2015

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News briefs

1950s

William J. “Bill” Ross (’52) received the lifetime achievement award from Oklahoma City University’s Meinders School of Business, and was chosen to serve as king of the Beaux Arts Ball, which benefits the Oklahoma City Museum of Art. He is chairman of the board of directors of the Inasmuch Foundation and the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation.

Joe C. Houk (’55) retired as city attorney for Fairview, Oklahoma, after 48 years of service. He is a partner in Houk & Church in Fairview.

William G. Paul (’56) received the 2015 National Conference of Bar Presidents Fellows Award recognizing his accomplishments as a past bar president who has demonstrated continuing leadership and service to the work of the organized bar and the NCBP. He is of counsel to Crowe & Dunlevy in the firm’s Oklahoma City office.

1960s

Richard L. McKnight (’63) was named Citizen of the Year by the Enid, Oklahoma, Chamber of Commerce. In addition, he received the 2014 Walk of Fame Award recognizing a lifetime of service to the Enid community. He is of counsel with Gungoll, Jackson, Box & Devoll PC.

John H. Trudgeon (’64) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for estate planning and probate. He is of counsel with the Oklahoma City firm of Hartzog Conger Cason and Neville, where his practice areas include estate planning, probate, employee benefits and nonprofit organizations.

James R. Cox (’65) became of counsel to Ewbank, Hennigh & McVay PLLC in Enid, Oklahoma. His practice includes general civil matters, oil and gas and estate planning.

Gene Livingston (’65) was named to Best Lawyers in America 2015 for administrative/regulatory law, environmental law, government relations practice, and environmental litigation. He is a shareholder of Greenberg Traurig LLP, based in Sacramento, California, where his areas of practice include litigation, government law and policy, and environmental law.

Robert H. Gilliland (’66) received the Professional Service Award from the Oklahoma County Bar Association at the organization’s annual award luncheon. He is a commissioner on the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission.

Sheppard F. Miers (’66) was named Tulsa Lawyer of the Year in tax law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He also was recognized by the Oklahoma Bar Association Taxation Law Section for outstanding contributions. He is a shareholder of GableGotwals.

Duane A. Woodliff (’66) retired as associate district judge of Okmulgee County, a position he had held since his election in 2006. He previously served as special judge for five years.

Pat D. Bowlen (’68) was inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame for 2015. He owns the Denver Broncos and served as the organization’s chief executive officer until July 2014.

Lynn Burris (’68), of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, was sworn in as a justice of the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court in January. He previously served as a judge for the Cherokee Nation Administrative Appeals Board, where he presided over Tribal Employment Rights Office appeals.

Jack A. Mattingly Sr. (’68) was inducted into the Seminole Hall of Fame. He practiced law in Seminole, Oklahoma, for 43 years following service as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, and as a member of the legal staff of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

John D. Groendyke (’69) was inducted into the Oklahoma State University Hall of Fame. He serves as the chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Groendyke Transport Inc. in Enid, Oklahoma.
Don Holladay ('69) received the Oklahoma Bar Association Fern Holland Courageous Lawyer Award for his pro bono work challenging Oklahoma’s ban on same-sex marriage. He also was honored with the Oklahoma County Bar Association Pro Bono Award. His practice at Holladay & Chilton PLLC in Oklahoma City includes constitutional litigation, complex business litigation, and professional liability malpractice actions.

Terence C. Kern ('69) was presented the 2014 Judge of the Year Award by the Oklahoma Association for Justice at the organization’s annual meeting. He serves as a senior judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

1970s

Len Cason ('72) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for business/corporate law. He is a partner at the Oklahoma City firm of Hartzog Conger Cason and Neville, where his practice includes business law, tax law and estate planning.

Michael R. Collins ('72), of Ponca City, Oklahoma, is the 2015 president of the Cimarron Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He practices law in Ponca City, and for many years, served as the city attorney of Tonkawa.

Joe B. Harrison ('72) was included in Texas Super Lawyers 2014 for business litigation. He also was listed in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for commercial litigation, antitrust Litigation, construction litigation, securities litigation, and personal injury litigation defense. He is a partner in the Dallas office of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP.

Drew Neville Jr. ('72) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for securities litigation and was ranked as the No. 1 Oklahoma attorney. He is a partner of Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville in Oklahoma City, where his practice focuses on business litigation with an emphasis on federal securities litigation.

Jeff F. Raley ('72) was elected as a fellow of the American College of Bond Counsel. He practices bond law in Norman, Oklahoma, with the Floyd Law Firm, where he has worked for 12 years. He previously served as the city attorney in Norman for 17 years, and in Blackwell, Oklahoma, for 12 years.

Rex Herren ('74) joined the Oklahoma City office of GableGotwals as of counsel. His practice includes oil and gas, real estate and Indian law. He previously was in private practice and also served as assistant regional solicitor with the U.S. Department of the Interior Office of the Solicitor in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Gary L. Lumpkin ('74) was elected vice presiding judge of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals for 2015-16. Appointed to the court in 1989, he previously served as district attorney, associate district judge and district judge.

