



Tracy Morganti
Public Finance Practice Team Leader

Tracy Morganti Named Public Finance Practice Team Leader

Bond counsel and economic development attorney, [Tracy Averett Morganti](#), a partner in the firm's Baton Rouge office, has been named our Public Finance Practice Team Leader. Adams and Reese has a long-standing reputation for its strength in public finance, economic development and the government relations arenas. [Read more](#)



April Smith Named Partner New to Adams and Reese

[April D. Smith](#) has been named as a Partner in 2016. Smith joined the Adams and Reese Mobile office in 2005 as part of the Transactions and Corporate Advisory Services Practice Group. She is licensed to practice law in both Alabama and Florida. Smith primarily represents financial institutions, businesses and individuals in matters involving financing transactions; commercial property and timberland acquisitions and sales; workouts of complex commercial transactions; banking and creditor's rights litigation; and the mergers, acquisitions and sales of businesses. [Read more](#)



Lara White Receives Mediator Certification and Named ADR Practice Team Leader

New Orleans Partner [Lara E. White](#) recently completed mediator training through the American Arbitration Association. She is listed on the approved Register of Civil Mediators maintained by the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association, and she is available for mediations and special master appointments. White has also been named practice team leader of the Adams and Reese ADR Team.

Working Together To Meet Our Clients' Needs

New Orleans Litigation Partner [Laurie Briggs Young](#) recently represented a Birmingham-based transportation and logistics provider in litigation proceedings surrounding an 18-wheeler collision case. During the course of the proceedings, Laurie, along with New Orleans Partner Kyle Potts, referred the client to our Birmingham-based Transportations and Logistics Team. In February, Laurie, along with Nashville Partner and Transportation and Logistics Team Leader Tony Swafford, traveled to Birmingham for a site visit. The two toured the client's multiple entities in the area and worked to solidify a new client relationship. Laurie, Kyle and Tony's teamwork is another great example of how our attorneys in various offices can pool their collective talents in order to help clients achieve their business objectives.



Erica Bindom Joins New Orleans Office

Staff Attorney [Erica J. Bindom](#) has joined the New Orleans office as a member of the Litigation Practice Team. Practicing law since 2010, Bindom has experience in environmental and toxic tort litigation, personal injury, construction litigation and premises liability. She previously served as a law clerk to the Hon. Veronica E. Henry, First City Court for the Parish of Orleans and to the Hon. Roland L. Belsome, Fourth Circuit Louisiana Court of Appeal, New Orleans, Louisiana. [Read more](#)



Anna Davis Joins Birmingham Office

Associate [Anna Davis](#) has joined the Birmingham office as a member of the Special Business Services Practice Group, focusing on litigation and government relations. Davis earned her J.D. from the University of Alabama School of Law. In the community, she is a junior board member of Oasis Counseling for Women and Children; a member of the Birmingham-Southern Young Alumni Council, and a member of the Canterbury United Methodist Church. [Read more](#)



Natalie Maples Joins Baton Rouge Office

Associate [Natalie K. Maples](#) has joined the Baton Rouge office as a member of the Transactions and Corporate Advisory Services Practice Group. Maples previously served as general counsel and litigator in real estate transactions and tax credit issues and provided consultation on business factoring loan matters. Additionally, she served as general counsel in tenant eviction, construction contract review and creditor's rights matters. [Read more](#)



(L-R): Shelby Yoder, Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) staffer; Nashville songwriter Ashley Gorley; Adams and Reese Partner [Linda Edell Howard](#); USCO Register Maria Pallante; Bart Herbison, NSAI Executive Director; USCO General Counsel Jacqueline Charlesworth; and Nashville songwriter Lee Thomas Miller.

Linda Edell Howard and Music Executives Meet with U.S. Register of Copyrights and General Counsel to Discuss Copyright Issues

On April 20, 2016, Nashville Music Row Partner [Linda Edell Howard](#) met with U.S. Register of Copyrights Maria Pallante and U.S. Copyright Office General Counsel Jacqueline Charlesworth to discuss client matters concerning important copyright issues that face the songwriting community, including terminations.

Linda Edell Howard Among Top Female Music Industry Execs For WHO KNEW Presents: Women Who Rock

Music industry executives gathered in Nashville on Thursday, March 10, 2016 for WHO KNEW Presents: Women Who Rock, a panel featuring several top music industry members, including Nashville Music Row Partner [Linda Edell Howard](#). The executives shared stories and career advice, and emphasized the importance of empowering women in the entertainment industry with 500 attendees. [Read more](#)



(L-R): Tracy Gershon (Rounder Records), Ree Guyer Buchanan (Wrensong Music Publishing), Marcie Allen (MAC Presents), Julie Boos (Flood, Bumstead, McCready & McCarthy), [Linda Edell Howard](#) (Adams and Reese LLP), Sloane Scott (FLO.CO), Heather McBee (Nashville Entrepreneur Center) and Leslie Fram (CMT) celebrate a successful evening at WHO KNEW™ Presents: Women Who Rock Thursday, March 10 at 3rd and Lindsley.
Photo by Autumn Haile/MusicRow.com

Congratulations to our GRAMMY® Winners!

