

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

ICLE: State Bar Series

MARCH 2017 GROUP MENTORING

**Co-Sponsored By:
Transition into Law Practice Program (TILPP)
Institute of Continuing Legal Education**

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of Georgia

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FOREWORD

The Institute is especially grateful to our outstanding Seminar Chairperson(s) for providing the necessary leadership, organization, and supervision that has brought this program into a reality. Indeed a debt of gratitude is particularly due our articulate and knowledgeable faculty, without whose untiring dedication and efforts this seminar would not have been possible. Their names are listed on the brochure for this program and their contributions to the success of this seminar are immeasurable.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a special thanks to each of you who are attending this seminar and for whom the program was planned. All of us hope your attendance will be most beneficial as well as enjoyable. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

March, 2017

Tangela S. King
Interim Director, ICLE

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Materials Were Not Submitted for the Following Presentations at the Time of Printing/Duplication:

THE INS AND OUTS OF HEALTHCARE LAW (MODEL MENTORING PLAN A, D & H)

Charlotte A. Combre, BakerHostetler LLP, Atlanta



Speaker Biographies

**TRANSITION INTO
LAW PRACTICE PROGRAM**

GROUP MENTORING

SPEAKER BIOS
(arranged alphabetically)

March 21, 2017

CHARLOTTE COMBRE



Charlotte Combre practices exclusively in the area of healthcare law, focusing primarily on the regulatory compliance of healthcare organizations. She has a depth of experience advising and representing healthcare clients on Medicare and Medicaid provider enrollment and claims reimbursement, as well as licensure and accreditation matters.

Charlotte regularly speaks on healthcare regulations, including having spoken at various seminars on the fundamentals of Medicare and Medicaid and the retention and confidentiality of medical records.

Experience

- Advising a client in connection with complex transactions involving acquisitions and arrangements with other healthcare providers and entities, including analysis of transactions, filing of licensure applications and notices, and preparing and filing more than 700 provider enrollment applications.
- Advising a client with eight pharmacies on Medicaid and Medicare claims reimbursement, Part D audits and DME enrollment.
- Acting as regulatory counsel for a multistate nurse registry providing infusion services.
- Preparing and advising on Medicare Provider Enrollment forms for Part A and Part B providers and DMEPOS suppliers.
- Advising a client on changes to licensure, licensure surveys and plans of correction.
- Advising tax-exempt clients on IRS Form 990, prohibited political activity and general tax-exemption compliance.
- Advising clients on the regulation of long-term care facilities, such as assisted living, home health and continuing care retirement communities.
- Advising private equity clients on regulatory issues in structure and investment in dental practices, home health agencies and ambulance services.
- Advising a client on the re-opening of a hospital, including applicable state licensure and CON requirements, Joint Commission and Medicare certification, and compliance with the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA).

Memberships

- American Health Lawyers Association
- GABWA Foundation: Board Member
- Gate City Bar Association
- Georgia Academy of Healthcare Attorneys

- Georgia State University Graduate Health Law Network: Advisory Board
- State Bar of Georgia, Health Law Section: Past Chair

Community

- Leadership DeKalb, Class of 2004
 - Board Member
 - Health Day
- Junior League of DeKalb County
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- All About Developmental Disabilities: Board Member

Pro Bono

Through work with the Georgia Asylum Immigration Network (GAIN), represents victims of human trafficking or domestic violence in obtaining T-visas or U-visas from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS).

Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- Georgia

Education

- J.D., Georgia State University College of Law, 1997
- B.A., Louisiana State University, 1988



AVARITA L. HANSON

Avarita L. Hanson, Atlanta attorney, was chosen in April 2006 by the Supreme Court of Georgia as the Executive Director of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism ("Commission"). She has 35 years of experience in legal and law-related environments, including her experience in legal education, private law practice, judiciary, legal aid and government (state, county and municipal).

Hanson graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard University (Radcliffe College) in 1975 and received her J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1978.

