



## JYL President's Corner — November 2016



John Dollarhide  
President,  
Jackson Young Lawyers

JYL has hit its stride this year! We have a ton going on, a lot to look forward to, and not to mention several big successes already under our belt.

I hope you made it to our first membership meeting with Fifth Circuit Judge James Graves. It was a treat to hear Judge Graves speak to us so candidly and with such passion for the young lawyers of

the bar. We had a great crowd for this event, which did a wonderful job of kicking off our year.

Since then, we've had a wildly successful Wills for Heroes public service event where our JYL volunteers assisted the Pearl Police and Fire Departments with drafting wills, powers of attorney, and the like. We celebrated Pro Bono week by hearing from University of Mississippi School of Law Dean Debbie Bell at our October membership meeting. This was another fantastic crowd and masterful speaker.

I know all in attendance took to heart Dean Bell's words about service and challenging ourselves.

Our biggest undertaking so far this year has been the Third Annual Cornhole Tournament in October. We had a great crowd, a huge silent auction item list, and a wonderful donation to make to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central MS of over \$3000. Thank you to Paul Rosenblatt and Abram Orlansky for planning and executing our biggest fall charity event in recent years. Big shoes to fill for next year, but they've got it down to a science, and I'm very excited about the Fourth Annual in 2017.

We're looking forward to our December 9, 2016 membership meeting at a new location: The Manship private dining room. We'll hear from stalwart Mississippi Bar Executive Director Larry Houchins, who recently announced his retirement. We truly can't wait for Larry to share his thoughts about his career, about JYL, and about the future of the Mississippi Bar.

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After that, we'll be all set for our Mississippi Blues Marathon/Half-Marathon volunteer event on Saturday, January 7, 2017. This is always a fun and rewarding event. Later in January, on the 27th, we'll hear from Mississippi craft beer attorney Matt McLaughlin about Mississippi's craft beer industry. We're also planning to have a tour of Jackson's own Lucky Town brewery around that same time.

In last quarter's newsletter, I encouraged you to get involved in a committee and to come to an event. You did! So much gratitude and praise to our committee chairs and committee members. They have taken the reins of their tasks and are off and running. And we've had awesome crowds at every event so far this year, and hope to see that same success continue. Frankly, I'm just so excited to see folks getting involved and getting out of the office to see each other and socialize. Keep it up.

See you soon, JYL!

- John Dollarhide, 2016-2017 JYL President

#### DECEMBER

##### CABA & JYL Christmas Social

December 1, 2016 – Old Capitol Inn, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

##### Membership Meeting

December 9, 2016 – JYL Membership Meeting at The Manship, featuring Larry Houchins, Executive Director of the Mississippi Bar

#### JANUARY

##### Mississippi Blues Marathon

January 7, 2017 – JYL Community Service Committee Staffing Aid Station for the Mississippi Blues Marathon

##### Membership Meeting

January 27, 2017 – JYL Membership Meeting, featuring Mississippi Craft beer attorney Matthew McLaughlin

#### MARCH

##### Beagle 5k Run/Walk

March 11, 2017 – JYL's Annual Legal Beagle 5k Run/Walk

#### MAY

##### Annual Evening

May 18, 2017 – Annual Evening Honoring the Judiciary

## Call for Volunteers for the Mississippi Blues Marathon on 1/7/17

The Mississippi Blues Marathon will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2017. JYL wants your help in making the marathon a success by staffing a water and Gatorade station while cheering on runners from around the country and world. If you haven't helped with this event in the past, we encourage you to sign up today and see what everyone has been talking about – beyond just the free t-shirt. Email Erin Guyton ([eguyton@cwplaw.com](mailto:eguyton@cwplaw.com)) or Brent Cole ([bcole@bakerdonelson.com](mailto:bcole@bakerdonelson.com)) if you're interested in volunteering.



### Connect with Us

For more information about JYL and JYL News, find us on Facebook and stay connected.

