

## MINUTES

### ALABAMA STATE BAR

### 2013 GRANDE CONVOCATION AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Grand Ballroom North  
Grand Hotel, Point Clear, AL

Saturday, July 20, 2013

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Phillip McCallum called to order the 134th Grande Convocation and Annual Business Meeting of the Alabama State Bar. He welcomed all those in attendance.

#### 2. STATE OF THE JUDICIARY AND PRESENTATION OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

President McCallum welcomed Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore. The chief justice made brief introductory remarks which included expressing his appreciation for President McCallum's help obtaining additional funding for the judiciary. He discussed how the courts are suffering from the effects of sustained cuts in funding. The chief justice noted that court clerks, lawyers, judges and their staffs are all cooperating to address this serious problem. He reminded the audience that Alabama's constitution mandates "adequate and necessary" funding for the judiciary which is not an agency of state government but rather the third branch of government. He explained the serious problems because of inadequate funding that have occurred in the last ten years since he last served as chief justice.

With the aid of power point slides, Chief Justice Moore showed how the judiciary has lost the highest percentage of funding of all branches of government. He pointed out how the court returns money that it collects to the general fund. He explained that in 2012, the courts of the state collected over \$521 million, with most of that amount going to other agencies. Despite this fact, the judicial budget received further cuts. Chief Justice Moore asked those assembled to help change what has happened to the court by contacting their state legislators.

Following remarks on the United States Constitution, his assessment was that courts still work hard to provide fair and equitable service to citizens despite the financial limitations placed on the courts. The chief justice then announced retired Supreme Court Justice Hugh Maddox as the 2013 recipient of the professionalism award. Chief Justice Moore gave a brief overview of Justice Maddox's accomplishments during his 31 years of

service on the court and since his retirement to promote professionalism including his extensive work with the American Inns of Court.

Justice Maddox offered brief remarks on his acceptance of the professionalism award.

President McCallum thanked the chief justice and congratulated Justice Maddox.

### **3. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

President McCallum introduced Senator Cam Ward and Representative Paul DeMarco, chairs of judiciary committees in the senate and house, respectively. They gave brief legislative updates concerning what happened in the last legislative session and would be coming up in the 2014 session. With respect to the judiciary, Senator Ward proclaimed that the state “can’t fee its ways out of a lack of court funding.” He also discussed the issue of the increasing number of prisoners who are being incarcerated and the inordinate burden that this places on general fund appropriations. Representative DeMarco expressed the legislature’s appreciation for the bar’s service in the legislative process over the last several years and his belief that the elective offices need more lawyers serving at the state and local levels.

President McCallum thanked both Senator Ward and Representative DeMarco for their remarks and for the great service they render to the profession and the state.

### **4. 2013 HALL OF FAME CLASS**

President McCallum called on the executive director who announced the Hall of Fame Class for 2013 as recommended by the Hall of Fame Selection Committee and approved by the Board of Commissioners. They were: Massey T. Bedsole (Mobile); William Dowdell Denson (Birmingham); Maud McLure Kelly (Talladega) and Honorable Seabourn H. Lynne (Decatur). For attorneys deceased more than 100 years, Marion Augustus Baldwin (Montgomery) was inducted. The executive director reminded the audience that the official induction for the class of 2013 would be in May of 2014 at the Heflin-Torbert Judicial Building.

### **5. LEADERSHIP FORUM GRADUATES**

President McCallum asked the graduates of the Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum to stand and be recognized.

### **6. 50 YEAR MEMBERS HONORED**

President McCallum recognized Vice President Christy Crow who called the names of bar members who had been a member of the bar for 50 years to come forward to receive their 50 year certificate and pin from President McCallum. They were as follows: William Joseph Baxley, Billy Charles Bedsole, Julian David Butler, Bob French, Emmett

Franklin Hildreth, Jr., Thomas Seay Lawson, Jr., Thad Gladden Long, Augustine Meaher III, Charles Daniel Rosser and Charles Arthur Trost.

**7. RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS**

President McCallum asked the former presidents of the Alabama State Bar to stand and be recognized. He then asked current members of the Board of Bar Commissioners to stand and be recognized.

