

**2018 APPELLATE ADVOCACY SEMINAR  
SPONSORED BY THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE FIFTH FEDERAL  
CIRCUIT, OLE MISS LAW SCHOOL AND MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL  
OF LAW**

**Program Chair: Allison Jones**

**Monday, October 1**

8:45 – 9:10am- **Registration**

9:15 am – **Opening Remarks** – Margaret Cupples, President, Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit

9:30 – 11:45 – **Writing Workshop.** “Write Now: Writing Strategies that Instantly Elevate Your Writing”.

Mary Purvis Director of Legal Analysis and Communication at Mississippi College School of Law, Jackson, MS,

Victoria Lowery, Mississippi College School of Law, Jackson, MS,

David McCarty, David Neil McCarty Law Firm, PLLC, Jackson, MS

LUNCH

1:00 – 2:00 pm – **The Clerk’s Office** –

Thomas Plunkett, Deputy Clerk of Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

2:00 – 3:00 – **Current Issues in Criminal Law** –

Mara Blatt, Office of the US Attorney, Western District of Texas, San Antonio, TX

Donna Coltharp, Public Defenders Office, Western District of Texas, San Antonio, TX

Raquel Wilson, U.S. Sentencing Commission’s Office of Education and Sentencing Practice

Moderator: Cynthia Orr, Goldstein, Goldstein & Hilley, San Antonio, TX

OR

2:00 – 3:00 – **Current Issues in Civil Law** –

Alexandra Wilson Albright, Alexander Dubose Jefferson & Townsend, Austin, TX

Professor Erin Busby, University of Texas School of Law, Austin, TX

Moderator: Marcy Hogan Greer, Alexander Dubose Jefferson & Townsend, Austin, TX

BREAK 3:00 – 3:15 pm

3:15 – 4:15 – Professionalism “**Slip-Sliding Away: How Implicit Biases Erode Ethical Judgment.**”

Kate Margolis, Bradley, LLP, Jackson, MS

JOIN US FOR A HAPPY HOUR AFTER AT 4:30 PM AT PETE’S PUB, FIRST FLOOR OF THE HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL, 444 ST. CHARLES AVE., NEW ORLEANS, LA

**Tuesday, October 2, 2017**

John Minor Wisdom Courthouse  
600 Camp Street, Room 206  
New Orleans, LA 70130

**9:00 – 11:15 Oral Argument Observation and Critique**

Observe regularly scheduled oral arguments. Stay in the Courtroom to hear critiques of the arguments. After the arguments, attorneys will critique the arguments given in Court.

**OR**

Pan Am Conference Center  
601 Poydras St., 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New Orleans, LA 70130

**9:00 – 11:15 am – Supreme Court Panel – Current Issues Before the Court–**

Tim Crooks, Attorney at Law, Houston, TX  
Jeffery T. Green, Sidley, Austin, Washington, DC

**11:30 Lunch in the Great Hall:** Enjoy lunch in the historic Great Hall of the John Minor Wisdom Courthouse with Fifth Circuit Judges and Court Executives, Case Managers, and Conference Attorneys.

**12:50 Walk to Pan Am Center, 601 Poydras St., 11th Floor**

**1:00 – 2:00 pm Nuts and Bolts of Oral Argument and Brief Writing : Judges Discuss Effective Oral Argument Practice and Brief Writing.**

Honorable Stephen Higginson, Circuit Judge, US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit  
Honorable Kurt Englehardt, US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

**2:00 – 3:00 pm - Ethics: The Ethical Use of Social Media**

Benjamin Cooper, Senior Association Dean and Professor of Legal Studies and Professionalism at the University of Mississippi School of Law

**3:00 pm – 4:00 pm - The Attorney’s Perspective on Briefs and Oral Argument: Substantive Tips on Brief Writing and Oral Argument –**

Deborah Pearce, Pearce and Associates, New Orleans, LA,  
Walter Woodruff, Bopp Law Firm and Editor of the Daily Commentary of Fifth Circuit Opinions, BAFFC, New Orleans, LA

**Dismissal – Margaret Cupples - President of the Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit.**