Entertainment Partners [Linda Edell Howard](#) and [Lynn Morrow](#) are pleased to congratulate their 2016 GRAMMY-winning Nashville- Music Row clients. Their clients – The SteelDrivers, The Nashville Symphony, Francesca Battastelli, and Nathan Chapman – each took home awards at the 58th GRAMMY Awards at Staples Center in Los Angeles February 15, 2016.

Our GRAMMY® Winning clients included:

2016 Best Bluegrass Album – The SteelDrivers, “The Muscle Shoals Recordings”

2016 Best Classical Compendium – “Paulus: Three Places of Enlightenment; Veil of Tears and Grand Concerto,” Giancarlo Guerrero – Conductor; Performed by the Nashville Symphony

2016 Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance/Song - Francesca Battistelli, “Holy Spirit”

2016 Album of the Year – Taylor Swift, “1989,” Producer – Nathan Chapman

Congratulations to our Adams and Reese Women Attorneys named Among 2016 Super Lawyers®



Kathleen Drew
Partner
Environmental Litigation



Leslie Lanusse
Partner
Labor & Employment



Patty McMurray
Partner
Real Estate



Elizabeth Roussel
Partner
Employee Litigation:
Defense



Janis van Meerveld
Partner
Labor & Employment

Adams and Reese had 30 attorneys named to the 2016 list of Louisiana Super Lawyers and Rising Stars, which appeared in the January 2016 issue of *Louisiana Super Lawyers* magazine published by Law & Politics. Only five percent of attorneys in Louisiana receive this honor.

Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters business, is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.



Liz Roussel
"Leadership in Law" Honoree

Liz Roussel Selected as "Leadership in Law" Honoree

New Orleans Partners **Elizabeth A. Roussel** and **Johnny L. Domiano, Jr.**, have been named to *New Orleans CityBusiness* Newspaper's 2016 "Leadership in Law" Class. Roussel and Domiano will be recognized along with their fellow honorees at a cocktail

reception taking place May 16, 2016 at the New Orleans Museum of Art. Liz will also be featured in a special insert profiling all 2016 "Leadership in Law" honorees in a special edition of *New Orleans CityBusiness*. [Read more](#)



Jamie Olinto
"Top 40 Under 40" Honoree

Jamie Olinto Named "40 Under 40" Honoree

Jacksonville Associate **Jamie Olinto** has been named to *Jacksonville Business Journal's* "40 Under 40" list of the brightest and most promising professionals in Northeast Florida. Olinto will be recognized along with

her fellow honorees at the newspaper's 16th Annual 40 Under 40 Awards, taking place April 26, 2016 at Renaissance World Golf Village Resort in St. Augustine, Florida.

Honors / Recognitions

Marilyn Mullen Healy Appointed Legal Counsel for Tampa Chamber of Commerce



Tampa Partner **Marilyn Mullen Healy** has been appointed legal counsel for the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, effective Jan. 1, 2016. In her new role, Healy provides legal counsel to the Chamber, advising on national, state and local issues as well as in special interest situations. She also serves as parliamentarian for the organization and represents the Chamber publicly as legal counsel. [Read more](#)

Leslie Henry Elected Fellow of Texas Bar Foundation



Houston and New Orleans Partner **Leslie M. Henry** has been elected a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, one of the highest distinctions that can be bestowed upon a member of the State Bar of Texas. The honor recognizes Henry's outstanding contributions to the legal profession as well as her commitment to the community. [Read more](#)

Ann Huckstep Selected Among 2016 "Top Flight Attorneys"



Birmingham Of Counsel **Ann Huckstep** has been recognized as a "Top Flight Attorney" by Birmingham, Alabama publications *B-Metro* and *BHM Biz*. "Top Flight Attorneys" are those with a proven history of guiding clients to successful outcomes. [Read more](#)

Leslie Lanusse Named BTI Client Service All-Star for Sixth Consecutive Year



New Orleans Partner **Leslie A. Lanusse** has been named a 2016 BTI Client Service All-Star for the sixth consecutive year. The honor, which is awarded by BTI Consulting Group through extensive independent research and interviews with corporate counsel, recognizes Lanusse's commitment to putting

clients first and delivering outstanding results. [Read more](#)