**8. RECOGNITION OF RETIRING COMMISSIONERS**

President McCallum called the names of the retiring members of the Board of Commissioners and asked those present to come to the podium and receive their retired commissioner medallion from President-elect Anthony Joseph. The retiring commissioners were:

Ronnie E. Keahey	First Judicial Circuit
Robert Simms Thompson	Fifth Judicial Circuit
George M. (Jack) Neal, Jr.	10th Judicial Circuit, Place 3
Billy C. Bedsole	13th Judicial Circuit, Place 3
Frank M. Wilson	15th Judicial Circuit, Place 1
Richard J.R. Raleigh, Jr.	23rd Judicial Circuit, Place 3
R. Wyatt Howell	25th Judicial Circuit
Kenneth E. White, III	26th Judicial Circuit
Hon. Claude E. Hundley, III	At-Large, Place 2

**9. PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS**

President McCallum recognized Immediate Past President Jim Pratt for several special recognitions. Mr. Pratt presented Christie Archer with the President's Legal Assistant plaque and First Lady Kelley McCallum with a special gift.

**10. PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S PLAQUE**

Following his brief remarks concerning President McCallum's successful year as president, Mr. Pratt presented President McCallum with the president's plaque. President McCallum offered remarks thanking his family, brothers, father, father-in-law, children and especially his wife for supporting him during his year as president. He took a moment to remind the audience of General Counsel Tony McLain's condition and sought the continued prayers as well as cards and letters of support. He concluded by thanking his executive council and members of his law firm for their support of him as president.

**11. INSTALLATION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT**

President McCallum called on Rich Raleigh and asked him to come to the podium. President McCallum installed him as president-elect. Mr. Raleigh thanked President McCallum and offered brief remarks.

**12. INSTALLATION OF PRESIDENT ANTHONY A. JOSEPH**

President McCallum called President-elect Anthony Joseph to the podium and installed him as president of the Alabama State Bar. President Joseph offered his remarks. He thanked the bar for the tremendous honor and praised Past President McCallum for his many accomplishments during his year as president. He also thanked Kelley McCallum for her support of Phillip during his presidency.

President Joseph then took a moment to highlight his agenda as president for the coming bar year. He stated that he desired to expand access to justice for the impoverished and to emphasize assistance for returning war veterans. He next stated that he wanted to continue working to achieve adequate funding for the courts because this also impacts access to justice. Relevancy of the bar will also be a major theme during his year as president. As an example, he highlighted the work of the task force that is working on digital communication for the bar that was started during President McCallum's year as president and that he will continue. Finally, President Joseph remarked that he wants to ensure that the bar is in good shape for the transition in staff leadership that will occur in the next several years.

President Joseph then introduced his wife, Cassandra, his sons, Kevin and Aaron and Justin (who was unable to attend). He then introduced his mother, mother-in-law, as well as his uncle, sister, brother-in-law, nieces and other friends. He then took an opportunity to recognize his legal assistant, Laura Cato and his law partners who were in attendance.

He concluded by stating his appreciation for the opportunity and the honor to serve the Alabama State Bar.

**13. 2013 GRAND PRIZE DRAWING**

President Joseph recognized Laura Calloway, director of service programs. Ms. Calloway thanked all the vendors that contributed prizes and ISI Alabama, in particular, for the Madagascar party it sponsored for the children as well as the grand prize for the annual meeting.

Prior to the grand prize drawing, Ms. Calloway asked the president to draw a name for the winner of the iPad mini to be given to one of the first 50 registrants for the annual meeting. The president drew the name of Cooper Shattuck. Next, Ms. Calloway asked ISI president, Bill Bass to come forward. Mr. Bass expressed his appreciation to the Alabama State Bar and in particular to the staff for its cooperation and excellent work

during the annual meeting. (Mr. Bass conducted a small drawing for staff members and staff member Marcia Daniel won the drawing.) Then Mr. Bass asked President Joseph to draw a name for the grand prize. The winner was Brad Adair.

**14. GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

President Joseph recognized Chip McCallum to announce the golf tournament winners. Following the announcement of the golf tournament winners, President Joseph thanked Mr. McCallum for handling the golf tournament in the absence of Tony McLain who usually runs the tournament each year. President Joseph also thanked Emily Calloway for coordinating the tennis tournament.

**15. CLOSING REMARKS**

President Joseph stated that the 2014 annual meeting will be held July 9-12 at the Sandestin Hilton. He reminded the commissioners of a short meeting immediately following the adjournment of the grande convocation and annual business meeting. He also invited everyone to attend the presidential reception beginning at 11:15 a.m. He then declared the 2013 Grande Convocation and Annual Business Meeting of the Alabama State Bar adjourned.

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Phillip W. McCallum, President, 2012-2013  
Alabama State Bar

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Anthony A. Joseph, President, 2013-2014  
Alabama State Bar

ATTEST:

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Keith B. Norman, Secretary  
Alabama State Bar

Note: The awards made during the 2013 state bar meeting are listed in the pamphlet from the Bench and Bar Awards Luncheon held on July 18. This is included as Appendix A to these minutes.