

REGISTRATION OPEN

THE 30TH ANNUAL  
**EVELYN GANDY**  
LECTURE SERIES

**JAN. 27 & 28, 2023**

MERIDIAN, MS | THE RILEY CENTER | THREEFOOT HOTEL

The Mississippi Bar's Women in the Profession Section is proud to host the 30th Annual Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series in Meridian at the MSU Riley Center on January 27 & 28, 2023. The Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series is the premier CLE for women lawyers in Mississippi. It 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 26, 2023**

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm            Networking Social (Threefoot Brewing Company) Hosted by Kacey Bailey, Glover, Young, Hammack, Walton & Simmons, PLLC

**Friday, January 27, 2023**

9:00 am – 11:30am            Optional Visit to the MAX (Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Experience)

11:30 am – 1:00 pm            Registration and Lunch (Grand Lobby)

1:00 – 1:15 pm                Welcome (Historic Theater)

1:15 – 2:15 pm

**Let's Get Updated** (Historic Theater) Sponsored by  
Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP

*Updates from our Bench & Bar. Join us for updates from a representative of the following: our Mississippi Bar, our Mississippi trial courts, our Mississippi appellate courts, and our Mississippi district courts. The hour will conclude with a recap of new and proposed legislation effecting women and children in our state. This presentation will include the following:*

- Justice Dawn Beam, Mississippi Supreme Court
- Judge Sharion Aycock, U.S. District Court Northern District of Mississippi
- Judge Veldore Young Graham, Lauderdale County Court
- Commissioner Andrea Sanders, Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services
- Jenny Tyler Baker, Carr Allison

2:15 – 2:30 pm

Break

2:30 – 3:30 pm

Breakout Sessions:

**She Ran:** (Room 3B) Sponsored by Bossier & Associates, PLLC

*A panel of elected judges discussing their recent campaign process, from start to finish. The legacy of Evelyn Gandy promotes public service. This panel includes the following:*

- Judge Virginia Carlton, Court of Appeals Presiding Judge (District 4, Place 1)
- Judge Cynthia Brewer, Chancery Court Judge (11th District)
- Judge Alison Baker, Harrison County Court Judge
- Judge Michelle Easterling, Circuit Court Judge (District 16, Place 3)

**Let's Get on Board:** (Room 3C) Sponsored by Wells Marble Attorneys at Law

*A conversation about the tools we need to succeed when serving on a board. Lawyers play a vital role in connecting our communities. Many lawyers accept positions on nonprofit boards to support causes they believe in or to further their personal, professional, and philanthropic goals, but are not prepared for the conflicts and other professional issues that may confront them during their board service. Join us for this conversation about paths to the boardroom, board expectations, and board responsibilities. This panel includes the following:*

- Judge Latrice Westbrook, Mississippi Court of Appeals
- Margaret Oertling Cupples, Bradley

- Mary L. Purvis, Mississippi College School of Law
- Moderator: Sampada Kapoor, Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP

**The Cannabis Codes** (Room 3D) Sponsored by Bradley

*A discussion about Mississippi's new medical marijuana laws with women lawyers on the forefront of this new industry. This hour will include an overview of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act and regulations adopted by the Department of Health and Department of Revenue that govern the cannabis businesses.*

- Marcy Croft, Mockingbird
- Kelly Williams, Kelly's Green
- Moderator: Clare Millette, Cosmich, Simmons & Brown

3:30 – 3:45 pm                      Break

3:45 – 4:45 pm                      Breakout Sessions:

**The Defenders: A viewing of the documentary “The Defenders: How Lawyers Protected the Movement”** (Room 3C) Sponsored by Butler Snow

*During the civil rights movement, three of the only four Black lawyers in Mississippi were joined by attorneys from around the country to work on civil rights cases to protect the constitutional freedoms and guarantees of equality and justice that form the foundation of this country. Lawyers from The NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) were dispatched to work on cases where Black people were unfairly jailed or killed. Constance Baker Motley, who in 1966 became the nation's first African American woman to serve as a federal judge, was one of those lawyers. Another lawyer featured is lawyer Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president emerita of the Children's Defense Fund. Edelman was the first African American woman admitted to the Mississippi Bar in 1964, then began practicing law with the NAACP Legal Fund's Mississippi office. Following the film join us for a discussion about the lasting impact of the lawyers featured in the film.*

- Denise Owens, Recently Retired Chancellor Hinds County
- Constance Slaughter Harvey, Attorney at Law
- Jennifer Riley Collins, Attorney at Law