Tara Naful Selected To Participate in 2016 Diversity Leaders Initiative Program

Columbia Partner **Tara E. Naful** is one of 42 leaders selected from sectors across South Carolina to participate in the 2016 Spring Midlands Class of the Riley Institute at Furman University's Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI) program. Naful was selected following a stringent nomination and voting process. Upon completion of the five-month-long program, she will join a force of more than 1,500 Riley Fellows who are members of a powerful, cross-sector statewide network examining critical issues throughout South Carolina and driving positive change. [Read more](#)



Jannea Rogers Appointed to Advisory Board for MRAWL

Mobile Partner **Jannea S. Rogers** has been appointed to the Advisory Board for the Mobile Bar Association Women Lawyers Section (MRAWL) for a one-year term. Rogers will be one of seven advisors to the Women Lawyers Section, an unofficial sub-section of the Mobile Bar Association. The appointment is Rogers' first term on the board.

[Read more](#)



Laura Rose's Pro Bono Work Featured in Portico Jackson

Jackson Partner **Laura Rose** was featured in a January 2016 *Portico Jackson* article highlighting the pro bono experiences of Jackson area attorneys. Rose discussed her passion for pro bono work. "It gives me the opportunity to work with people in need, but can't normally get my services," she said in the piece. "I love all the details of pro bono work, whether it's probating an estate or establishing a guardianship or conservatorship. I also admire other attorneys who are willing to tackle pro bono work." [Read more](#)





Seminars and Presentation Highlights

Adams and Reese attorneys and advisors are frequent speakers, moderators and presenters at legal, industry, conference, seminar and community groups on a variety of legal and practice specific topics on national and regional levels.



New Orleans Associate **Katherine Cazayoux Brownlee**, along with New Orleans Partners Janis Van Meerwald and Brooke Duncan III, presented a "Labor and Employment Law Update Including FLSA" at the Society of Louisiana CPAs' 2015 Human Resources Workshop on November 16, 2015 in New Orleans, Louisiana.



New Orleans Partner and Diversity Committee Chair **Jaimmé A. Collins** presented "Special Education and Disciplining Students," a professional development training seminar for KIPP New Orleans leadership on December 9, 2015 and "Creating a Safe Student Environment" on November 15, 2015.



Jacksonville Special Counsel **Susan E. Mack** presented an "Update On Arbitrator Concerns" ethics presentation at the ARIAS U.S. 2015 Fall Conference and Annual Meeting in New York City on November 13, 2015.



Jackson Partner **Elizabeth Lee Maron** and Associate **Jessica I. Morris** presented "Legal Issues Facing School Districts" to the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents on January 26, 2016 in Jackson, Mississippi. The women presented along with Jackson Partners John S. Hooks and James A. Keith. Along with Keith and Jackson/Memphis Partner Scott Jones, Maron also presented "Public School Construction: 10 Questions Before Contracting" at the Mississippi School Board Association Fall Leadership Conference on November 10, 2015 in Jackson.



Nashville-Music Row Partner **Lynn Morrow** participated as a panelist at a SXSW panel "Developing the Artist's Career with their Money or Others" on March 18, 2016 in Austin, Texas.



Nashville Partner **Margaret R. T. Myers** participated as a panelist at Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Alabama's inaugural Workplace Inclusion Business Summit in Birmingham, Alabama on November 12, 2015.



Houston Labor and Employment Seminar

Houston Partner **Pamela D. Williams** and Nashville Partner **Margaret R. T. Myers** joined partners from Houston, Mobile and New Orleans to present at the firm-hosted client seminar "Employment Law in 2016 and Beyond: Exploring Uncharted Territory" on January 29, 2016 at Brennan's of Houston. Marina Guerra, Enforcement Supervisor for the Houston Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, gave the keynote.



Columbia Partner **Tara E. Nauful** participated as a speaker on a panel titled "Civility Now: More Than Just the Ethical Practice of Law" at the American Bankruptcy Institute's 40th Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar on March 31, 2016 in Clearwater, Florida.



Tampa Partner **Lynn Welter Sherman** presented "Basic Transactional Law," a seminar on the Uniform Commercial Code, to The Florida Bar Business Law Section on March 24, 2016 in Tampa, Florida.



New Orleans Partner **Janis van Meerveld**, along with U.S. Magistrate Judge Jay Wilkinson, presented "Federal Civil Rules Amendments: You Need To Know These Changes" at the ABA Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Liaison Committee meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana on February 17, 2016. Van Meerwald also presented "Investigating Employee Misconduct; A Guide to Effective HR Investigations" at a CFO Seminar on November 19, 2015 in New Orleans.