# Philanthropy

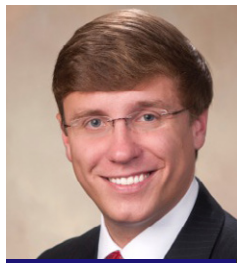
## JYL Mediators 100% Successful

A huge thank you to our JYL Mediation Committee Chair Randall Saxton!

Six successful mediations were conducted on September 27, 2017 with the first ever 100% success rate.

The following attorneys volunteered their time to conduct the mediations:

- Lott Warren
- Adam Woods
- Dave Porter
- Katelyn Riley
- Betsy Turley
- Charles Cowan



Dave Porter  
Taggart, Rimes & Graham

“The JYL mediations offer me the opportunity to help real people resolve real cases without the guidance of older, more experienced lawyers. We are allowed full discretion in how we conduct our mediations, and many times, we are forced to be creative to satisfy each of the parties’ goals. This is a new role for most of us; being the decision-maker on a file is very rare for a young lawyer. And in that regard, the experience provided by these mediations helps develop each of our everyday practices, which, in turn, will ultimately benefit our future clients.”



Adam Woods  
Woods Law Firm

“Volunteering for JYL’s City Court mediations has been a very rewarding experience. Thanks to JYL providing these services, and especially all the work Randall Saxton has done to continue this program, a great number of individuals have been able to successfully resolve their disputes without any further court action. I’m very glad to have been given the opportunity to be a part of this program, and look forward to participating in the future.”

“I enjoy getting to help the parties resolve whatever dispute they may have and move on with their lives. Many times all the parties really want is for someone to listen to what they have to say. Afterward, -they are more inclined to reach a fair resolution.”



Lott Warren  
WiseCarter



The Community Service and Pro Bono Committee of JYL, along with The Mississippi Bar Young Lawyers Division, hosted a Wills for Heroes event in Pearl on Friday October 21, 2016. Volunteer attorneys drafted wills, powers of attorney, and healthcare directives for the Pearl police and fire departments free of charge.

Thank you to the JYL Members who volunteered their time to help the first responders: Trey Gunn, Christina Seanor, Adria Jetton, Molly Walker, Ashley Stubbs, Alicia Netterville, Lott Warren, Michael Williams, Michael Cowan, Austin Stewart, Josh Daniel, Andrew Harris, Charles Cowan, Derrick Godfrey, Davidson Forester, Dustin Seanor, Brent Cole, and Erin Guyton.

Thank you to the notaries who volunteered their time to help: Brittney Dyess, and Lorraine Fagan. And a special thank you to Charlene Barnette for coordinating the event!

In all, over 30 first responders were able to get documents drafted and notarized – many of them said this gave them and their families both a sense of security and peace of mind.

Eager to get out of the office? Contact Randall at [randall@saxton.law](mailto:randall@saxton.law) to start mediating.

## Feature

# How Do Attorneys Get Rich? – We Asked the Experts.



Alan McCormick,  
CFP™  
Ballev Wealth  
Management

Do you have high student loan debt? Do you find yourself also having a desire to upgrade lifestyle as well as wanting to save money for retirement and other goals? Are you constantly having to make decisions on where to spend your hard earned income on seemingly endless necessary (and some unnecessary) alternatives? How do you make the decision between aggressively paying down student debt or aggressively maximizing your 401k savings? The way to answer this question is to sit back, take some time (that you probably don't feel like you have), and get your life organized and develop a plan to tackle the many challenges and opportunities that you face. In this article we'll explore some of the key areas that require your financial attention.

### Risk Management

Did you know that in your early working years, you're much more likely to suffer a disabling injury or sickness than passing away prematurely? Are you prepared for what may happen if your income stops and you can't practice law? When your income stops, your expenses continue on and often times they will increase. Consider the need for disability insurance to replace your lost earnings. Many of you are married and may even have children. If you're like most people, in the event of a premature death, you want your family to be financially prepared to meet the challenges of funding college education, paying off the mortgage, and providing sufficient income to maintain a reasonable standard of living. Consider the need for life insurance as a means to cover this risk. Term insurance is a way to cover this risk at an extremely affordable cost. We live in an extremely litigious society. For a very small premium, you can transfer much of this risk through the use of an umbrella policy. It is important to check the liability limits on your automobiles and personal residence.