Prior to coming to the Commission, Hanson served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and was an Associate Professor at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. Before joining John Marshall, she headed special legal projects and was the executive director of the Health and Consumer Services Section of the Georgia Secretary of State's Office. She has served as an Associate Judge Pro Hac Vice for the Fulton County Juvenile Court, as Clerk to the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, and as the Pro Bono Project Director for the State Bar of Georgia and Georgia Legal Services Program. Prior to and between government positions, Ms. Hanson engaged in the private practice of law, starting as a civil litigator with the Houston, Texas office of Fulbright & Jaworski law firm.

A leader of the bar and numerous community organizations, Hanson was President of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, Gate City Bar Association, Harvard Club of Georgia, the Atlanta Chapter of the Links, Incorporated and served in leadership capacities in many other civic, social and community organizations. She is an active member of Cascade United Methodist Church and serves with its Legal and Culinary Ministries, The Atlanta, American, and National Bar Associations, Lawyers Club of Atlanta, Georgia Association for Women Lawyers, Leadership Atlanta, Outstanding Atlanta, Leadership Georgia, and Leadership America.

The recipient of many awards, Ms. Hanson was honored by the MultiBar Leadership Counsel with the Seth Kirschenbaum Diversity Award, named a Georgia Legal Services 2014 "Champion of Justice," recognized by the Trumpet Foundation at its High Tea and High Heels event and featured in the *Atlanta Tribune*, "Attorney's Corner: Avarita Hanson, Esq.: The Modern Renaissance Attorney," July 2013. In 2012, she was given the Alumni of the Year Award by Outstanding Atlanta and she received the 2011 Randolph Thrower Lifetime Achievement Award for Commitment to Equality from the State Bar of Georgia Committee to Promote Inclusion in the Profession. In 2007, she was inducted into the Gate City Bar Hall of Fame and received the Spirit of GABWA Award. She also received the Judge Barbara Harris Award for Community Service from GABWA, the R. Pruden Herndon Community Service Award from Gate City Bar and the Community Service Award for Peace and Justice from the Martin Luther King Jr. Center. Atlanta's John Marshall Law School named its chapter of the Black Law Students Association in her honor and presented its Legacy Award to her in 2006.

Affectionately called “Momma Rita” by the many younger attorneys she mentors, she is the author of the article on Reputation in the newly-published ABA book: *Essential Qualities of the Professional Lawyer*. Hanson is the author of many other articles in legal and community journals regarding lawyer professionalism and the history of African-American attorneys, as well as an award-winning amateur chef. She has been married to William Alexander, MD for 39 years and they are parents of two adult sons, Justin and Colin, and grandparents of Will.





MICHAEL LUCAS

Deputy Director

The Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (AVLF)

As Deputy Director, Michael is responsible for AVLF's day-to-day operations, managing its relationships in the community and overseeing all of the Foundation's provision of legal services. Michael previously served as the Director of Housing and Consumer Programs at AVLF, managing a variety of programs that provide legal representation to low-income individuals and litigating in the areas of landlord-tenant law, unpaid wages, debt-defense and debt collection.

Michael came to AVLF after working as a Staff Attorney for the Georgia Legal Services Program, representing low-income Georgians in a variety of civil matters. Prior to coming to Georgia, Michael was a fellow at Public Justice, P.C., a national public interest law firm in Washington, D.C.; he also spent several years working for change in the Texas state legislature. Michael, who holds a Masters in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin and a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley, spent his final year of law school studying at Harvard Law School and clerked for the Honorable Catherine C. Blake of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland in Baltimore before beginning his legal career.

In addition to his work at AVLF, Michael sits on the executive committees of the boards of directors of both the Public Interest Law Section of the Atlanta Bar Association and Lawyers for Equal Justice, one of the country's largest legal incubator programs, supporting new lawyers to start innovative, socially conscious law practices providing affordable services to low and moderate income clients. Michael has received numerous awards in recognition of his work in the community, including the Daily Report's "On the Rise Class of 2014", the Anti-Defamation League's "Stuart Eizenstat Young Lawyer Award" and the Georgia State College of Law's Public Interest Law Association's "Serving Others and Achieving Results (S.O.A.R.)" award.



