte*

Alexa Noelle Litt

Collins Family & Elder Law Group,

Monroe

Jeremy Scott Maddox

James Scott Farrin, *Charlotte*

Alexia Virginia Martin

Skufca Law, *Charlotte*

Agustin M. Martinez

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Kelsey Nicole Hendry Mayo

Poyner Spruill, *Charlotte*

Hannah Katherine Michalove

Allen Stahl + Kilbourne, *Asheville*

Worth Mills

Longleaf Law Partners, *Raleigh*

Christopher Andrew Moore

Williams Mullen, *Raleigh*

Daniel Mullins

Hartzog Law Group, *Durham*

Claudia Mundy

Ralston Benton Byerley & Moore,

Statesville

RaShawnda Trenise Murphy

Cranfill Sumner, *Raleigh*

Jane Francis Nowell

Ward and Smith, *Greenville*

Gentry Alexander Palmer Jr.

Law Office of Gentry Palmer, *Greensboro*

Gracie Katherine Paulson

Roberts & Stevens, *Asheville*

Jasmine Michelle Pitt

Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Jackson Connelly Pridgen

Johnston Allison Hord, *Charlotte*

Brittany Alexis Puckett

Akerman, *Winston-Salem*

Elizabeth Ann Ray

CR Legal Team, *Charlotte*

Christopher Cowden

Wardlaw Rayburn

Moore & Van Allen, *Charlotte*

Preetha Suresh Rini

Robinson Bradshaw, *Raleigh*

Keith Manning Rivenbark

Marcellino & Tyson, *Charlotte*

Kasi Wahlers Robinson

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Courtney Roller

Roller Law, *Thomasville*

Jamie Elizabeth Rudd

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, *Raleigh*

S. Collins Saint

Brooks Pierce, *Greensboro*

Joseph Robert Shealy

Katten, *Charlotte*

Sadie Short

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh*

Samuel Benjamin Simmons

Crisp Cherry McCraw, *Charlotte*

Marie Celeste Skinner

McKnight Law, *Raleigh*

Olivia Smith

Wallace & Graham, *Salisbury*

Gabriel Snyder

Ward Black Law, *Greensboro*

Kendra Nicole Stark

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani,

Raleigh

Isla N. Tabrizi

Collins Family & Elder Law Group,

Monroe

Brian Zachary Taylor Jr.

Manning Fulton & Skinner, *Raleigh*

Philip Ryan Thomas

North Carolina Republican Party,

Raleigh

Robert Charles Trimble

Sigmon Klein, *Greensboro*

Joshua Robert Valentine

Caulder & Valentine Law, *Shelby*

Sarah Warren

Trinity Partners, *Raleigh*

Brooke E. Webber

Howard Stallings, *Raleigh*

Jennifer W. Winkler

Nelson Mullins, *Charlotte*

Hall of Fame: **J. Christian Stevenson**,

Kirk Palmer & Thigpe, *Charlotte*

(2012); **George Mason Oliver**, Oliver

Friesen Cheek, *New Bern* (2013);

Michael F. Easley Jr., McGuireWoods,

Raleigh (2014); **Alvaro R. De La Calle**,

Calle Law, *Greensboro* (2015); **Aaron**

Lay, Hamilton Stephens Steele +

Martin, *Charlotte* (2016); **Elie Foy**,

Wyrick Robbins, *Raleigh* (2017);

Matthew T. Marcellino, Marcellino

& Tyson, *Charlotte* (2018); **Nancy S.**

Litwak, Rosenwood, Rose & Litwak,

Charlotte (2019); **Antonia A. "Toni"**

Peck, Nelson Mullin, *Raleigh* (2020);

Holden B. Clark, Holden B. Clark,

Attorney at Law, *Gastonia* (2021);

Carl Burchette, Rosenwood, Rose

& Litwak, *Charlotte* (2022); **Keith**

Boyette, Director of State Government

Relations, North Carolina Healthcare

Association, *Raleigh* (2023). ■

Legal
Elite

Business North Carolina 2024

Find all of your BNC needs in one spot! Visit our new store at businessnc.com to see all we have to offer.



SUBSCRIPTIONS

We do what nobody else does — cover one very special place, this state, and its economy, which is as diverse as the people who call it home. We produce quality, in-depth journalism, digging behind the scenes producing stories and information that is current, thorough, and enlightens and entertains our readers. Whether it's in the boardroom or on the factory floor, we seek to show not only trends and events but the human face of commerce. Business North Carolina magazine delivers qualified business owners, C-level and top senior executives at your fingertips.



