

KNOXVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION ELECTION 2020 CANDIDATE PROFILES

President-Elect: Cheryl G. Rice



BORN (Date & Place): August 25, Bluefield WV

EDUCATION: George Mason University, BA 1988; GMU School of Law, JD 1991

FIRM: Egerton, McAfee, Armistead & Davis, PC

NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM: 18

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Civil and Commercial Litigation

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices) KBA: Treasurer 2019, Secretary 2018, Board of Governors 2016-present, Co-Chair Juvenile Court and Child Justice Section 2009 – 2015, Member of Law Office Tech Comm. 2014-present; TBA: Litigation Section; ABA: Litigation Section, Commercial Litigation Comm., Women Advocate Committee; East Tennessee Lawyers Assoc. for Women: Member 2007-present, Board member, 2013; Tennessee Lawyers' Assoc. for Women: Member 2010-present, CLE Comm. Chair 2011-13, President 2014/15; Hamilton Burnett American Inns of Court Member, Executive Comm. 2017-present.

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS Graduate of Leadership Knoxville, 2017; Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility Hearing Panel Member, 2009-2015; Governor's Commission for Judicial Appointments, 2013-14; Governor's Council for Judicial Appointments 2014-present, Chair 2014-2016; Tennessee Bar Foundation IOLTA Grant Review Comm. member; Knoxville Bar Foundation Fellow; TN Bar Foundation Fellow.

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: To further KBA's efforts to engage local attorneys of all backgrounds and practice areas in the many opportunities for professional development and fulfillment, networking and service the KBA offers. To build on the KBA's efforts to foster inclusive and collegial professional relationships among members of the bar and a positive image of the judicial system in our community.

Treasurer: Jason H. Long



BORN (Date & Place): 04/22/1971, Knoxville, Tennessee

EDUCATION: Emory University, B.A. 1993; University of Tennessee College of Law, J.D. 1996

FIRM: London & Amburn, P.C.

NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM: 13

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Health Care Law, Professional Malpractice Defense, Business Litigation, General Civil Litigation, Municipal Law, Adoption Law

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): Member: Knoxville Bar Association (Secretary, Past President of Barristers, Former Chair of Membership Committee, Current Member Professionalism Committee), Tennessee Bar Association (Past President, Past President of Young Lawyers' Division), American Bar Association (Executive Council Member of the National Conference of Bar Presidents). Fellow: Knoxville Bar Foundation, Tennessee Bar Foundation, American Bar Foundation. Member of Hamilton Burnett Inn of Court.

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: 2007 LAET Pro Bono Award, 2009 TBA President's Award

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: To foster the continued growth of successful KBA programs with a focus on providing resources for Knoxville lawyers to succeed in the evolving legal marketplace.

Secretary: Loretta G. Cravens



BORN (Date & Place): July 8, 1977, Crossville, Tennessee

EDUCATION: B.S. Political Science, 2000, Tennessee Technological University, magna cum laude. J.D., 2004, University of Tennessee College of Law

FIRM: Cravens Legal

NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM: 1

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Criminal Defense: Federal, State, and Juvenile in Knox and surrounding counties. Representation of Health Care providers: Licensing Board Disputes, HIPPA compliance, and related matters.

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): KBA: Board of Governors, 2019; Co-chair Membership Services Comm. 2016-present; Comm. Member, 2008-present. Access to Justice Comm. Member, 2012-2017. Diversity in the Profession Comm. Member, 2017-2018. Barristers Co-chair of Law Week Comm., 2010-2012; Co-Coor. of Clothing Drive, 2011. Tennessee Bar Association's Leadership Law program, Co-chair, 2016-2019; Steering Comm. 2014-present; Leadership Law Alumni Assoc., Pres., 2015-2016. Pres. of the East Tennessee Lawyer's Assoc. for Women, 2018; President-elect, 2017; Programming Chair, 2015-2016; Programming Co-chair 2014. Tennessee Assoc. of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Board Member, 2016-present. Tennessee Lawyer's Assoc. for Women, President-elect 2019; ETLAW rep. to Board, 2017-2018; Annual Meeting Comm. Chair, 2017; Empowerment Conf. Planning Comm. 2016-2017. American Inns of Court Programming Awards Comm. 2016-2017; Hamilton Burnett American Inns of Court member.

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: Martindale Hubbell's rating of AV Preeminent. Fellow of the American Bar Assoc. National Trial Lawyers Top 40 Under 40 in 2012-2016. City View Top Attorney in Juvenile Defense from 2014 -2016. 2009 graduate of the National Criminal Defense College.

