



SCBLA

South Carolina Black Lawyers Association

Newsletter

December 2020

Dear SCBLA Family,

I hope you are all enjoying the Holiday season as much as possible! If you are like me, the end of the year is a time for reflection on what was, and planning for what will be. As I look ahead, I am hopeful that what "will be" is a year of positivity defined by the regrowth and rebuilding of our great nation. I am also hopeful that the same applies to all of us individually and collectively as an organization. Things have been very different this year, but we have managed to press forward without missing a beat. We had our first ever virtual Annual Conference back in October that was a huge success, thanks to all of you! We launched the "10% Challenge" in which many of our members volunteered as poll watchers and boiler room attorneys on Election Day. We also watched and celebrated as our members were the recipients of awards and recognitions, as well as elections, re-elections and appointments to numerous prominent positions locally and nationally. To say I am proud to be a member of SCBLA is an understatement. I am constantly reminded of the immense talent within our organization and honored to be a part of this group!

On behalf of my fellow officers and myself, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and prosperous New Year! We will see you in 2021 as we continue to do the work and build on the legacy of our great organization.

Yours in Solidarity,
Breon



Breon
Walker
President



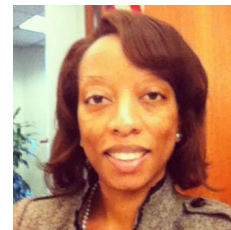
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Annual Conference (Meeting) Recap!

The SC Black Lawyers 18th Annual Conference was held, virtually, on October 23rd! We would like to thank you all for your support and participation. There were approximately 70 registered attendees!!

Though we were not able to fellowship in person, we had awesome organizers and a diverse range of interesting, informative, and timely topics! We had the pleasure of having Chief Justice Beatty provide updates from the Supreme Court and presenters covered topics ranging from ADR/Mediation Strategies to Workplace Violence and Employment Law to Voting Rights and Voter Suppression to State Ethics to Stress Management and Mental Health. Many thanks to all of our presenters and sponsors!

We would also like to extend a special thanks to our Annual Conference Committee and Co-Chairs, Lakesha Jeffries and Montrio Belton for their tireless efforts in planning such a successful conference!

We look forward to meeting in person for next year's Annual Conference!!

SCBLA CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES:

The following members were elected and re-elected to serve as Circuit Representatives for the 2021-2022 calendar years at the Annual Meeting:

- 1st Circuit: LaKeshia Jeffries
- 2nd Circuit: Everett Chandler
- 4th Circuit: Monty Bell
- 5th Circuit: Allyce Bailey
- 7th Circuit: Rosalyn Henderson-Myers
- 8th Circuit: Montrio Belton
- 9th Circuit: Natasha Chisolm
- 10th Circuit: Delane Rosemond
- 11th Circuit: Stanley Myers
- 13th Circuit: Vernon Dunbar
- 14th Circuit: Sabrina Johnson
- 15th Circuit: Carlos Johnson
- 16th Circuit: Brandy Price

There are **vacancies** for the Circuit Representative position in the **3rd Circuit** (Clarendon, Lee, Sumter, & Williamsburg counties), **6th Circuit** (Chester, Fairfield, & Lancaster counties), and **12th Circuit** (Florence & Marion counties). Please email [Jasmine](#) to be considered for this position. Please note that you must live in the county for which you will serve as Circuit Representative.

Election Day 2020 Recap!