REPRINTS

Reprints are an easy way to educate your audience, reinforce your company message, and strengthen your marketing and sales efforts. They can be used as training and educational aids, direct mail promotions, as well as excellent additions to press kits and trade show handouts. Professional custom article reprints feature high-quality replications of original editorial coverage featuring your company, product, service or industry.



RECOGNITION PLAQUES

High quality plaques showcasing your company's article or award in Business North Carolina are available in a variety of formats. Promote your good news to your visitors, clients, and employees with a customized plaque. Visible achievement awards confirms what the company values and rewards. The success you recognize today is more likely to continue in the future.



SINGLE COPY / ARCHIVE ISSUES

Copies of previous issues can be purchased on our website (businessnc.com/archives). Archived issues from 2014 and older may be purchased by contacting Business North Carolina at 704-523-6987 or circulation@businessnc.com.

**MOVERS
+
SHAKERS**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Movers + Shakers offers an exciting way to announce executive hires, promotions, board appointments, special announcements and philanthropic activities.

Thank you to our talented photographers

Alex Cason in Charlotte



Terrence Jones in Raleigh



Bert VanderVeen in Greensboro



Stephen L. Cash

**Searson, Jones, Gottschalk
& Cash, PLLC**
21 Battery Park Avenue
Suite 205
Asheville, NC 28801

828-575-5995 | steve@lawyersasheville.com

Steve provides exemplary defense of complex white collar crimes and serious felonies in both state and federal courts. Equally well-versed in civil matters, Steve also helps both businesses and individuals navigate difficult legal matters in state, federal and business courts. Whether you need high quality criminal defense or someone to take your civil case to trial, Steve and the attorneys at Searson, Jones, Gottschalk & Cash, PLLC are here to assist.



W. Bradford Searson

**Searson, Jones, Gottschalk
& Cash, PLLC**
21 Battery Park Avenue
Suite 205
Asheville, NC 28801

828-254-0801 | brad@lawyersasheville.com

Brad focuses his practice on personal injury, medical malpractice, and estate litigation. He learns the facts, is attentive to details, and is proficient in communication and negotiation. He is confident, prepared, and effective in the courtroom. Brad works tirelessly to achieve outstanding results for his clients.



W. Scott Jones

**Searson, Jones, Gottschalk
& Cash, PLLC**
21 Battery Park Avenue
Suite 205
Asheville, NC 28801

828-254-0804 | scott@lawyersasheville.com

W. Scott Jones, the managing partner with Searson, Jones, Gottschalk & Cash, PLLC, helps business clients efficiently analyze and resolve problems that can derail progress and threaten success. Scott focuses on finding the best solution to your legal problem so you can focus on your business. With extensive experience in state and federal court, if the problem can't be worked out, Scott has the skills and experience to increase the odds of a favorable outcome in the courtroom.



Allie Petrova, LLM

Petrova Law PLLC
806 Green Valley Road
Suite 200
Greensboro, NC 27408

336-310-1210 | petrova@petrovalaw.com

Allie Petrova concentrates her practice in complex tax planning for businesses. She guides clients on business purchases and sales, transitions of healthcare practices, and intergenerational business transfers. Allie also represents business owners before the Internal Revenue Service. Ms. Petrova holds J.D. and LL.M. in Taxation degrees from the Georgetown University Law Center and an LL.M. from The Sorbonne. Allie is the Immediate Past Chair of the Tax Section of the North Carolina Bar Association.



Adam J. Langino

Langino Law PLLC
Chapel Hill | North Carolina
West Palm Beach | Florida

888-254-3521 | adam@langinolaw.com

Adam J. Langino is an accomplished attorney, well-respected within the legal community on the local and national level. He handles catastrophic injury and wrongful death cases in North Carolina and Florida. He has the knowledge, experience, and courage to stand up to insurance companies and corporations, providing a secure future for families harmed by the negligence of others.