James R. Gotwals ('75), of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was elected to the board of governors of the Oklahoma Bar Association. He also was named Outstanding Family Law Mediator by the Family Law Section of the Oklahoma Bar Association. He is the founder of James R. Gotwals and Associates Inc., where his practice includes civil litigation, family law, real estate and probate law.

Joe H. Enos ('76) retired as district judge for Oklahoma District Court Judicial District 5. He served Stephens County for 32 years, first as associate district judge, and since 2005, as district judge.

Eric R. King ('76) was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year in energy law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He is a shareholder of GableGotwals.
Thomas S. Landrith ('76), of Ada, Oklahoma, received the Oklahoma Bar Association Award of Judicial Excellence for his leadership in the renovation project of the Pontotoc County Courthouse and Justice Center. He has served as a district judge in Pontotoc County since 1994.

James L. Gallogly ('77) retired as chief executive officer of LyondellBasell, a petrochemical company. He previously worked for Conoco Phillips and Phillips Petroleum Company.

David A. Poarch ('77) became president of the Oklahoma Bar Association on January 1, 2015. He practices with the Norman, Oklahoma, firm of Bailey and Poarch and serves as presiding municipal court judge. From 1997 until 2011, he was OU Law’s assistant dean for external relations.

Thomas T. Rogers ('77) was selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation, insurance law, and litigation – regulatory enforcement. He is a partner at Jackson Walker LLP, based in Austin, Texas.

Bryce Tarzwell ('77), of Dallas, was elected to the board of directors of NexBank Capital Inc. He is the chief legal officer of Par Petroleum Corporation.

Linda Albright Wilkins ('77) was listed in Texas Super Lawyers 2014 in the area of employee benefits, and is listed in Best Lawyers in America 2015 in the area of employee benefits. She is a founder of the Dallas-based firm of Wilkins Finston Friedman Law Group LLP, practicing employee benefits, ERISA and executive compensation.

James T. Latting ('78), of Palm Desert, California, was appointed to a judgeship in the Riverside County Superior Court. Prior to being appointed to the bench, for 12 years he was of counsel at Roemer and Harnik LLP in Indian Wells, California.

Billy M. Croll ('79) was elected to serve on the board of directors of the Oklahoma County Bar Association. He is a partner at Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville in Oklahoma City. His practice includes litigation, oil and gas and property law.

Barbara L. Hoffman ('79) retired after 14 years of service with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. She previously worked in Oklahoma City as an environmental attorney for Kerr-McGee Corporation and McKinney & Stringer law firm.

Glen D. Johnson ('79) was elected to the executive committee of the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association, and was appointed chair of the Southern Regional Education Board’s newly formed Commission on College Affordability. He is the chancellor of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, and currently serves as vice chair of the SREB.

Michael S. Laird ('79) was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year in land use and zoning law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He is a director of Crowe & Dunlevy with a practice concentrating on commercial real estate, financing, construction and leasing.

Edgar C. “Jed” Morrison Jr. ('79) was included in Texas Super Lawyers 2014, and was named San Antonio Lawyer of the Year in health care law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He practices at Jackson Walker LLP, in San Antonio, focusing on the regulatory and transactional aspects of health care law.

Judy Hamilton Morse ('79), a director of Crowe & Dunlevy, was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year for bankruptcy and creditor debtor rights/insolvency and reorganization law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. Her practice focuses on litigation and trial practice, as well as bankruptcy and creditors’ rights.

Dynda Post ('79) retired as district judge of Oklahoma District Court Judicial District 12 after 25 years on the bench. Prior to becoming a district judge for Rogers, Mayes and Craig counties in 1994, she served as special judge and assistant district attorney.
1980s

Charles E. Geister III ('80) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for business litigation and was included in the Top 50 ranking of Oklahoma attorneys. He is a partner in the Oklahoma City firm of Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville whose practice focuses on litigation.

John R. Hargrave ('80) was honored by Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity with the 2014 Alumni Award at the organization’s international convention. He has served as president of East Central University of Oklahoma since 2009, and was previously managing partner of the Edmonds Cole Law Firm in Oklahoma City.

Leo J. Portman ('80) became of counsel to GableGotwals in the firm’s Oklahoma City office. He focuses on title examination, oil and gas law and estate planning. He previously was a sole practitioner at Portman & Associates.

Ken Graham ('81), of Duncan, Oklahoma, was elected district judge in Oklahoma District Court Judicial District 5. Prior to taking the bench, he practiced law in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Karen S. Rieger ('81), a director of Crowe & Dunlevy, was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year for corporate compliance law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. Her practice includes representation of health care institutions and practitioners throughout Oklahoma and surrounding states on a broad range of health law issues.

Malcolm E. Rosser IV ('81) was named Tulsa Lawyer of the Year for construction law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He is a director of Crowe & Dunlevy, based in the firm’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, office, where he is in charge of the commercial real estate practice.

Tom Spencer ('81) was named executive director of the Oklahoma Teachers’ Retirement System after serving as interim executive director since April 2014. He previously served as executive director of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System.

