

# The Gtation October

# GLISSON SUCCEEDS ARON WEINER

Julianne G. Glisson, partner at Weiner, Shearouse, Weitz, Greenberg and Shawe, has been appointed Guardian and Administrator for the Chatham County Probate Court.

Glisson was appointed by Judge Harris Lewis following the August death of Aron G. Weiner, who performed the duties of Probate Court Guardian and Administrator for more than 50 years.

"Being asked to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Weiner is a tremendous honor and responsibility," said Ms. Glisson, who was chosen as one of the Top 40 Business Leaders under 40 of the Southeast by The Savannah Business Report and Journal and has been peer—selected for Georgia Trend Magazine's Legal Elite in the area of family law.



Julianne Glisson, recently appointed Guardian and Administrator for Chatham County Probate Court.

"In everything he did, Mr. Weiner was an illustration of dignity and professionalism. The best way for me and our firm to pay homage to his legacy is to continue to uphold the example he set. Someone like Mr. Weiner cannot be replaced, but I am proud to succeed him and will attempt to continue serving the court as he did."

Ms. Glisson's practice has been focused on family law matters, and her expertise includes marital property division, as—sessing whether spousal support or alimony will be awarded and establishing child custody, visi—tation and assigning child sup—port. Her practice also includes wills, trusts and estates as well as all forms of probate work and related litigation.

### STILL HAVEN'T RENEWED?



Yes, you've been busy. And there's that whole hurricane thing. But . . . seriously.

If you have not renewed your membership for the SBA's centennial year, the process takes just a few clicks with a credit card on our website (see accompanying video). Renewal is immediate. Checks are also accepted, but please allow time for processing before you see a change in your renewal status.

Editor: Keri M. Martin Production: Kris Taylor





The Savannah Bar Association YLD hosted its annual kick-off event on September 22nd. Members new and old gathered at Congress Street Social



Club to unwind and welcome in the 2016–2017 Young Lawyers Division new year.

The YLD would like to thank ProLegal Copies Inc. for generously sponsoring the festivities.

The YLD held its October event, graciously spon-

sored by McKee Court Reporting, in Savannah's historic district at Abe's on Lincoln.

The YLD's next event will be held November 10th at Blowin' Smoke on Habersham in Savannah.

For more information about the YLD and how to get involved, please contact our Membership Chair, Sam Mikell, smikell@olivermaner.com.

ProLegal Copies Inc. 2 E Bryan St #450, Savannah, GA 31401 Phone: (912) 232-9732 McKee Court Reporting 106 Montgomery Street Savannah, GA 31401 Phone: (912) 238-8808



#### THE FBA WANTS YOU

The Federal Bar Association, the foremost association of lawyers and judges practicing in U.S. District Courts and federal agencies, has approved a new Southern District of Georgia Chapter.

#### Federal Bar Association

The premier bar association serving the federal practitioner and the federal judiciary



Taylor Haley, President, Southern District of Georgia Chapter, FBA

Taylor Haley, chapter president and partner at the Compass Law Group, invites members of the Savannah Bar Association to join this organization of 15,000+ federal practitioners and federal judges. Member benefits include a subscription to the association's flagship

monthly publication, The Federal Lawyer, Section and Division newsletters, CLE credits

offered through a variety of webinars and educational sessions held in 20 Substantive Law Sections and 5 Divisions, and affiliation with more than 80 other chapters across the U.S.

For their kick-off event on November 10 in Savannah, the Southern District Chapter will host the Honorable Denny Chin of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



On November 10, the new Southern District of Georgia Chapter of the Federal Bar Association will host The Honorable Denny Chin, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

The Federal Bar Association offers three levels of membership: Active, Sustaining and Associate (which includes law students). For more information or to join, click here.

#### WISEMAN BLACKBURN, LLC ADDS ASSOCIATE

W. John Toner, IV has joined Wiseman, Blackburn as an associate attorney. Toner received his undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Oswego with a double major in business administration and Spanish. During his undergraduate studies he also studied at La Universidad Catolica, Santiago, Chile.



Law faculty patio, University of Granada, Spain

Toner spent many years in the banking and finance industry working with asset—backed securities and other secured trans—actions for large banks and firms including Bear Stearns, Lehman Brothers, and Dun

and Bradstreet. He also served as a Vice President for CFIC Home Mortgage.