### Develop a Spending Plan

We all have limited financial resources (income) and unlimited uses (expenses) for that income. As such, careful consideration should be given regarding the spending choices you make. Now what about those dreaded student loans you're dealing with? Maybe you're house hunting and trying to decide how much monthly payment you want to take on. You're in the same car you've had for seven or eight years. Maybe now is the time to upgrade to the 2017 model since interest rates are so low. Should I begin contributing to my retirement plan at work? The way to evaluate this is a pretty simple concept, but one that many people dread looking at: a budget! Understanding what is coming in compared to what is going out is a very helpful tool in evaluating your finances. Essentially, it gives you the ability to consider choices and the impact, positive or negative, of those choices. If you have more going out than coming in, that leads to debt. This often leads to a downward spiral that can take years to fully recover. Also, as it relates to the legal profession, different firms have different payout structures such as quarterly bonuses, production credits, etc. The amounts and timing of this additional income above base salary must be carefully considered as you develop your spending plan.

### Retirement Planning

We often hear from young professionals: "I'm young, I've got plenty of time to start saving." "I'll wait until I'm making more money,

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then I'll start putting money aside." "I've got so much money going towards my debt payments; I can't afford to put anything towards savings and retirement." Saving and investments must be a priority and the backbone of your financial planning. Consider this: the impact of time as it relates to building wealth is tremendous. Let's say you want to accumulate \$1,000,000 by the time you're age 65. (Assume a 6% rate of return on your investment and a \$0 starting balance). If you're 25, you'll need to put away \$538 per month. If you wait 10 years to age 35, you would need to increase your savings to a total of \$1,054. Now what about waiting to age 45 and then deciding to get serious; \$2,265 per month is your number. Additionally, most firms are offering 401k plans with matching contributions. Many times in order to get the match, you have to contribute money to the plan. Keep in mind that your contributions reduce your taxable income and grow on a tax deferred basis. As such, your 401k plan is one of the best ways to accumulate wealth for retirement.

### Estate Planning

There are 3 important estate planning documents that every attorney should have. The first instrument is Durable Power of Attorney for Asset Management. This type of Power of Attorney allows for you to appoint someone as Attorney-in-fact to represent your financial interest until you regain mental capacity. This document eliminates having to go to court to get approval for the management of your financial affairs. The next document that you should consider is an instrument that provides for the disposition of your wealth in the event of a

premature death. This can be accomplished through a Last Will and Testament or revocable living trust with a pour-over will. Each technique has pros and cons, but in the end allows for you to direct the ultimate disposition of your wealth. We routinely recommend testamentary trust when there are young children involved to manage property left for their benefit. It should also be noted that careful attention should be given to titling of assets and beneficiary designations to assure the coordination of your estate plan. The last document to complete your estate plan is a health care directive. With a health care directive, you can give authority to a spouse or family member to make health decisions on your behalf as long as you're incapacitated and you can make the decision whether to prolong life. This decision that YOU make frees your family from making very hard decision at a highly emotional time.

### College Education

MACS or MPACT? In-state public school vs. Out of State private school? Full scholarship or none? "I have student loans, my kids can too." "I have student loans and I don't want to burden my children with them." These are just a few of the many questions that we think about when it comes to college education planning for our children. Think back to my example about the importance of time on retirement planning. Well, we don't have that luxury with preparing for college. 18 years at most if you start from birth! The starting point with college funding is determining what college costs might be in the future (Newsflash: the cost of college is climbing)

and then deciding to what degree of funding you want to provide for your children. Getting started early is critical in accumulating wealth to fund this objective.