William S. “Bill” Leach ('82), a shareholder of McAfee & Taft, was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is based in the firm’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, office, where his focus is on litigation and an appellate practice.

Steve Murdock ('82) was named Edmond Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year. Since 1987, he has served as the city attorney for Edmond, Oklahoma.

Natalie Shirley ('82) was named to the Oklahoma governor’s cabinet as secretary of education and workforce development. She is president of Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City.

Mike Voorhees ('82) co-founded the Oklahoma City firm of Voorhees Voorhees & Byers. The firm’s areas of practice include small-business representation, estate planning, real estate and general civil litigation.

Monica Amis Wittrock ('82), of Oklahoma City, was appointed as the public member to the Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. She is senior vice president of First American Title Insurance Company.

Michael S. Ashworth ('83) received the Earl Sneed Continuing Legal Education Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association for his continuous efforts teaching CLE classes and involvement with the Tulsa County Bar Association. He practices in Tulsa, Oklahoma, with the Cheek Law Firm.

Steven C. Davis ('83) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for mergers and acquisitions. He is a partner at Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville in Oklahoma City. His practice areas include tax law, estate planning and business law.

Kay Floyd ('83) was a recipient of the Mona Salyer Lambird Spotlight Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association Women in Law Committee. She has served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives as well as the Oklahoma State Senate, and in 2014, received the Legislator of the Year Award from the Oklahoma Association of Justice. She is an associate at Riggs Abney in Oklahoma City.
L. Mark Walker (‘83) was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year in environmental law by Best Lawyers in America 2015. A director of Crowe & Dunlevy, his practice includes state and federal litigation, as well as matters before state regulatory agencies.

Deirdre Dexter (‘84) received the Oklahoma Bar Association President’s Award in recognition and appreciation of her outstanding leadership, commitment and service to the OBA. Her practice focuses on alternative dispute resolution and is based in the Tulsa, Oklahoma, area.

David Donchin (‘84) was appointed managing partner of Durbin, Larimore & Bialick PC in Oklahoma City. With the firm since 1988, his litigation practice includes insurance, personal injury and environmental law.

Jan Grant-Johnson (‘84) received the Mona Salyer Lambird Spotlight Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association Women in Law Committee. She practices family law with the Johnson Law Firm in Norman, Oklahoma.

Rebecca Sherwood (‘84) became president of FirsTitle Commercial Services LLC, of Tulsa, Oklahoma. She has more than 30 years of experience in commercial real estate and business transactions.

Lisa Tipping Davis (‘84) was a recipient of the Mona Salyer Lambird Spotlight Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association Women in Law Committee. She is a district judge in Oklahoma County, where she serves as the presiding juvenile judge.

Marjorie L. Welch (‘84), of Norman, Oklahoma, was recognized for her outstanding contributions by the Oklahoma Bar Association Taxation Law Section during the OBA’s annual meeting in November 2014.

Alison Cave (‘85) received the Oklahoma Bar Association President’s Award in recognition and appreciation of her outstanding dedication, commitment and service to the OBA. She works for Oklahoma Attorneys Mutual Insurance Company, where she is vice president, claims.

David L. Kearney (‘85) became a shareholder of Hall Estill in the Oklahoma City office. He joined the firm’s energy and natural resources practice.

Suzanne McClain Atwood (‘86) received the Founder’s Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association Criminal Law Section. She is the executive coordinator for the Oklahoma District Attorney Council.

Greg A. Castro (‘86) was elected to the executive committee of Fellers Snider. Based in the firm’s Oklahoma City office, he concentrates his practice in complex commercial litigation, including business torts, intellectual property and patent infringement.

Daniel E. Holeman (‘86) was inducted into the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. He is the managing director of Holeman Mediation in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Kimberly Korando (‘86) was included in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for employment law – management and labor law – management. She is a partner at Smith Anderson in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she leads the firm’s employment, labor and human resources practice group.

Janice D. Loyd (‘86) was appointed as a bankruptcy judge for the Western District of Oklahoma. She previously was managing partner at the Oklahoma City firm of Bellingham & Loyd PC, where her practice focused on bankruptcy law.

R. Blaine Nice (‘86) became a shareholder of the Fellers Snider Law Firm, based in the Oklahoma City office. His areas of practice include litigation, workers’ compensation and labor, employment and employee benefits. Prior to joining the firm, he served as a municipal attorney for the City of Norman.

Elizabeth K. Brown (‘87) was named to the board of directors of the National Stripper Well Association. She is a director of Phillips Murrah PC in Oklahoma City, where she is primarily a tax and transactional lawyer with a special emphasis in the energy industry.
Vaughn A. Ary (’87) was recently appointed as the convening authority for military commissions and will oversee the war court at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. He retired July 2014 after 27 years as a Marine Corps officer and judge advocate, which included service on the staffs of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy. His final active duty military assignment was as staff judge advocate to the commandant of the Marine Corps.

Jeffrey A. Curran (’87) was promoted to shareholder status at GableGotwals. He practices in Oklahoma City, focusing on product liability defense, insurance matters and intellectual property litigation, as well as commercial litigation.