Congratulations to our **LAWYER LEGISLATORS** who won on Nov. 3:

SC State Senate

- Karl Allen, District 7 (Greenville)
- Gerald Malloy, District 29 (Hartsville)
- Ronnie Sabb, District 32 (Greeleyville)
- Marlon Kimpson, District 42 (Charleston)
- Margie Bright Matthews, District 45 (Walterboro)

SC State House of Representatives

- Rosalyn Henderson Myers, District 31 (Spartanburg)
- Chris Hart, District 73 (Columbia)
- Todd Rutherford, District 74 (Columbia)
- Kambrell Garvin, District 77 (Columbia)
- Justin Bamberg, District 90 (Bamberg)
- Cezar McKnight, District 101 (Lake City)
- Deon Tedder, District 109 (North Charleston)
- **NEWLY ELECTED**
- Marvin Pendarvis, District 113 (North Charleston)

VOTER SUPPRESSION/VOTER PROTECTION

A record number of polling precincts (over 700) were covered across the State due to the heightened interest in the Graham/Harrison Senate Race with official (virtual) regional boiler rooms in every congressional district. However, due to high absentee voting prior to Election Day, there were very few complaints of voter suppression on November 3!

PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Sitting President, Donald Trump, received about 55% of the vote in South Carolina, similar to what he received in 2016. He was also able to flip two counties that went blue in 2016 - Clarendon and Dillon. President Trump also made small gains in most counties, with the exception of Charleston and Richland, where he lost by greater margins.

Statewide, President-Elect Joe Biden received about 10,000 more votes than Hillary Clinton received in 2016.

SENATE RACE

Senator Lindsey Graham received 54.44% of the vote (approx. 16,000 less votes statewide than Trump) while Jaime Harrison received 44.17% of the vote (approx. 19,000 more votes statewide than Biden).

VOTER TURNOUT

The South Carolina Election Commission reports that 2,533,010 people voted, representing 72.10% of registered voters. This is an increase from the 2016 turnout (67.86%). More notably, this year's turnout is the second highest in 27 years (2008 was the highest with 76%).

COVID-19 IMPACT AND ABSENTEE VOTING

A historic number of people voted absentee (approx. 441,000, compared to approx. 133,000 in 2016) due to the relaxed requirements in response to COVID-19. Despite several changes in the witness signature requirement, only .7% of absentee ballots were not counted due to missing witness signatures, compared to 1.18% in 2016.

Annoucnements

The **Stanley Law Group** is proud to welcome attorney **Breon C. M. Walker** to the team. Breon is a graduate of the University of South Carolina Honors College and Emory University School of Law. She is an accomplished courtroom advocate with 15 years of experience as a trial lawyer. Breon will handle wrongful death and serious personal injury claims resulting from automobile, truck and tractor trailer, motorcycle and slip and fall accidents. She will also handle products liability claims.

Pay your **SC Bar Dues** by **January 1, 2021**. You can pay your license fees at www.sctbar.org/renewdues. Don't forget to renew your SCBLA Membership for!

Don't forget that you must verify your contact information in the Court's Attorney Information System at www.sccourts.org/ais before you can pay license fees.

****Submissions for the e-Newsletter are to be made by midnight on the last Sunday of each month!****

The [Gist Law Firm, P.A.](#), located at 4400 N. Main St., Columbia, South Carolina 29203 has an **Associate Attorney** vacancy:

The Gist Law Firm, P.A., is an established, full service law firm, which represents clients throughout South Carolina and the United States on employment law matters, contractual business disputes, and personal injury cases against governmental entities and companies both large and small. The Gist Law Firm also handles criminal defense cases, probate, and family law matters. This firm is seeking a full-time, associate attorney who is capable of handling case file management, discovery review, depositions, mediations, writing and arguing motions, case negotiations, client and witness interviews, and legal research. This firm will offer the selected candidate a comprehensive employee benefits package.

- **Deadline to apply is January 15, 2021**
- Response method(s): Email: imaninewborn.gistlawfirm@gmail.com
- Materials requested:
 - Résumé, Grade sheet (unofficial transcript), Writing sample, and References.

Candidates must be a member of South Carolina Bar and have completed or are in the process of completing Rule 403 requirements. Candidates with 0-2 years of experience in practicing law is preferred. Successful candidates must possess excellent communication, legal research and writing skills.

Contact Us



@SCBlackLawyers



South Carolina Black Lawyers Association

P.O. Box 1092 Columbia, SC 29202