After receiving his J.D. from Savannah Law School,

Toner's fluency in Spanish enabled him to participate in foreign legal studies at La Universidad de Granada, Granada, Spain, where he interned with the municipal government. A general practice attorney, Toner will be working in all areas of the law, including criminal, civil, domestic, juvenile, personal injury, wills and probate, and medical malpractice.



W. John Toner, IV, new associate at Wiseman, Blackburn, LLC



#### NEW PARTNERS AT BRENNAN, WASDEN & PAINTER

Three new partners have been added at Brennan, Wasden & Painter, LLC.

A graduate of the University of Georgia, Travis Windsor attended the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University. His practice focuses on medical malpractice defense, products liability, trucking de-





Travis D. Windsor

Robert S.D. Pace

premises liability. Licensed to practice in all State and Federal Courts in Georgia, Windsor is an active member of the Georgia Bar Association and the Georgia Defense Lawyer's Association.

A native of Savannah, Robert Pace graduated from Atlanta's Oglethorpe University and worked in mortgage banking and accounting industries before receiving his law degree at Mercer University. Pace maintains a wide-ranging transactional practice including real estate, probate and general corporate law, and regularly represents clients in civil litigation.

T. Daniel Tucker graduated from Clayton College & State University before obtaining his law degree at Mercer. His practice focuses on medical malpractice defense, premises liability, long-term care facility litigation and general civil litigation. He is licensed to practice in all State and Federal Courts in Georgia.



T. Daniel Tucker

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Georgia Legal Services Program thanks the attorneys who accepted Pro Bono cases during July, August, and September 2016. To join this elite group who are furthering GLSP's mission to provide quality representation to eligible clients, contact Ruth Ann Dutton at (912) 651–2283, ext. 2184 or rdutton@glsp.org.

James Blackburn
Tamorra Boyd
Paige Boykin
Elizabeth Branch
Dolly Chisholm
Jamie Clark
Dorothy Courington

Susan Cox
Graham Cunningham
Stephanie Kemp
J. Stephen Lewis
Heather Lundy
Melanie Marks
Lorenzo Merritt

Shari Miltiades Jerold Murray Susannah Pedigo David Purvis Francesca Rehal Julie Wade Charles Wardlaw





#### BARRISTER BUDDIES RETURN

After receiving multiple requests, some in communication forms intelligible only to certain species, we are excited to revive the Barrister Buddies feature, once a regular installment in The Citation.

Members of the Savannah Bar Association are invited to submit a photograph featuring the attorney and his or her office mate.

Please include names, identifying information and other items of interest. We look to meeting all of your Barrister Buddies!

Barrister Buddy Rupert is a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. He is nearly 10 months old. Once a week, he comes to the office to help with filing and to raise staff morale. When not working, Rupert enjoys chasing squirrels and butterflies.



**Charles W. Snyder and Barrister Buddy Rupert** 

#### TWO NEW BOUTIQUE FIRMS OPEN

Heather S. Harmon and Maria D. Sayers announce the formation of Harmon Law, LLC and Sayers Law, LLC in Sayannah.



**Heather S. Harmon** 

Both are boutique firms devoted to legal research, document drafting and consulting for law firms locally and statewide.

Each of these firms offer legal research, the preparation of discovery requests and responses, drafting pleadings, motions and briefs. assisting

with litigation inves—tigation and prepa—ration, drafting simple transactional matters such as wills, powers of attorney and busi—ness formations, contract review and negotiation, in addition to consulting.



Maria D. Sayers

Harmon Law, LLC Phone: (912) 224-1374 Sayers Law, LLC Phone: (912) 882-7479



### DYCHES & NORSE FORM LAW GROUP

With the addition of William (Billy) Norse as partner, Dyches Law is now the Dyches & Norse Law Group. Norse's practice will focus on real estate, probate and general civil litigation. He also has experience in personal injury law.



A native of Savannah, Norse attended the University of Georgia and received his J.D., from Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law in 2006 where he served on the Mercer Law Review. Norse interned for the honorable C. Ashley Royal, former chief judge of the Middle District of

Georgia and with the Georgia Secretary of State's office.