Laura McConnell-Corbyn (’87) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for family law, and also was included in the Oklahoma attorney rankings of The Top 50 and The Top 25 Women. She is a partner at Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville in Oklahoma City. Her practice includes litigation, family law and employment law.

Victor E. Morgan (’87) was named Tulsa Lawyer of the Year in litigation – real estate by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He is a director of Crowe & Dunlevy and has a practice focused primarily on litigation and trial matters.

Rob F. Robertson (’87) was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year in real estate litigation by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He is a shareholder of GableGotwals.

Dawn E. Scholz (’87) was appointed as a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission administrative law judge in Washington, D.C. Prior to this appointment, she served as administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration, deputy associate general counsel for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Air Force staff judge advocate and senior appellate military judge.

David T. McKenzie (’88) received the Earl Sneed Continuing Legal Education Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association for his extensive volunteer work for the OBA Continuing Legal Education Department. He also received the Golden Quill Award as coauthor of “Lights, Camera, Bar Action: Ethical Implications of Extrajudicial Statements and Pre-Trial Publicity in Criminal Proceedings.” He is an assistant in the Oklahoma County Public Defender’s Office in Oklahoma City.

John D. Russell (’88) joined GableGotwals in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as a shareholder. He is a former prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma, and his practice will focus on complex commercial litigation and white collar crime.

Shelly A. Youree (’88) was recognized in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for employee benefits (ERISA) law and tax law. She also was listed in Texas Super Lawyers 2014 for employee benefits (ERISA) law. She is partner of Thompson & Knight LLP, where she practices in the firm’s Los Angeles, San Francisco and Dallas offices. Her practice is focused on tax-driven business matters.

LeAnne Burnett (’89) was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year in litigation – environmental by Best Lawyers in America 2015. A director of Crowe & Dunlevy, her practice is concentrated on litigation and trial matters, with a focus on energy and environmental litigation and regulation.

1990s

Paul F. Prather (’90) was a member of a 27-lawyer team recognized as the 2014 Public Justice Trial Lawyers of the Year for their work on a California lead paint cleanup case. He is a deputy city attorney in San Diego.

Nicholas D. Rouse (’90) was listed in Best Lawyers in America 2015 in the fields of patent law and trademark law. He is the managing shareholder of Dunlap Codding PC in Oklahoma City, where he leads the firm’s mechanical engineering group. His practice includes a variety of aspects of patent and trademark law.
Gerald A. Williams (’89) and David Osterfeld (’98) were sworn in as justices of the peace in Phoenix on January 7. In those positions, they serve as full-time trial court judges hearing civil lawsuits in which the amount in controversy is less than $10,000, residential evictions, civil traffic violations, and every type of misdemeanor.

Brad West (’90) was included in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for plaintiff general personal injury. He also was named secretary for the Oklahoma chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is a partner with The West Law Firm in Shawnee, Oklahoma. His practice focuses on plaintiff law, including medical malpractice, product liability, truck collisions and class actions.

Ryan S. Wilson (’90) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for business litigation and was included in the Top 50 ranking of Oklahoma attorneys. He is a partner at Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville of Oklahoma City, where his practice includes litigation and employment law.

Sharon Voorhees (’91) was reappointed for a three-year term as a commissioner for the Oklahoma Community Service Commission. She is a partner of Voorhees Voorhees & Byers in Oklahoma City.

Armand Paliotta (’92) was listed in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for business/corporate law. He is a partner at Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville in Oklahoma City. His practice areas include business, tax and commercial law.

Donelle H. Ratheal (’92), of Oklahoma City, received the Oklahoma Bar Association Golden Quill Award for her article, “Children and Their De Facto Parents: Past, Present and Future Third-Party Custody and Guardianship Law in Oklahoma.” She is managing partner of Ratheal, Maggard & Fortune PLLC, where her practice includes complex family law litigation and appellate practice.

Michael P. Royal (’92) was included in the 2014 International Who’s Who of Management Labour and Employment Lawyers. He is a shareholder with Littler Mendelson PC, a global employment and labor law firm, based in the Dallas office.

Paul E. Vrana (’92) was included in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for the categories of derivatives and futures law, energy law, and natural resources law. He is a partner at Jackson Walker LLP, practicing in the Fort Worth, Texas, office.

Brad West (’90) was included in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014 for plaintiff general personal injury. He also was named secretary for the Oklahoma chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is a partner with The West Law Firm in Shawnee, Oklahoma. His practice focuses on plaintiff law, including medical malpractice, product liability, truck collisions and class actions.

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Paul E. Vrana (’92) was included in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for the categories of derivatives and futures law, energy law, and natural resources law. He is a partner at Jackson Walker LLP, practicing in the Fort Worth, Texas, office.

D. Michael McBride III (’93) was named Tulsa Lawyer of the Year in gaming law by Best Lawyers in America 2015, and was re-elected as treasurer for the International Masters of Gaming Law. A director of Crowe & Dunlevy, he chairs the firm’s Indian law and gaming practice group.