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: I hope to help the KBA continue to grow and excel, while honoring the KBA's long-standing tradition of providing excellent service its members and striving to be on the cutting edge of professional bar service organizations. This can be accomplished, in part, by promoting services and support available through the KBA, assisting the KBA to ensure those services effectively enhance the practice of law in the changing legal market place, and promote the development of professional relationships among lawyers, especially newer lawyers, to sustain the collegiality of the Knoxville Bar.

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Plan to attend the
KBA Annual Meeting on
Friday, December 13!

KBA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Hon. Kristi M. Davis



BORN (Date & Place): April 17, 1973, Oak Ridge, TN

EDUCATION: B.S. in Communications, UTK, 1995; J.D., UTK, 1998

FIRM: Knox County Circuit Court, Division I **NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM:** 5

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): KBA Membership Committee, Judicial Committee, Professionalism Committee, Selection Committee for Board of Governors Award. Member of Tennessee Trial Judge's Association (Pattern Jury Instructions and Legislative Committees) and Tennessee Judicial Conference (Executive Committee).

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: Pro Bono Partner Award; Hamilton Burnett Inn of Court; Executive Women's Association; UT Chancellor's Associate.

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: The KBA excels at providing high quality CLE programs, opportunities for members to interact outside of the practice of law, and support for lawyers at all stages of their careers. I hope to help the KBA continue its traditional of excellence in 2020.

Government - Public Sector Position (1 Year Term)

Three Year Terms (Vote for no more than 3 candidates)

Melissa G. Carrasco



BORN (Date & Place): Mooresville, North Carolina, but grew up on Navy bases throughout the Southeast

EDUCATION: Liberty University, B.S.; University of Tennessee College of Law, J.D.

FIRM: Egerton, McAfee, Armistead & Davis, P.C. **NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM:** 9

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Employment and Immigration

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): Member of the Publications Committee and monthly columnist from 2012 to the present; co-Chair of the Publications Committee since 2017; regular presenter at KBA-sponsored CLE programs

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: 2019 Rising Star Award, Tennessee Defense Lawyers Association; Co-Recipient of the 2018 KBA President's Award (awarded to the KBA Publications Committee); 2014 DICTA Award for the column Balancing Act.

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: To see our Members, through word and deed, continually earn the right to serve our community through the practice of law. *"The law demands the utmost professionalism from its practitioners so that it may be understood as a learned and respected profession, serving the public good by ensuring that our system of justice works fairly and efficiently."* Preamble, KBA Guidelines for Professional Courtesy and Conduct.

Mark A. Castleberry



BORN (Date & Place): April 26, 1973, Knoxville, TN

EDUCATION: Karns High School, University of Tennessee Knoxville BA English Literature, Carson Newman College MAT, University of Tennessee Knoxville JD

FIRM: Lewis Thomason **NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM:** 4

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Civil Defense Litigation: Insurance defense, Healthcare Liability, Professional Liability, Product Liability

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): Member, Tennessee Bar Association Public Education Committee; Former Chair of Knoxville Bar Association Functions Committee; Member of Knoxville Bar Association Access to Justice Committee; Former Chair of Athletics Committee of Knoxville Barristers

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: 2015 Knoxville Bar Association President's Award; Named as one of Super Lawyers MidSouth Rising Stars of 2012 - 15; Tennessee Bar Association Leadership Law Class of 2012

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: Supporting the Knoxville Bar Association's continued efforts to have a positive influence and increased presence in the community. Encouraging members of the Bar to increase their participation in Bar activities and interaction with fellow Bar members, primarily through improving access to and increasing the availability of complimentary drink tickets at all Bar functions.

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Three Year Terms Continued (Vote for no more than 3 candidates)

Meghan H. Morgan



BORN (Date & Place): August 6, 1980, Knoxville, Tennessee

EDUCATION: University of Tennessee Knoxville, B.A., 2002; Washington & Lee Univ. School of Law, J.D., 2005

FIRM: Pilot Travel Centers LLC

NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM: 2

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Associate General Counsel focusing on Corporate, Technology, and Privacy

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): KBA, Former At Large Member of the Barristers (2010-2011); Co-Chair Law School Outreach Committee (2008-2010); Chair – Outreach Comm. (2010-2012); Nominations Comm. (2014); Member of ABA and TBA (2005-present)

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: Phi Beta Kappa, Torchbearer, Vice-President of Student Body; named Mid-South Rising Star by Mid-South Super Lawyers (2012-2016); "40 Under 40" (2014); President of UT Alumni Board, Knoxville Region Chapter (2013); University of Tennessee Alumni Board of Directors (2014-2018); Chair of Student and Alumni Engagement Comm. (2014-2015), Member of the Nominations Comm. (2016); Catholic Charities Board member (2011-2017)-Program Comm. Chair (2013-2017); Strategic Planning Taskforce (2014); Process Quality Improvement Comm. (2013-2017); Young Professionals of Knoxville founding member; Nucleus Knoxville (2012-present); Chair of Baker Donelson's Recruiting and BakerFit Comm.; Leadership Knoxville (2018).