### Putting it all together

It's interesting to me that many people will spend more time in planning their summer vacation than developing a plan to manage their financial affairs. We are all busy people working hard in our careers to take care of our clients so we can provide for our families and enjoy life! In order to achieve your financial objectives, you have two things to work with: your existing wealth (assets and liabilities) and your discretionary cash flow. It is important to understand how these components impact your financial picture. The starting point is understanding where you are. Many people don't have the inclination or don't want to invest their free time to do it alone. We recommend that you seek out a team of trusted professionals to help you on this journey. As financial planning professionals we help our clients evaluate their current financial position, develop a workable budget, define and prioritize goals and objectives, and evaluate various strategies to help them achieve what's important. It's also critical to periodically review the plan and make adjustments as life happens. You owe it to yourself and your family to understand how a Certified Financial Planner™ can add value to your family.

Alan McCormick began his career in the banking industry. However, he realized early on that his passion lay in the investment field. As a Client Advisor, Alan prides himself in being a good listener, focused on the unique needs of each of his clients.

## Advocate Opinion

# Privatization is Not the Answer



**T**he stock market began to drop drastically as election results were rolling in last week. Despite the market tanking on paper, one particular set of companies has new hope for an increase in demand and stock value: private prisons. Donald Trump is expected to be a “law and order” President and this notion is fueling investors who stand to profit by putting more people behind bars.

Nationally, private prisons account for about 6% of states’ prison populations and 16% of the federal prison population.<sup>1</sup> Currently, there are three private prisons within the Mississippi Department of Corrections: East Mississippi Correctional Facility, Wilkinson County Correctional Facility, and Marshall County Correctional Facility. The current housing numbers at those prisons show that 14.6% of the Mississippi Department of Correction’s total prisoner population is housed in a facility run by a private company.<sup>2</sup> Mississippi’s reliance on private prison operators is more than double the national average.

At the federal level, the reliance of private prisons was on the decline after President Obama announced in August that the Federal Bureau of Prisons would not renew its current contracts with private prison operators. The largest private prison company in the country, CoreCivic (previously known as Corrections Corporation of America) operates a federal immigration detention center near Natchez, Mississippi. After Donald Trump’s victory, CoreCivic saw its stock rise 58 percent the day after the election, forecasting that President Obama’s intent to stop the private prison industry from making profits on the backs of those who are incarcerated will not continue under the Trump Administration.<sup>3</sup>

Why does all of this matter? On principal, private prison companies make more money if we incarcerate more people. However, as a nation we already account for 5% of the world’s population but 25% of the world’s incarcerated population.<sup>4</sup> If profit is the driver, imagine the lobbying efforts of a private prison company when it comes to our criminal justice system. If money is the motivation, our constitutional mandates become mere suggestions. If you watch *Orange is the New Black*, you might have an idea of what happens to prisons when operated by private companies. The reality, however, is much worse than fiction; private prisons are a recipe for disaster.

There is a minimum level of spending required in prisons, to ensure for adequate staffing and services for prisoners. When you go below that minimum level, conditions become even more volatile and dangerous. Imagine you own a private prison company. The bottom line is, of course, profit. To make more and more money, you have to cut costs. Cost cutting in prison means inadequate levels of security staff, staff that are paid so little they are easily influenced by gangs, and the reduction of services for prisoners that serve as positive incentives for behavior, like classes and drug and alcohol programming. The other way to increase your profit is of course, to fill up your prison with more beds, and thus, make more money.

Unfortunately we have real world examples of these profit-increasing measures here in Mississippi. In 2012, Walnut Grove Correctional Facility, a prison run by a series of private prison companies and initially intended for offenders as young as 13,

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## Privatization is Not the Answer, continued from page 6

was called a “cesspool of unconstitutional acts and inhumane conditions” by U.S. District Court Judge Carlton Reeves.<sup>5</sup> At one point, Walnut Grove was ranked as one of the most dangerous prisons in America. The prison was initially intended for juveniles who were tried as adults, but in an attempt to make more money by filling more beds, the ages at Walnut Grove ultimately expanded from boys as young as 13 up to young men who were 22 years old. Walnut Grove was a place where one young man was so severely beaten with a food tray that he received permanent brain damage. Other young men were victims of rampant sexual assault. The Department of Justice said the prevalence of sexual assaults at Walnut Grove was “the worst [DOJ] ha[d] seen in any facility anywhere in the nation.”<sup>6</sup> Recently, that prison was closed by the state.