Don Smitherman (’93) received the Oklahoma Bar Association Alma Wilson Award for his contribution to improving the lives of young people in Oklahoma through his work in the legal studies program at Douglass High School in Oklahoma City. He is of counsel with Moricoli & Schovanec PC in Oklahoma City.

F. William Cullins (’94) became chief judge of the 14th Judicial District of Kansas, based in Coffeyville. He has been a district judge since 2006, and previously served as county attorney, city prosecutor and private practitioner.

Brian Walkley (’94) joined Shelton Maxted Walkley in Oklahoma City. His areas of practice include personal injury, construction litigation and general civil litigation.
Lori Walkley ('94), of Norman, Oklahoma, was named Outstanding Family Law Judge by the Family Law Section of the Oklahoma Bar Association. She serves as district judge in Oklahoma District Court Judicial District 21.

Pam Gleason ('95) joined Stewart Title in Amarillo, Texas, as an escrow officer. She will be closing residential and commercial real estate transactions.

Lori L. Jackson ('95), of Ada, Oklahoma, was elected associate district judge for Pontotoc County. She previously maintained a private law practice in Ada.

Bryan N.B. King ('95) was elected president of Fellers Snider by the firm’s shareholders. His practice includes complex commercial litigation, professional malpractice defense, business torts, employment law and workers’ compensation.

Dirk P. O’Hara ('95), of Norman, Oklahoma, was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Norman Board of Education. He is an owner of O Asian Fusion restaurant and Norman Senior Care LLC, and managing partner of Rambling Oaks Courtyard LLC.

Amy Alden ('96) was named a shareholder and director of Miller Dollarhide in Oklahoma City. With the firm since 2011, her practice focuses on business litigation.

Robert Don Gifford ('96) was promoted to the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves Judge Advocate General’s Corps., and will command the 3rd Legal Operations Detachment in Boston. He currently is an assistant U.S. attorney in Oklahoma City, and serves as an OU Law adjunct professor.

Alan G. Holloway ('96) was recognized at the Oklahoma Bar Association’s 2014 annual meeting by the Taxation Law Section for his outstanding contributions. He is a shareholder of McAfee & Taft in Oklahoma City, where his practice includes tax law, estate planning and litigation.

Andrew A. Ingrum ('96) was recognized in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for real estate law. In addition, he was included in Texas Super Lawyers 2014 for real estate law. He practices in Dallas with Thompson & Knight LLP, where he is the real estate practice leader. His commercial real estate practice includes financing, development, leasing and disposition.

John A. Nicholas ('96), of Carthage, Missouri, was elected associate circuit judge for the 29th Judicial Circuit Court in Jasper County, Missouri. He previously practiced with the Law Office of Hensley & Nicholas.

Peter Astor ('97), of Sapulpa, Oklahoma, received the Courageous Attorney Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association Criminal Law Section during the OBA’s 2014 annual meeting.

Paige S. Bass ('97) was promoted to senior vice president and general counsel of Sonic Corp., where she leads the company’s internal legal department. She joined the company in 2004, having previously worked as an associate with Crowe & Dunlevy.

Nicholle Jones Edwards ('97) was elected to the board of directors of Positive Tomorrows, a private, tuition-free elementary school in Oklahoma City for homeless children and their families. She is of counsel with Phillips Murrah PC, where her practice includes family law, general civil litigation and appellate matters.

Perry W. Hudson ('97) received the Neil E. Bogan Professionalism Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association. He has offices in Oklahoma City and Pawnee, but practices throughout the state focusing on criminal defense and Department of Human Services deprived cases.

Stacey D. Spivey ('97), a director of Crowe & Dunlevy, was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year for trusts and estates by Best Lawyers in America 2015. Her practice focuses on estate planning and trust and estate administration and litigation.

Richard L. Wynne Jr. ('97) was recognized in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for litigation-intellectual property. He is a partner of Thompson & Knight LLP, practicing in the Dallas office, focusing on intellectual property and commercial litigation and counseling.
Susan G. Zwaan (‘97), of Lawton, Oklahoma, was appointed special judge in Comanche County. She previously served as an assistant district attorney, and was in private practice after attending law school following an 11-year career as an elementary school teacher.

Marc A. Brockhaus (‘98) was listed in Best Lawyers in America 2015 for patent law. He is a shareholder of Oklahoma City firm Dunlap Codding PC, where he leads the electrical engineering and systems group. His practice includes all areas of intellectual property.

Greg Mashburn (‘98), of Norman, Oklahoma, was re-elected to serve a third term as district attorney for Cleveland, McClain and Garvin counties. Prior to assuming this position in 2007, he served as an assistant district attorney in Oklahoma County. He also was appointed to serve on the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control Commission.

Amy M. Stipe (‘99), of Oklahoma City, was named 2015 board secretary for GableGotwals. Her practice focus is civil litigation.

2000s

Jeb Boatman (‘03) was named by the Boeing Company as site director and chief counsel for its Oklahoma City operations. He previously practiced law with McAfee & Taft, and served as an assistant U.S. attorney.

Jolisa Melton Dobbs (‘00) was included in Texas Super Lawyers 2014 for energy and natural resources law. She is a partner of Thompson & Knight LLP, based in the Dallas office. She concentrates her practice on oil and gas acquisition and disposition transactions.