Kyle T. Watson

The Watson Law Office, PLLC
301 McCullough Drive,
Suite 400
Charlotte, NC 28262

704-885-5025 | watsonattorney.com

An Experienced Trial Lawyer

The Watson Law Office, PLLC is a litigation firm that has substantial experience and expertise in litigation and trial advocacy. Attorney Kyle T. Watson also teaches trial advocacy at UNC Charlotte while serving as a coach of the mock trial team. That experience is carefully targeted to help clients in personal injury, employment law, civil litigation and criminal defense.



C. Boyd Sturges III

Davis, Sturges & Tomlinson
101 Church Street
Louisburg, NC 27549

919-496-2137 | www.davissturgestomlinson.net

Boyd Sturges has practiced law since 1995 in Franklin, Granville, Vance, Warren & Person Counties. He has been involved in several high profile cases including representing a state Judge in a federal corruption case. Boyd has tried many criminal, civil, and domestic cases both to juries as well as judges. He is on the Board of Directors for the Tar River Land Conservancy and represents the Franklin County Board of Education.



Mike Anderson

The Anderson Law Firm
6000 Fairview Road
Suite 1200
Charlotte, NC 28210

704-302-1002 | mike@alf.law

Mike and his colleagues at The Anderson Law Firm focus on estate-planning matters. His background as a fiduciary litigator brings special skills to his practice, and the firm has emphases in complex-family planning, accounting for heirs with substance abuse or mental health needs, and for clients where there is a higher risk of will-contest or challenge.



Elizabeth Greene
Partner
Flannery | Georgalis, LLC
 227 West Trade Street,
 Suite 950
 Charlotte, NC 28202

egreene@flannerygeorgalis.com | www.flannerygeorgalis.com

Elizabeth Greene is the managing partner of the Charlotte office of Flannery Georgalis. She is a former federal and state prosecutor with more than twenty years of investigative and trial experience and represents individuals and companies in complex criminal matters. Beth is also uniquely positioned to assist companies when faced with a government or internal fraud investigation.



Lambert F. Guinn
Partner
Flannery | Georgalis, LLC
 227 West Trade Street,
 Suite 950
 Charlotte, NC 28202

lguinn@flannerygeorgalis.com | www.flannerygeorgalis.com

Lambert Guinn is a partner in the Charlotte office of Flannery Georgalis. As a former federal and state prosecutor, he represents clients in criminal, professional licensing, and regulatory compliance matters. Lambert also assists businesses and educational institutions by working with these organizations to conduct internal investigations into issues relating to employee misconduct, internal fraud, and Title IX proceedings.



Edd K Roberts III
Roberts Law Office, PA
 5 West Hargett Street
 Suite 1100
 Raleigh, NC 27601

919-782-8115 | eddk@robertslawnc.com

Edd is a client-focused trial attorney. He handles criminal cases ranging from misdemeanors, DWI/DUI's to serious felonies including white collar crimes, sexual assaults, drug trafficking and homicides. Edd has over 20 years of experience as a criminal defense attorney and is a board-certified specialist in state and federal criminal law.



Liz Venum
Hull & Chandler, P.A.
 1009 East Boulevard
 Charlotte, NC 28203

704-375-8488 | www.hullandchandler.com

Liz Venum is a partner with Hull & Chandler, P.A. A dynamic litigator with solid transactional experience, Liz navigates complex, multi-party business contract conflicts, trade secret disputes, restrictive covenant litigation, and similar civil matters in state and federal court on behalf of her clients. Liz often counsels and advises clients through employee terminations, business breakups, and other types of business conflicts.



Theresa E. Viera
Modern Legal
 6715 Fairview Road
 Charlotte, NC 28210

704-286-6302 | theresa@modernlegalnc.com

Modern Families. Modern Counsel. Modern Solutions.
 Modern Legal is a family law firm based in Charlotte providing legal, mediation and arbitration services throughout North Carolina and South Carolina. Theresa founded Modern Legal in 2020, amidst a global pandemic that adjusted the very basics of life and demanded the integration of technology and change to address what mattered most: Family and Community.



Michael Romano
Plumides, Romano & Johnson, PC
 2115 Rexford Road,
 Suite 320
 Charlotte, NC 28211

704-333-9900 | michael@prjlaw.com

Michael began practicing in 2001. He became a founding member and managing partner at Plumides, Romano & Johnson, PC in 2015. Michael only handles family law issues and has been NC Board Certified Family Law Specialist since 2005. He knows how to effectively evaluate and address client's specific issues and understands all the challenges clients will face when dealing with a family law matter.