With the closing of Walnut Grove and a national commitment to end the use of private prisons, it seemed like times were changing. However, Trump’s victory and new investments in private prisons show a resurgence on the horizon. As Mississippians in the legal community, we know that humanity and constitutional rights don’t end at the jailhouse steps. We can ensure public safety while not forgetting constitutional protections for those who are incarcerated. Those ideas are not mutually exclusive. We must therefore continue to condemn private prisons, which impose inhumane and

unconstitutional conditions on our citizens. As young lawyers in Jackson, we can continue to be vocal with our state legislatures and the Mississippi Department of Corrections about our state’s over-reliance on private prison companies.

### by Chelsea Caveny

For more information on mass incarceration in Mississippi or to talk further about the details of the cost analysis of the private prison industry, contact Chelsea at [chelsea.caveny@splcenter.org](mailto:chelsea.caveny@splcenter.org).



<sup>1</sup> See Private Prisons, ACLU, <https://www.aclu.org/issues/mass-incarceration/privatization-criminal-justice/private-prisons>.

<sup>2</sup> See MISS. DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS, NOVEMBER 2016 FACT SHEET, <http://www.mdoc.ms.gov/Admin-Finance/MonthlyFacts/11-01-2016%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> See Roque Planas, Private Prison Stocks Surge After Donald Trump Victory, HUFFINGTON POST (Nov. 9, 2016), [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/private-prison-stocks-trump\\_us\\_582336c5e4b0e80b02ce3287](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/private-prison-stocks-trump_us_582336c5e4b0e80b02ce3287).

<sup>4</sup> See Michelle Ye Hee Lee, Yes, U.S. Locks People Up at a Higher Rate Than Any Other Country, WASHINGTON POST (July 7, 2015), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2015/07/07/yes-u-s-locks-people-up-at-a-higher-rate-than-any-other-country/>.

<sup>5</sup> Barbaric Private Prison Closes its Doors after SPLC Lawsuit, SPLC (Sept. 15, 2016), <https://www.splcenter.org/news/2016/09/15/barbaric-private-prison-mississippi-closes-its-doors-after-splc-lawsuit>.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

## Spare books? Donate them to SPLC’s “Books not Bars”

Through December 9, the SPLC is collecting new and gently used books for incarcerated youth in Mississippi. These books help kids in our state’s juvenile detention facilities supplement their education and continue to grow and develop while they are incarcerated. Donations must be soft-cover and appropriate for kids with 3rd-12th grade reading levels. For more information and a complete list of drop-off locations, visit [Facebook.com/SPLCMississippi](https://www.facebook.com/SPLCMississippi) or email Chelsea Caveny ([chelsea.caveny@splcenter.org](mailto:chelsea.caveny@splcenter.org)).

## Event Recap

# JYL October Meeting at Hal & Mal's

Featuring Dean Debbie Bell, from the University of Mississippi School of Law speaking to JYL about the importance of Pro Bono practice.



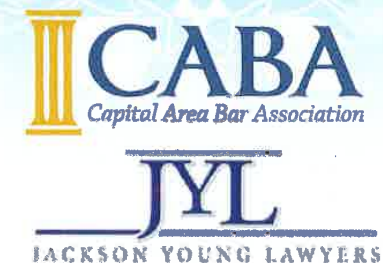
Catoria Martin and La'Toyia Slay



Dean Deborah Bell of the University of Mississippi School of Law



Josh Daniel, Trey Gunn, Brent Cole, and Jacob Stutzman



*You're Invited*  
to  
*Capital Area Bar Association*  
& *Jackson Young Lawyers*  
*Christmas Party*  
on  
*Thursday, December 1, 2016*  
*from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.*  
*Old Capitol Inn*  
*226 North State Street*

ENJOY THIS EVENING WITH AN ADULT BEVERAGE.  
HORS D'OEUVRES AND A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC.

**Please bring a toy  
for Toys for Tots.**



## Event Recap

# JYL & CABA Fall Social

JYL and CABA members welcome newly admitted members of the Mississippi Bar at The Manship on September 29, 2016.