Travis A. Fulkerson (‘00) was elected to the executive committee of Fellers Snider. He practices in the firm’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, office, representing employers and insurance carriers in workers’ compensation cases.

David M. Sullivan (‘00), a director of Crowe & Dunlevy, was named Oklahoma City Lawyer of the Year for litigation – patent by Best Lawyers in America 2015. He is a registered patent attorney and a co-chair of the firm’s intellectual property and technology group.

Trent Luckinbill (‘00), originally from Enid, Oklahoma, co-produced the film The Good Lie, released in October 2014. Prior to his work in the entertainment industry, he was employed at the U.S. Department of the Treasury Office of Financial Stability, the U.S. Department of Justice, and private equity groups.

John M. Weedn (‘00), of Miami, Oklahoma, was elected to the board of governors of the Oklahoma Bar Association. He is a partner in Stockwell, Connor & Weedn PLLC, practicing primarily in the areas of family law and criminal defense.

Randi J. Grau (‘01) was named chair of the Oklahoma House Judiciary Committee. He serves as the state representative for Oklahoma House District 81, and practices with the Oklahoma City firm of Cheek & Falcone PLLC.

Jenna Rader (‘01) joined Crowe & Dunlevy as a director in the Oklahoma City office. She is a member of several practice groups, including intellectual property, real estate, nonprofit/charitable foundations, construction and litigation and trial.

Alisa Shaddix White (‘01) was honored by the Oklahoma County Bar Association with the Briefcase Award. She practices with Middleton, Nowakowski & Smith, in-house counsel for Farmers Insurance in Oklahoma City.

J. Craig Buchan (‘02) became of counsel to McAfee & Taft, based in the firm’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, office. His litigation practice includes a broad range of matters, including professional negligence, products liability and commercial litigation. He was previously a partner in a Tulsa-based litigation firm.

Cara M. Hair (‘02) was promoted to vice president and general counsel of Helmerich & Payne, of Tulsa, Oklahoma. She started with the company in 2006 as a corporate attorney, and served as senior attorney and deputy general counsel prior to her promotion.
Rebecca Wood Hull (’02) moved her practice from Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Poteau, Oklahoma, where she cofounded the law firm of Curtis & Hull.

Beth A. Moeller (’02) became a shareholder at Littler Mendelson PC in the Atlanta office. She represents employers in all aspects of employment, wage and hour, and civil rights matters before administrative agencies and in federal and state court litigation. She previously practiced with Ogletree Deakins in Atlanta.

James E. Warner III (’02) received the Oklahoma Bar Association Fern Holland Courageous Lawyer Award for his pro bono work challenging Oklahoma’s ban on same-sex marriage. He also received the Oklahoma County Bar Association Pro Bono Award. He works with the Oklahoma City law firm of Holladay & Chilton PLLC. His practice primarily involves insurance coverage litigation, arbitration and state and federal court civil litigation.

Betsy Ann Brown (’03) joined the Smalley Law Firm in Norman, Oklahoma. Her practice includes all areas of family law and appellate work.

Stanley L. Evans (’03) received the Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher Diversity Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association Diversity Committee in October 2014. In addition, Evans was honored at the HeartLine Festival of Hope as an individual, who through his community service, has provided hope to the Oklahoma City community. He was dean of students at OU Law from 2003 until his retirement in 2011, and continues to serve in a part-time advisory capacity.

Matthew D. Paque (’03) joined McAfee & Taft in Oklahoma City. His practice includes environmental permitting, regulatory compliance, enforcement defense and environmental issues in complex transactional matters. He previously served as assistant general counsel for Tronox Ltd.

Scott Inman (’04) was inducted into the Del City High School Alumni Hall of Fame. He is a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and serves as the minority leader.

Richard E. Smalley IV (’04) joined the Oklahoma City firm of Atkins & Markoff as an associate and will head the firm’s family law division. His practice will include divorce, child custody and spousal support.

Rachel B. Crawford (’05) became a shareholder of Newton, O’Connor, Turner & Ketchum, PC in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She represents clients in the areas of labor and employment and general litigation.

Chris Kannady (’05), of Oklahoma City, was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives. After active duty service in the U.S. Marine Corps as a judge advocate, he is now associated with The Federal Practice Group, representing active duty military members and veterans.

David A. Sturdivant (’05) was elected as a shareholder at Barrow & Grimm PC in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He focuses on complex commercial litigation and civil litigation.

Matthew B. Wade (’05) joined the Abel Law Firm in Oklahoma City. His primary area of practice is personal injury litigation. He previously worked at Angela D. Ailles & Associates.

Scott T. Banks (’06) opened his law firm, Banks Law PLLC, in Norman, Oklahoma. His practice includes family law, civil litigation, estate planning and tax disputes.

Joe Vorndran (’06) received the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association at its annual meeting in November. He is with Stuart & Clover PLLC in Shawnee, Oklahoma, where his practice includes general civil and commercial litigation, corporate law, alternative dispute resolution and municipal law.