CATHERINE M. SALINAS

*United States Magistrate Judge
Northern District of Georgia*

Katie Salinas is a United States Magistrate Judge in the Northern District of Georgia. A graduate of Emory University and the University of Texas School of Law, she began her legal career in 1994 at Texas Rural Legal Aid on the Mexican border. Judge Salinas returned to Atlanta in 1999 and worked as a staff attorney at the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, a Fulton County Public Defender, and then as a law clerk to United States District Judge Willis B. Hunt, Jr.. Immediately prior to joining the judiciary, Judge Salinas was a partner at the national law firm Carlton Fields, where she worked for ten years as a commercial litigator. Judge Salinas is a past president of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society and currently serves on the Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Georgia. She also enjoys participating in events sponsored by the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers.



MICHELLE WEST



Michelle West became Director of the Transition into Law Practice Program for the State Bar of Georgia in November of 2013. Previously, West was founder and owner of M West Legal, LLC, a general practice law firm, that focused primarily on family, juvenile, real estate and immigration law. She has practiced law in Georgia since 2002. Throughout her career, she has worked in various legal settings ranging from large law firm, small firm, nonprofit, public interest, in-house corporate, government sector and solo practice assisting clients with varied and diverse backgrounds. West is a certified mediator in

civil, domestic, juvenile delinquency and deprivation/dependency, and domestic violence matters.

West is a staff liaison to the Chief Justice Commission on Professionalism, the State Bar of Georgia Professionalism Committee, the Continuing Lawyer Competency Committee and the Law School Outreach Committee. Currently, President-Elect of the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers (GAWL); West has been a member of the GAWL since 2008 and has served as: the Gwinnett Chapter vice president and president; chair of the programs committee; and vice president and co-chair of the leadership committee. She has also served on the city of Lilburn Alcohol Review Board, the Partnership Gwinnett Diversity Leadership Council, the American Heart Association Go Red for Women Board, the People's Center Board, the Gwinnett Neighborhood Leadership Institute (GNLI) Growth and Infrastructure Day Planning Committee and the American Immigration Lawyers Association Donation's Committee. West currently serves on the Board of Forever family, Inc., Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful, and the city of Lilburn Planning Commission.

West received her J.D. from Emory University School of Law and her B.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University, where she studied International Law, Relations and Organization; receiving a certificate in Latin American studies; and proficiency status in the Spanish language. She attended academic programs in Ecuador, Canada, Italy, Spain and Costa Rica, and taught English at *La Escuela Politécnica Nacional* in Quito, Ecuador, through the World Teach Program. West is a graduate of Leadership Gwinnett, the Gwinnett Neighborhood Leadership Institute, the Lilburn Citizen's Police Academy, the Gwinnett Citizens Academy, the GAWL Leadership Academy, the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA) Judicial and Public Office Academy, and the State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy.

West's past speaking engagements include the National Legal Mentoring Consortium, GAWL Life in the Law Seminar Series, GAWL Leadership Academy, GABWA Professional Development Academy, Solo and Small Firm Seminar, GAWL New Lawyers Affinity Roundtable and the Family and Immigration Law Seminar. She currently speaks on mentoring and leadership. In her free time, West enjoys time with family and friends, hiking and exploring nature's magnificent wonders, and traveling the world.



JESSICA J. WOOD

Shareholder/Principal

Bodker, Ramsey, Andrews, Winograd & Wildstein, P.C.

Jessica has never lost a trial. Her practice areas include business torts, contracts, employment, and trade secrets/business information protection.

Jessica is one of the top 100 Super Lawyers in Georgia. She is recognized for promoting diversity and inclusion in the profession. Jessica hosts Water Cooler Office Hours, an innovative mentoring program, which allows pre-law students and law students to find role models and champions in a casual environment. She serves on the Advisory Boards of Atlanta Legal Aid Services and Good Thinking, Inc., and on the State Bar's Attorney Wellness and Access to Justice Committees.

