

Class Notes

Class Notes items listed were processed between October 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023. In the event a Class Notes entry is not correct, you are asked to contact the Law School Advancement office at lawalum@uga.edu.

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

1970s



Roy E. Barnes (1972) of Marietta, GA, secured a \$10-million medical malpractice verdict against Piedmont

Hospital and Louis H. Jacobs, M.D. **Patricia A. “Pat” Cain** (1974) of Portola Valley, CA, was selected as a recipient of the inaugural 2024 AALS Section on Taxation Lifetime Achievement Award.



1980s

James P. “Jim” Gerard (1981) of Savannah, GA, was selected for inclusion among *Georgia Trend’s* 2023 Legal Elite. **I. Gregory “Greg” Hodges** (1981) of Savannah, GA, was selected for inclusion among *Georgia Trend’s*



2023 Legal Elite. **E. Kendrick “Ken” Smith** (1981) of Atlanta, GA, released a novel *House on*

Burnt Mountain published by Schroder Publishing. **J. Anderson “Andy” Davis** (1984) of Rome, GA, launched a new firm, Davis Lucas Carter.



McCracken K. Poston Jr.

(1985) of Ringgold, GA, authored a book to be released on February 20, 2024, *Zenith Man: Death, Love and Redemption in a Georgia Courtroom*. It is the story of Poston's representation of Alvin Ridley in a murder trial that draws attention to Ridley and



Ringgold, GA. **Marlan B. Wilbanks** (1986) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$13.75-million settlement against Exact

Sciences Corporation and Exact Sciences Laboratories. **Sally Quillian Yates** (1986) of Atlanta, GA, was named Attorney of the Year at the American Lawyer Industry Awards held in New York. Yates is a partner at King & Spalding.



Michael B. "Mike" Terry (1987) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$19-million verdict against Comcast of the South and

Sylvain Emmanuel-Mukete.

Elizabeth B. "Beth" Davis (1989) of Atlanta, GA, joined Arnall Golden Gregory as



partner in the environmental and healthcare practice groups as well as the life sciences industry team.

1990s



Joseph A. "Joe" Fried (1993) of Atlanta, GA, was profiled on *Law.com* in a November 3 article titled "No

One's 'Had More Influence': Fried's Drive to Top Truck-Crash Lawyer Started with a Badge" by Everett Catts. **Terry D. Jackson**

(1993) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$1.8-million verdict on behalf of client Silvia Bloodworth.

Stephen F. Humphreys

(1994) of Athens, GA, had his art exhibit *Ukraine: Photos from the Front Lines* featured at 1055 Barber, Athens, GA during October.



Thomas S. Cullen (1994) of Savannah, GA, was selected for inclusion among *Georgia Trend's* 2023 Legal Elite.



Douglas R. "Doug" Kertscher (1994) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$1-million verdict on behalf of client

David Field. **James D. "Jim" Durham** (1995) of Savannah, GA, was named as a recipient of the 2023 William H.



Webster Profiles in Leadership Award.

Durham is partner at Griffin Durham Tanner



& Clarkson. **J. Benedict "Ben" Hartman** (1996) of St. Simons Island, GA, was selected for inclusion among

Georgia Trend's 2023 Legal Elite. **Brian K. Ross** (1999) of Lithonia, GA, was installed as presiding judge of Division



B of the State Court of DeKalb County. Ross has served on the State Court bench since 2015.

2000–2009

Christopher H. “Chris” Atkinson (2002) of Monroe, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2024 Bulldog



100.* **A. Bryan Baer** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2024

Bulldog 100.* **Edward A. “Ed” Marshall** (2002) of Atlanta, GA, was named a 2024 Benchmark Litigation



Star by *Benchmark Litigation*.

Brian R. Stimson (2002) of Washington, D.C., joined Arnall Golden Gregory as litigation and healthcare

partner. **Charles M. “Chip” Ferguson Jr.** (2003) of Monroe, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2024 Bulldog 100.* **Charles B. “Charlie” Thompson** (2003) of Atlanta, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2024 Bulldog 100.* **Benjamin M. “Ben” Perkins** (2004) of Savannah, GA, was selected for inclusion among *Georgia Trend’s* 2023 Legal Elite. **Samuel L. “Sam” Lucas** (2005) of Rome, GA, launched a new

firm, Davis Lucas Carter. **Warren J. Geller** (2006) of Las Vegas, NV, was selected for inclusion in the Best Criminal Defense Lawyers Las Vegas, NV, of 2023 presented by



Forbes Advisor. **John E.**

Alday (2007) of Marietta, GA, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni

Association’s 2024 Bulldog

100.* **James E. “Jeb” Butler III** (2008) of Atlanta, GA,

secured a \$10-million

settlement against Nikia Cherry and in a separate action secured a \$40-million settlement against Martin-Robbins Fence Company, Arcadis U.S. and the Georgia Department of Transportation. **Lee B. Carter** (2008) of Rome, GA, launched a new firm,



Davis Lucas Carter. **John B.**

Manly (2008) of Savannah, GA, was named to the

University of Georgia Alumni

Association’s 2024 Bulldog 100.* **Naveen**

Ramachandrappa (2008) of

Atlanta, GA, secured a \$40-million settlement against Martin-Robbins Fence

Company, Arcadis U.S. and the Georgia Department of Transportation.





Matthew M. “Matt” Weiss (2008) of Atlanta, GA, was elected partner at Parker Hudson Rainer & Dobbs.

Weiss is a member of the bankruptcy, restructuring & creditor rights practice group. He was also named to Secured Finance Network’s 40 Under 40 list.

Kathryn A. “Kate” Bridges (2009) of Jefferson, GA, launched Kate Bridges



Mediation. Bridges is a registered neutral with a specialization in domestic relations and general civil mediation. **Matthew A. Josephson** (2009) of Savannah, GA, was promoted to deputy chief of the Criminal Division at the U.S. Attorney’s Office. **Jahnisa Tate Loadholt** (2009) of Tucker, GA, joined RangeWater Real Estate as division general counsel.

2010–2019

Michael T. “Mike” Rafi (2011) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$4-million settlement on behalf of client Joshua Davis. **Bryan A. Schivera** (2011) of Savannah, GA, was selected for inclusion among *Georgia Trend’s* 2023 Legal Elite.



Binh Duy Tran (2011) of Saigon, Vietnam, was selected for inclusion in the Asia 40 Under 40 list for 2023 by

Asian Legal Business. Tran is the director of KPMG Law Vietnam. **William F. Crozer** (2012) of Atlanta, GA, was promoted to co-head of the bipartisan state and local advocacy practice at BGR Group.



Frederick W. “Fritz” Vaughan (2012) of Winston-Salem, NC, launched Checkmate Government Relations.



Zebulon B. “Zeb” Brookshire (2013) of Athens, GA, joined the University of Georgia Gift & Estate Planning

team as the trusts and estates coordinator. **Sajid Saleem** (2013) of Atlanta, GA, was elevated to special



counsel at Duane Morris.



Jerrod M. Lukacs (2014) of Decatur, GA, was promoted to general counsel at Yancey

Bros. Lukacs also serves as director of strategy. **David W. “Bobo” Mullens** (2014) of Savannah, GA, was selected for inclusion among *Georgia Trend’s* 2023 Legal Elite.



George S. Ray (2015) of Atlanta, GA, was promoted to partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. **William**

H. “Wil” Alexander (2016) of Barnwell, SC, was named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association’s 2024



Bulldog 100.* **Elizabeth Donaldson** (2016) of Greenville, SC, was promoted to partner at

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. **Shaniqua L. Singleton** (2016) of Atlanta, GA, was promoted



to partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. **Kelsie W. Willett** (2016) of Atlanta, GA, was promoted to partner

at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. **Carson M. Alexander** (2017) of Barnwell, SC, was named to



the University of Georgia Alumni



Association’s 2024 Bulldog 100.* **Thomas A. “Tom” Giannotti** (2017) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$10-million

settlement against Nikia Cherry. **Samuel O. “Sam” Weaver** (2017) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$3.75-million wrongful death settlement against the City of Atlanta.

2020s



Haley K. Kairab (2022) of Atlanta, GA, secured a \$1.3-million verdict on behalf of client

Raymond Chuang. **Jack F.**

Pease (2023) of

Birmingham, AL, joined

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings as associate.



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

In Memoriam

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

[Philip R. "Phil" Bowers](#) (1981)

Lilburn, GA

October 22, 2023

[Anita Kay Brotherton](#) (1985)

Flowery Branch, GA

November 8, 2023

[Susanne F. Burton](#) (1975)

Lexington, GA

December 9, 2023

[Vallerina Frances Day](#) (1978)

Blairsville, GA

October 31, 2023

[Wilson M. MacEwen Jr.](#) (1971)

Sumter, SC

December 1, 2023

[Alice Faye Katrina Brown Rodriguez](#)

(1986)

November 12, 2023

Fayetteville, GA

[George Sering Zier](#) (1977)

October 1, 2023

Richmond Hill, GA