Rick L. Warren (’06) was named a “Rising Star” in business/corporate law in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014. He is a partner with the Oklahoma City firm of Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville, where his practice includes business and commercial law, private placement securities offerings and sports franchises.
Ellen A. Adams (’07) became a shareholder of GableGotwals. Based in the firm’s Oklahoma City office, her practice primarily consists of prosecuting and defending corporate and individual clients in complex business litigation.

Ruth J. Addison (’07) joined Crowe & Dunlevy as an associate in the firm’s office in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She is a member of the litigation and trial, labor and employment, and white collar, compliance and investigations practice groups.

Matthew J. Allen (’07) became a partner at Conner & Winters in Oklahoma City. His practice focuses on oil and gas conservation matters before the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

Michael J. English (’07) joined Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he works in the firm’s litigation practice group. He formerly served as an assistant district attorney in Tulsa County.

Amber Hackett (’07) was appointed to the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners of Kansas City, Missouri. She is the director of corporate and community relations at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kansas City.

Thomas J. Hutchison (’07), of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was named a shareholder in GableGotwals. He is a member of the business and transaction group and maintains a diverse general business practice.

Nick Larby (’07) co-founded the firm of Dyer Coatney Larby & Acuña in Oklahoma City. His practice areas include business and commercial litigation, insurance disputes and general civil litigation.

Linda Pizzini (’07) was honored by the Oklahoma Bar Association Family Law Section as the Outstanding Family Law Attorney. She practices with the Pizzini Law Firm in Yukon, Oklahoma, focusing on family law.

Karolina D. Roberts (’08) became a member of the Oklahoma City firm of Elias, Books, Brown & Nelson PC. Her areas of practice include general litigation, oil and gas, bankruptcy and estate planning.

Carson C. Smith (’08) became an associate at Pierce Couch Hendrickson Baysinger & Green LLP in Oklahoma City. His areas of practice include civil rights, employment law and insurance defense. He previously practiced with Holden & Carr and Jennings Cook & Teague.

Jeff Virgin (’08) was elected district judge for Oklahoma District Court Judicial District 21. He previously served as a special judge and an assistant district attorney.

Stacey S. Chubbuck (’09) joined the Oklahoma City law firm Lytle, Soulé & Curlee as an associate. Her practice focuses on general and commercial litigation, product liability and insurance defense. She previously was an associate with Chubbuck, Duncan & Robey PC.

Jess M. Kane (’09) was named partner of the Robinett King firm in Bartlesville and Pawhuska, Oklahoma. His areas of practice include agricultural law, oil and gas, commercial and real estate transactions, and general civil litigation.

Stephanie L. Khoury (’09) joined the Given Law Firm in Oklahoma City. Her practice focuses on insurance defense, including personal injury, products liability and construction defects.

Evan W. Talley (’09) became an associate at Dunlop Codding PC in Oklahoma City. He will handle complex commercial transactions, business tort and intellectual property law. Prior to joining the firm, he practiced in the area of public utility litigation in Oklahoma and worked at an intellectual property firm in Los Angeles.

2010s

Kyle Neil Eastwood (’10), of Anadarko, Oklahoma, serves as chair of the board of directors for The Physicians’ Hospital in Anadarko. He is a managing partner of Buzbee, Upchurch, Squires & Eastwood.
Four members of the OU Law Class of 2011 were honored in October as 30 Under 30 Award Winners in Oklahoma City. Pictured, left to right, are Andy Campbell, Kelsey Quillian Renegar, Amanda Essaili and Jake Krattiger.

Michael L. Brooks (’10) was named a “Rising Star” in appellate matters in Oklahoma Super Lawyers 2014. He is an associate with the Oklahoma City firm of Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville, where his practice includes employment law, litigation and appeals.

Cullen D. Sweeney (’10) became an associate in the Oklahoma City office of Crowe & Dunlevy, where he is a member of the appellate and litigation and trial practice groups. He previously worked for the Oklahoma State Senate and served as a law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit.

Meredith W. Wolfe (’10) joined Crowe & Dunlevy as an associate in the firm’s litigation and trial, banking and financial institutions and bankruptcy and creditor’s rights practice groups in Oklahoma City. Her previous experience includes working as staff attorney at the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals and assistant general counsel with the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

Brittany J. Byers (’11) co-founded Voorhees Voorhees & Byers in Oklahoma City. Her primary practice areas include general civil litigation, estate planning, real estate and employment law.

Martin J. Howell (’11) joined DeBee Gilchrist in Oklahoma City. He is a member of the firm’s aviation group, with a practice focused on transactional matters relating to aircraft title, purchase, registration, finance and leasing. He previously worked in the oil and gas industry.

Ryan W. Schaller (’11) joined First American Title & Trust Company in Oklahoma City as residential counsel. He previously practiced in Enid, Oklahoma.

Taos Smith (’11) joined the Smalley Law Firm in Norman, Oklahoma. His practice is focused on litigation and trial practice, with an emphasis on criminal defense matters.

Jade Caldwell (’12) became an associate attorney with the Stinson Law Group in Edmond, Oklahoma. Her practice includes estate planning and litigation, probate, business and intellectual property law.