## **She Litigates: Female Litigators in a Male-Dominated Industry (Room 3B)**

Sponsored by Butler Snow

*Women lawyers continue to be overwhelmingly underrepresented in the courtroom - especially in the civil and complex litigation space but the female litigators on this panel are some of the best in our state. These women are the definition of experienced litigators and in this session will dive into their experiences and their suggestions for female lawyers litigating in a male-dominated industry.*

- Sheila Bossier, Bossier & Associates
- Christina Nunez, Balch & Bingham
- Amanda Alexander, Taylor, Quintairos, Prieto, Wood, & Boyer
- Rebecca Wiggs, Butler Snow

## **Using Interpreters: The use of language interpreters in law practice (Room 3D)**

Sponsored by Brunini

*This presentation will discuss the considerations you should make when language barriers arise in your practice. The Mississippi Court Interpreter Credentialing Program has been developed by the Administrative Office of Courts in order to assist Mississippi courts in their endeavor to provide equal access to justice for limited English proficiency individuals.*

- Deenie Miller, Language Access Coordinator for Administrative Office of Courts

5:00 pm Happy Hour Networking (The Boxcar, located on the rooftop of the Threefoot Hotel)

6:00 pm Dinner and Silent Auction (Jean's, 820 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Meridian)

## **Saturday, January 28, 2022**

8:00 – 8:30 am Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 am CLE Session

## **Embracing a Changing Society: From DNA & Drug Tests to Digital Footprints & Podcasts (Exhibit Hall) Sponsored by Phelps Dunbar**

*This hour will address how advances in science and technology and the accessibility to these advances are impacting the practice of law in all types of cases. Panelists will discuss our "duty to Google",*

*using digital evidence in court, the varying types of drug tests and DNA tests, and the inevitable correlation between legal podcasts and professionalism. This panel will include:*

- Kassie Coleman, 10th Circuit Court District Attorney
- Judge Faye Peterson, Circuit Court Judge (7<sup>th</sup> District)
- Brandy Jones, Owner of Capital DNA Testing
- Moderator: LaTanya Allen, Attorney at Law

9:30 – 9:45 am                      Break

9:45 – 10:45 am                    **The West Hour**

**A Stressful Profession: Purposeful Approaches for a Healthier Practice (Ethics Hour)** (Exhibit Hall) Sponsored by the University of Mississippi School of Law

*This panel will discuss the stress and vicarious trauma often present in our profession and the ways we can purposefully respond. The discussion will include the work of the Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program and how LJAP can help, Ole Miss law school's new initiatives including the Student Wellness Program and Well-Being Pledge for Employers, and we will be given some tools and techniques to promote nervous system resilience by incorporating techniques such as breathing practices, grounding exercises, mindfulness training and yoga principles.*

- Dean Susan Duncan, University of Mississippi School of Law
- Bonnie Bridgers Smith, Bridgers Smith, PLLC
- Courtney Taylor Trawick, Owner of Wild Soul Yoga

10:45 – 11:00 am                    Break

11:00 am – 12:00 pm                **The Gandy Hour**

**The Life and Career of Evelyn Gandy** (Exhibit Hall) Sponsored by Baker Donelson

*"Evelyn Gandy shattered glass ceilings and blazed a mighty trail for the women in the State of Mississippi to excel in law and politics," said Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch. "She was a strong advocate for all of Mississippi's people, regardless of color or ethnicity." Edythe Evelyn Gandy was born in 1920, only days after the 19th Amendment was ratified and granted women the right to vote in the United States. Gandy would become the first woman to hold constitutional statewide office in Mississippi when she was elected state treasurer in 1959. She went on to win elections for insurance commissioner in 1972 and lieutenant governor in 1975. We will revisit the legacy of Lt. Governor Gandy and view some of the special historical pieces from her personal collection.*

- Attorney General Lynn Fitch
- Jennifer Ingram Johnson, Civil Solutions

12:00 – 12:15 pm            Closing Remarks

12:15 pm                      Lunch on your own and optional activities

12:15 pm to 5:00pm        Optional Visit to the MAX (Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Experience)

### **Hotel Accommodations**

The room block at the Threefoot Hotel is sold out. The hotel is completely booked for the night of Friday, January 27th. Additional rooms have been secured at the Fairfield Inn which is a ten (10) minute drive from the conference. To secure your room at the Fairfield Inn please call 601-453-3851.

An Evelyn Gandy room block has been set up at the Holiday Inn in Meridian for the group at a rate of \$129.00 a night. This rate applies to a Standard King or a Double Queen room. The Holiday Inn will provide conference transportation upon request. Guests may call the hotel directly at 601-693-0160 and mention Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series.