Norse co-authored Police Pursuits: A Comprehensive Look at the Broad Spectrum of Police Pursuit Liability and Law with Patrick T. O'Connor, which has been cited to the United States Supreme Court in Scott v. Harris, 550 U.S. 372 (2007) and is cataloged in the FBI Academy Library. Norse has



William Billy Norse, partner at Dyches & Norse

been honored as a Top 40 Under 40 Lawyer for the state of Georgia.

Dyches & Norse maintains offices in Savannah and Pooler, and also provides clients with services related to wills and probate and small business law.

#### LEWIS CREATES NEW FIRM

George L. Lewis, former partner in Spiva Lewis LLC., has a new location and a new firm: Lewis Law Group. Lewis will be practicing with his associate, Katherine E. Lewis, in his new office located at 401 Mall Blvd., Suite 201A.

Lewis earned his undergraduate degree from Auburn University and his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law. His practice concentrates in the area of premises liability and automobile and truck wrecks.

Lewis is a member of Savannah Trial Lawyers Association, Georgia Trial Lawyers Association, The American Association for Justice, Southern Trial Lawyers Association, American Bar Association, and the Savannah Bar Association.

He is admitted to practice in all Georgia courts, all federal courts in Georgia, the Eleventh and Fourth

Circuit Courts of Appeal, and the United States Supreme Court.



George Lewis of the Lewis Law Group makes the case in this YouTube video. Click on image to view.

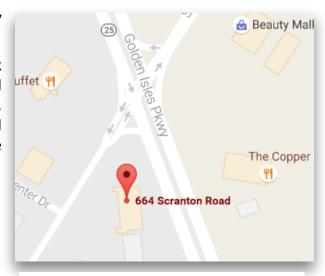


#### BRUNSWICK OFFICE SHARE OPPORTUNITY

McDonald Law, P.C. announces an office share opportunity located at 664 Scranton Rd., Ste. 201, Brunswick, GA, 31520.

The location has three attorney offices, a break room, a work area and a large reception area. Rent terms are negotiable and start at \$500 per month for use of break room, common area, and one office. Use of office equipment, phones, internet and insurance can be added for an additional pro-rata share expense.

This location has high traffic visibility with the firm sign facing Golden Isle Parkway. Call Stephanie McDonald at 912-342-7789 or email <a href="mailto:stephanie@mcdonaldlegalfirm.com">stephanie@mcdonaldlegalfirm.com</a> if interested.



Click to open Google Maps.

McDonald Law, P.C.



#### 2017 SBA HOT TOPICS

Planning for the January 2017 SBA Hot Topics Seminar is underway. Any assistance is appreciated. If you are interested in speaking at the Hot Topics Seminar, assisting with planning, providing a sponsorship, or if you have any other questions about Hot Topics, please contact the 2017 Hot Topics Chair Joe Cronk: joecronksav@gmail.com.



# THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: RESISTING THE PULL OF FRAMES

#### by Wendy Williamson

No doubt, the last thing on your mind while watching the presidential debates was mediation, framing or reframing. The Presidential candidates,

however, were purposefully seeking to engage the audience's "frames" to emotionally pull them toward one side or the other. In our world of sound bites, 24-hour news and increasing

divisiveness, we all need to manage our own "frames" very thoughtfully. We have

many contemporary names for framing: branding, biases, values, stereotypes, profiling, to name a few. During each debate, the candidates repeatedly used the following descriptors to cause a desired emotional reaction in their audience: veteran politicians, the wealthiest, big corporations, the middle class, law and order, jobs going overseas, NAFTA, policing, gun violence, stop and frisk, withholding tax returns, deleted emails, the Islamic State, college debt, equal pay for women, China, Mexico, climate change, etc. Through repetition,

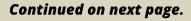
the candidates have tried to create new "frames" with

A member of Miles
Mediation, Wendy
Williamson is a past
president of the SBA
(2012-13) and recipient of
the Robbie Robinson
Award.

expressions like "Trumped Up Trickle Down Economics" and "Crooked Hillary."