Jessica N. Cory (’12) won second place and the award for best written submission in the American Bar Association Section of Taxation Law Student Tax Challenge. She is on a leave of absence with Chamberlain Hrdlicka in Houston while completing an LL.M. in Taxation at New York University School of Law.

Shayna R. Feiler (’12) opened a law office in Oklahoma City. Her general civil practice will emphasize family law.

Mara K. Funk (’12) joined Evbank, Hennigh & McVay PLLC in Enid, Oklahoma. Her practice includes real estate and commercial transactions, title examination, and probate and estate litigation.

Sean C. Wagner (’12) became an associate at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Birmingham, Alabama, where he practices in the firm’s financial services litigation and compliance team. He previously served as a clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma.

David E. Burget (’13) joined Hall Estill as an associate in the Oklahoma City office.
Bert Ferrara (’13) was named associate general counsel for Legacy Reserves LP in Midland, Texas. His responsibilities include corporate and securities matters, oil and gas law and transactions and financial regulatory compliance.

Derek H. Ross (’13) joined Fellers Snider as an associate in the Oklahoma City office, where his practice focuses on election and campaign finance law, civil litigation, and white collar criminal defense. He previously served as a federal judicial law clerk.

Megan Basham (’14) became an associate at Huddleston Bolen LLP in Huntington, West Virginia. She works in the firm’s litigation department representing industrial companies.

Ammon Brisolara (’14) joined Denker & Butler PLLC in Oklahoma City as an associate. His practice areas include litigation, probate, criminal and family law.

Clay G. Ferguson (’14) joined the Oklahoma City law firm of Walker, Ferguson & Ferguson. His practice focuses on insurance defense litigation.

Erick W. Harris (’14) was named to the Tuskegee University Board of Trustees. He is an assistant attorney general in the Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General, where he serves in the public utility unit.

Andrew E. Henry (’14) became an associate in the Oklahoma City office of Crowe & Dunlevy. He is a member of the firm’s litigation and trial practice group.

Anna Imose (’14) joined McAfee & Taft as an associate in the firm’s Oklahoma City office. Her practice is focused on general civil litigation, including insurance litigation and complex business litigation.

Charles A. Knutter (’14) joined Crowe & Dunlevy as an associate in Oklahoma City. He works in the firm’s energy and natural resources practice group, as well as the litigation and trial practice group.
Emily Payne Kosmider (’14) became an associate with Norman Wohlgemuth Chandler Jeter Barnett & Ray in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her practice concentrates on complex civil litigation.

Harrison M. Kosmider (’14) joined the Tulsa, Oklahoma, firm of Newton, O’Connor, Turner & Ketchum PC as an associate. His practice focuses on complex business and general litigation.

Zachary R. Lee (’14) became an associate with Dunlap Codding PC in Oklahoma City. He prepares and prosecutes U.S. patent applications and conducts patent analyses. His technical area of focus is microbiology.

Joshua Merrill (’14) joined GableGotwals as an associate in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The primary focus of his practice is on transactional law.

Brett P. Merritt (’14) joined McAfee & Taft as an associate in the firm’s Oklahoma City office. He is a corporate lawyer with a practice that includes a broad range of complex business and commercial transactions.

Alix R. Newman (’14) became an associate with Norman Wohlgemuth Chandler Jeter Barnett & Ray in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her practice focuses primarily on complex civil litigation.

Emily Semands (’14) joined Thompson & Knight LLP as an associate in the Dallas office. Her practice concentrates on corporate and securities matters.

Matt Stacy (’14) founded the Stacy Legal Group LLP in Oklahoma City. His practice includes criminal defense, personal injury, estate planning and family law.

Ashley Weyland (’14), of Oklahoma City, joined the Busset Law Firm PC as an associate. Her practice areas include criminal defense and civil litigation, with a focus on family law and probate.

Casey M. Whetten (’14) joined McAfee & Taft as an associate in Oklahoma City. His practice focuses on intellectual property law.

We Remember

Glenn Dale Carter (’63)
James P. Cates (’89)
Ben P. Choate (’55)
Herbert Maxwell “Max” Darks (’51)
Gene Edwards (’49)
James O. Ellison (’51)
Charles Leonard Fagin (’61)
William Martin “Bill” Fancher (’50)
Jerry Fraley (’84)
Donald L. “Don” Furhman (’51)
Richard D. Hampton (’50)
Larry D. Hartzog (’59)
Lawrence "Larry" Henderson (’80)
Winfrey D. Houston (’50)
John Michael “Mickey” Imel (’59)
Daniel William Keller (’94)
Robert L. Lipstet (’68)
William H. “Bill” Mattingly (’58)
James W. “Jim” Musser (’75)
Charles Edward "Chuck" Payne (’58)
Nelson Eugene Ralston (’63)
G. Dan Rambo (’65)
Jack Marwood Short (’58)
Richard Neil “Dick” Steed (’52)
John G. Sullivan (’50)
Frank L. Thompson (’71)
Susan Arlene Winters (’90)