Houston Partner **Pamela D. Williams** presented "Employment Law in 2016 and Beyond: Exploring Uncharted Territory," along with Houston Partner Collin G. Warren at the Southwest HR in Your Neighborhood Meeting organized by HR Houston, an affiliate of the Society for Human Resource Management on February 9, 2016 in Houston, Texas. Also with Warren, Williams presented "Hot Employment Issues for 2016 and Beyond" at a firm-hosted Current Developments in Employment Law Seminar on November 10, 2015 in Houston.



New Orleans Partner **Lara White** served as moderator of "Tools to Hit a Bullseye At Your Next Mediation," at the ABA Section of Litigation: Environmental, Mass Torts and Products Liability Litigation CLE seminar, which took place in Park City, Utah on January 23, 2016.

Women's Initiative Leaders



Jaimmé Collins
Partner
New Orleans
Diversity Committee Chair
Women's Initiative
Committee Chair



Lara White
Partner
New Orleans
Women's Initiative
Committee Chair
Newsletter Editor



Victoria P. White
Partner
New Orleans
Women's Initiative
Committee Chair

**Women's Initiative
Committee Members**

- Marilyn Mullen Healy
Partner, Tampa
- Tara Naufal
Partner, Columbia

**New Orleans Labor and Employment
Client Seminar**

Adams and Reese held its third annual "Current Trends in Labor and Employment Law" client seminar at the Arbor Room at Popp Fountain at New Orleans City Park April 12th. The seminar has become a mainstay for our firm's labor and employment attorneys and clients each spring. In this year's sessions, attorneys gave presentations covering changes to the Fair Labor Standard Act and compliance strategies, a primer on the Occupational, Health, and Safety Administration's 2015 and 2016 initiatives, perspectives on millennial employment issues, and a discussion about Americans with



Shelly Howat presenting at "Current Trends in Labor and Employment Law" seminar.

Disabilities Act management techniques. More than 100 human resource professionals, certified public accountants, business owners and executives attended the seminar.



(L-R) Participating attorneys included Elizabeth Maron, Brooke Duncan III, Kate Brownlee, Lauren Tafaro, Greg Rouchell, Shelly Howat, Diana Surprenant, Laurie Young and Janis van Meerveld. Not pictured: John Surma and Collin Warren.

**"Ladies Night Out"...
Women Partners Dinner**

Women Partners from across the firm's regional footprint gathered for a night out with dinner and cocktails at Comère Lapin in The Old No. 77 Hotel & Candlerly on Tchoupitoulas Street in New Orleans on February 22, 2016.



Articles / Publications



Susan Mack Authors Journal of Reinsurance Articles

Jacksonville Special Counsel Susan Mack contributed a piece titled "The Sunset and Commutations Clauses" to the *Journal of Reinsurance*. [Read more](#) She also contributed an article titled "Patrolling Cyberspace: Corporate Counsel's Role in Assuring Sufficiency of 'Business Associate' Agreements Under HIPAA" to the Association of Corporate Counsel North Florida Chapter Newsletter. [Read more](#)



Lara White Co-Authors Louisiana State Bar Journal Article

New Orleans Partner Lara White co-authored an article titled "Overview of Special Master Appointments in Louisiana State and Federal Court" for the *Louisiana State Bar Journal*. [Read more](#)



Leslie Wickes Authors Association of Corporate Counsel Article

Jacksonville Special Counsel and Partner In Charge Leslie Wickes authored a piece titled "Lost ESI - What Does New FRCP 37 Mean For You?" for the Association of Corporate Counsel North Florida Chapter Newsletter. [Read more](#)

This is not an advertisement. The information in this newsletter does not constitute legal advice or opinion and should not be viewed as a substitute for legal advice. The information provided is based on laws and regulations in effect at the time of creation and is subject to change. Adams and Reese is a multidisciplinary law firm with approximately 300 lawyers and advisors. The firm has offices in New Orleans, LA; Baton Rouge, LA; Birmingham, AL; Mobile, AL; Columbia, SC; Memphis, TN; Nashville, TN; Houston, TX; Jackson, MS; Jacksonville, FL; Sarasota, FL; St. Petersburg, FL; Tallahassee, FL; Tampa, FL; and Washington, DC.

For additional information, please see the firm website at www.adamsandreese.com.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, click to [unsubscribe](#).

This newsletter is a periodic publication of Adams and Reese LLP and is intended for general purposes only. This newsletter is sent to friends and clients of Adams and Reese LLP. The sending of this newsletter is not a privileged communication and does not create a lawyer/client relationship. No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

FREE BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