Douglas Nolls defines a frame as "nothing more than a reality constructed by our brains to make sense of the world around us." [Entrenched Beliefs and the Art of Framing, Mediate.com] Peter Blanciak explains that "[o]ur experience of the world is based on categorization of the objects of our perception into classes,' and that once object an

conceptualized as the member of a given class, it is extremely difficult to see it also as belonging to another class." [Reframing: The Essence of Mediation, mediate.com] For example, we teach our children that strangers are dangerous and then later we find ourselves struggling with our children who react in fear to every new person they meet. Through memory, emotions and environmental cues, we pre-consciously or unknowingly construct frames that define what is important to us or protect us from some danger. Can you remember learning not to touch fire or to run if you see a rattlesnake? These frames were implanted in you for a fast reaction necessary for survival. "Framing allows us to almost instantaneously judge a situation, make sense out of, and react. It has strong evolutionary benefit in a dangerous, uncertain environment." [Nolls]





#### THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: RESISTING THE PULL OF FRAMES

As a mediator, I am particularly fascinated by what is called "selective perception." Our frames can literally affect what we see or hear and what we ignore. "What is important to us is within our frame; what is not important does not exist." [Nolls] This filtering of information leads to "confirmation bias" which causes us to look only confirming evidence while contradictory, but possibly true, evidence. If you want an excellent example of "selective perception" resulting in "confirmation bias," look at the Facebook postings on the days following each debate. One would think two different debates occurred on each night based upon the polar opposite victories passionately claimed supporters of each candidate.

Framing, also called "System 1 Thinking," is critical to physical survival and allows us to automatically react to enough information to protect ourselves. "System 2 Thinking," on the other hand, is intentional and uncomfortable and requires actively looking for information that contradicts or is outside of our frame. System 2 Thinking is often called "critical thinking." We will instinctively resort to System 1 Thinking unless we are prompted or lured into System 2 Thinking, which is the job of a mediator. While our early ancestors relied almost exclusively on System 1 Thinking to survive, our generation must use System 2 Thinking to manage the information overload that is inherent in our complex, multi-media lives.

I hope you are now seeing how this might impact upon attorneys, mediators and mediation. Some examples of frames [or beliefs] that mediators witness regularly in mediation are listed below:

- The opponent's lawyer is corrupt, untrustworthy, crafty
- Insurance adjustors are stingy and heartless
- The opponent lies and hides information
- Plaintiff's attorneys are greedy and aggressive
- Defense attorneys are obsessive compulsive, ferreting through medical records and

- counting pennies
- Plaintiffs exaggerate their injuries
- Mediators will agree with everything you say

The difficult job of the mediator is to enable each participant in mediation to employ System 2 Thinking to take in uncomfortable information and to rationally analyze the facts and proposals during mediation. Using reframing, an experienced mediator can humanize an opponent and normalize the process so that parties can reach outside of their frames and appreciate facts that may not support the conclusions they had reached before mediation. "Reframing is the art and science of employing words and actions in order to alter a person's perspective of a specific situation with the intention of initiating a change in behavior. The art is in accomplishing the process without manipulating the facts of the situation, the science is doing so at the right time and with the correct results." [Blanciak] For example, when one party is operating from the belief that the other party is irrational, explaining an offer in rational terms and explaining the concerns of the other party by using non-accusatory words can help one recognize the humanity in the other party. Mediators use reframing effectively to change negatives into positives and to reshape the essence of what parties say to each other into a more palatable form.

I hope that I have changed how you reflect upon the Presidential debates. I challenge you to write down the "frames" employed by each candidate and I dare you to find any objective data presented by either candidate to support their "frames." Do the hard work of separating frames from facts and train your mind to analyze both candidates objectively regardless of your pre—debate leanings. Through this exercise you will learn a great deal about how to work with clients who bring "frames" into your office. I pity the lawyer and client who build a case on frames without undertaking the hard work to look under and around the frame for the "other side of the story."



## Now Open for Submissions

The Savannah Bar Association is always seeking content for upcoming editions of **The Citation**. Members are encouraged to submit:

- your professional and personal announcements
- law-related advertisements
- articles or announcements regarding your preferred philanthropies
- other written submissions

Suggestions for improving The Citation are also always welcome. Finally, we love to receive photographs and video to share with our readers! Bear in mind that our readers include not only current SBA members, but also many judges and law school students.

Please contact us at SBACitation@gmail.com with submissions or inquiries.