



The Mississippi Bar's Women in the Profession Section is proud to host the 31st Annual Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series in Cleveland at the West End District on January 19 & 20. This the premier CLE for women lawyers in Mississippi is named for the late Lt. Gov. Evelyn Gandy, whose passion for public service and mentorship is embodied in the programming of this two-day event. Six hours of CLE credit, including ethics, is available to attendees in addition to opportunities to socialize and network with fellow women in our profession.

Agenda:

Thursday, January 18

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm **Networking Social** (Bar Fontaine, Cotton House Hotel)

Friday, January 19

11:30 am – 1:00 pm **Registration and Lunch**
Sponsored by Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP

1:00 – 1:15 pm **Welcome**

1:15 – 2:15 pm **The Gandy Hour – *A Life of Public Service***
Sponsored by Mississippi College School of Law

A panel of women lawyers discuss how they are living out Lieutenant Governor Gandy's passion for public service in their own careers.

- Deanne Mosley, Jackson
- Ashley M. May, Jackson
- Leah R. Smith, Jackson
- Katharine McKee Surkin, Jackson

2:15 – 2:30 pm **Break**

Friday, January 19

2:30 – 3:30 pm

Breakout Sessions:

Who Says You Can't Have it All? Finding the Balance

This panel will discuss different aspects of balancing work with life no matter which season you find yourself.

- Judge Selene Maddox, Aberdeen
- Jenny Tyler Baker, Biloxi (MB President)
- Stacey Moore Buchanan, Jackson
- Leah Ledford, Ridgeland

Litigation Skills: Building a Better Direct Examination

Sponsored by Bossier & Associates, PLLC

An experienced panel of female litigators will facilitate an interactive session on how to build and deliver a persuasive direct examination.

- Lindsay Cranford, Jackson
- Tangi Carter, Hattiesburg
- Candance Gregory, Jackson

Transactional Skills: Contracts, Taxes, and Real Estate, Oh My!

Sponsored by Bradley

An experienced panel of female business lawyers discuss advising clients on issues related to contracts, tax, real estate, and other matters.

- Elizabeth Boone, Jackson
- Amarette Speights, Tupelo
- Ashley Wicks, Ridgeland

3:30 – 3:45 pm

Break

Friday, January 19

3:45 – 4:45 pm

Breakout Sessions:

Should I Stay or Should I Go? A Panel Discussion on Access to Justice in Rural Areas

This Panel will discuss the importance of rural practice in Mississippi and the ins and outs of doing so.

- Judge Toni Terrett, Vicksburg
- Heather Hall, Jackson
- Nicole McLaughlin, Tupelo
- Jennifer Adams-Williams, Grenada

Your Response, Counselor?: Developing Professional Resilience and Confidence

This interactive workshop focuses on best practices to respond to professional obstacles we all encounter, with emphasis on team dynamics, navigating around bias, and strengthening leadership skills. Participants will work in small groups led by team mentors to discuss scenarios, resulting in new ideas and inspiration to be more resilient and confident in the workplace.

- Meta Copeland, Ridgeland
- Colleen Welch, Ridgeland
- Team Mentors: Judge Debra Brown, Justice Dawn Beam, Judge Virginia Carlton, Judge Latrice Westbrooks, Judge Deborah McDonald, Judge Cynthia Brewer, Judge Crystal Wise Martin

Getting Down to Business – A View From Corporate Counsel

Business surrounds us in the practice of law, whether it is running your own office or representing clients. This panel of experienced Corporate Counselors has the tactics and tips needed by all.

- Heather Bennett, Jackson
- Lauren Lawhorn, Ridgeland

6:00 pm

**Dinner and Silent Auction at The GRAMMY Museum
Mississippi**

Sponsored by Butler Snow LLP

Saturday, January 20

8:00 – 8:30 am **Breakfast**

8:30 – 9:30 am ***Artificial Intelligence: Some Things Change While Others Remain the Same (Ethics)***

Sponsored by Phelps Dunbar LLP

What is it, how to use it and meeting your ethical obligations along the way.

- William Newman, Hattiesburg

9:30 – 9:45 am **Break**

9:45 – 10:45 am ***Talkin’ ‘Bout my Generation – The ABCs of Intergenerational Communication***

Sponsored by The University of Mississippi School of Law

Learn the basics of communication across generational lines.

- Brittany Barbee, Oxford

10:45 – 11:00 am **Break**

11:00 am – 12:00 pm ***The West Hour – The Importance of Mentorship and Overcoming Its Challenges***

Sponsored by Baker Donelson

This panel will discuss the importance of mentorship, challenges encountered with formal mentoring programs and ways to overcome them.

- LaToya Merritt, Jackson
- Kristine Roberts, Memphis
- Rebecca Wiggs, Ridgeland

12:00 – 12:15 pm **Closing Remarks**

12:15 pm Lunch on your own and a chance to explore our host city.

Hotel Accommodations

A room block has been set up at the Lyric Hotel in Cleveland for the group at a rate of \$119.00 a night. This rate applies to a Standard King or a Double Queen room. Please contact the Lyric at 662-441-3901 and mention “MS Bar Association Block” when making your reservation to get the special rate. The room block expires on January 10, 2024.