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: Supporting KBA's initiatives and impact in our community and encourage involvement from its members on issues affecting our legal community and community at large.

Michael J. Stanuszek



Born: February 8, 1979; Owosso, Michigan

Education: Central Michigan University, BS; University of Tennessee, JD; University of Connecticut, LL.M.

Firm/Business: The Stanuszek Law Group, PLLC; Stanuszek Mediation Services, Inc. d/b/a Volunteer Mediation Services; Tennessee Law Lab, Inc.; Stanuszek Awards and Recognition, Inc. d/b/a The Tennessee Small Business Owner

Number of Years with Current Firm: 5

Areas of Primary Practice: Insurance Subrogation, Personal Injury, Mediation, and Juvenile

Service to Bar (Membership & Offices): Member of the KBA (2006-19); Co-Chair of the Law Week Comm. (2007-10); Co-Chair of the Law Office Management and Technology Comm. (2011); Co-Chair of the Juvenile Court Section (2017-19); Member of the TBA (2017-19); Member of TBA Leadership Law Class (2018); TBALL Communications Director (2019); Tenn. Association of Subrogation Professionals ("TNASP") (2008-16); Co-Chair of TNASP (2010)

Special Awards & Honors: Founded East Tennessee's only modern day attorney apprenticeship program, which assisted 14 local attorneys start their own law practices; Founded East Tennessee's first law incubator, which assisted 11 local attorneys start their own law practices; Convinced a woman who is undoubtedly way out of his league to first marry him and then stay with him even after she wised up.

Goal for KBA in 2020: To provide more services to solo practitioners in the Bar, especially those who recently graduated from law school. KBA is uniquely situated to assist new attorneys, and it should strive to help remove the most common barriers to their entry into the market.

Elizabeth M. Towe



BORN (Date & Place): March 23, 1988 Germantown, Tennessee

EDUCATION: University of the South (Sewanee), B.A., 2010; University of Tennessee College of Law, J.D., 2013

FIRM: Bernstein, Stair & McAdams LLP

NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM: 5

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Family Law

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): KBA: member 2014-present; Barristers Membership Committee Co-Chair 2015-present, KBA Functions Committee 2015-present, Publications Committee 2018-present

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: Barrister's President's Award 2016; KBA Ethics Bowl Team Champions 2018

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: To promote and encourage participation in KBA services and events, especially among young attorneys and to support the KBA in keeping the local bar, informed, educated, supported and collegial.

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Three Year Terms *Continued* (Vote for no more than 3 candidates)

Taylor Williams



BORN (Date & Place): May 29, 1984, Knoxville, Tennessee

EDUCATION: University of Tennessee, B.S., 2006; University of Tennessee College of Law, J.D., 2009

FIRM: Paine Tarwater and Bickers LLP **NUMBER OF YEARS WITH CURRENT FIRM:** 10

AREAS OF PRIMARY PRACTICE: Products Liability Defense, Commercial Litigation, General Civil Litigation

SERVICE TO BAR (Memberships & Offices): KBA: Member 2011-present, KBA Board of Governors, 2014-2016, Membership Committee, Co-Chair 2014-present, Nominating Committee, 2017, Governors' Award Committee, 2018, Barristers' President, 2015, Barristers' Vice-President, 2014, Barristers' Membership Committee Chair, 2011-2013; Member of Hamilton Burnett Inn of Court.

SPECIAL AWARDS & HONORS: Tennessee Bar Association Leadership Law Class 2015, Super Lawyers Rising Stars – 2018; LAET Pro Bono Award – 2011.

GOAL FOR KBA IN 2020: In the face of ever increasing divisiveness, I believe that it is as important now as ever for the KBA to focus on events, community outreach, and educational programs that encourage members to find commonality, form personal relationships, and further the honor and purpose of our shared profession.

Make sure to cast
your vote to elect
KBA Leadership!

The Election will be held during the Annual Meeting
on Friday, December 13, 2019
at 8:30 a.m. in the Main Assembly Room
of the City County Building.
Continental Breakfast starts at 8:00 a.m.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS VOTING IN THE KBA ELECTIONS

Any member in good standing who personally comes to the offices of the Knoxville Bar Association during regular business hours on any of the ten (10) working days immediately preceding the day of the Annual Meeting will be permitted to vote. The member must first file a written form making oath that he or she will not be in town or otherwise be unable to attend the Annual Meeting. Then the member will be permitted to cast an absentee ballot for such officer or board positions as may be contested.

KBA Office Regular Business Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

10 Working Days Prior to the Annual Meeting: November 27 - December 12, 2019

If you have any questions concerning voting in the KBA Election, please contact KBA Executive Director, Marsha Watson, at (865) 522-6522.