

☐ **Registration Fee** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
( \$327, \$277 before November 1 )

Additional attendees \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
at \$247 each

Materials only (\$147) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CLE CREDIT**

Earn up to 7 hours of CLE (6 hours of general and one hour of ethics)

**BONUS**

With our BONUS SUMMARIES, you stay up-to-date on all significant appellate court decisions in the family law area for the past year!

**100% Guarantee**

If this is not the most informative and cost-effective seminar that you have attended in the last year, we will refund 100% of your registration fee—no questions asked.

**Cancellation Policy**

- A \$50 processing fee applies to ALL conference cancellations.
- Registrants are responsible for the entire program fee for a cancellation made after 5:00 p.m. three weeks prior to the event (whether or not you attend the program or fail to cancel).
- An alternate may attend in place of the original registrant.

**Dynamic Interaction:**

Unlike other one-way presentations, you'll be encouraged to ask questions and present your own situations for discussion, while interacting with both the speakers and your peers.

**Quality Presenters:**

Your presenters are all authorities in Alabama family law. Their experience, skill, and familiarity with issues of specific concern to Alabama attorneys make this the perfect learning event for attorneys who represent clients in divorce, custody, adoption, and other domestic relations matters.

- Topics Include:**
- Family law update
  - Adoption
  - Surrogacy
  - Child custody
  - Contempt
  - Adoption
  - Tax considerations
  - Division of retirement benefits
  - Parenting plans
  - Technology trends
  - Pleadings
  - Limited scope representations

**REGISTRATION FORM | FOR REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE, CALL 800-727-5257**

☒ **YES!** Please reserve my spot at the **Family Law Conference for Alabama Practitioners** in Birmingham - Friday, December 13, 2013 at the Birmingham Marriott. My registration includes the conference, pages of valuable course materials, morning/afternoon snacks (lunch is not included), and forms I can turn in for CLE credit. PLUS: I'll receive BONUS SUMMARIES to help me stay up-to-date on all significant appellate court decisions in the family law area for the past year!

☐ Full Conference

☐ Materials only

☐ I would like to request CLE credit from the following state(s) in addition to Alabama: \_\_\_\_\_

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100 Winners Circle, Suite 300, Brentwood, TN 37027

What your colleagues said about last year's seminars presented by Alabama Law Weekly:

*“The knowledge gained at the conference will be helpful to my practice.”*

*“The speakers were very knowledgeable.”*

*“I liked the depth of coverage on topics.”*

*“The seminar as a whole was very informative.”*

*“An outstanding conference.”*

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**Alabama  
Law Weekly**

presents

# Family Law Conference

*for Alabama Practitioners*

**This conference features Judge Howard Hawk, Judge Julie Palmer, and a faculty of leading Alabama family law attorneys discussing the latest changes and decisions of critical interest to your successful practice.**

**Attorneys will learn:**

- The latest family law rulings from the Alabama appellate courts on such issues as alimony, post-minority child support and extraordinary expenses, termination of parental rights, contempt findings, and adoption
- The latest developments in adoption and surrogacy in Alabama
- Where we're headed in division of retirement benefits in Alabama and in the military
- Tax-efficient handling of spousal maintenance, child support, dependent exemptions, and other allocated expenses
- What is trending in domestic relations courts in Alabama
- The traits of an effective family law practice—when drafting pleadings, trying cases, and participating in out-of-court activities
- Ethical considerations in the family law practice

**BONUS**

Summaries of recent family law cases from the Alabama appellate courts.

Call **800-727-5257** to register risk-free  
or visit **MLeeSmith.com/al-family-law**



**WHEN** **Friday, December 13, 2013**

**WHERE** **Birmingham Marriott**



***Take advantage of this unique opportunity to earn up to 7 hours of CLE (6 hours of general and one hour of ethics).***

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WHEN

**Friday, December 13, 2013**

Registration begins at 8 A.M. The conference begins at 8:30 A.M. and concludes at 5 P.M. *(There will be morning and afternoon breaks, and attendees will have 1 hour for lunch on their own)*

Price: \$327 for program, \$247 for additional attendees from the same firm, \$147 for materials

**\$50 early bird special until November 1**

The **Family Law Conference for Alabama Practitioners** highlights:

- Division of retirement plans—learn where we are today in Alabama on dividing retirement plans in general and military benefits in particular
- Tax considerations in divorce—tax ramifications of marital asset valuation and asset/liability transfers between spouses
- Recent developments in adoptions—private adoptions, consent, home studies, interstate adoptions, same-sex parents, and surrogacy
- Family law update—reversal of a large alimony award to a physician’s wife, clarification of awards of post-minority child support and extraordinary expenses, termination of parental rights, contempt findings, and more
- Think outside the box—learn from Judge Julie Palmer what issues surrounding parenting plans and technology are trending in domestic relations courts
- Traits of effective family law attorneys—Judge Howard Hawk shares do’s and don’ts on such topics as pleadings, in-court conduct, and out-of-court conduct
- Ethical considerations—changes in rules regarding limited scope representations

Agenda

Family Law Update

8:30 A.M. TO 9:30 A.M.

*Joan-Marie Dean*  
*Law Offices of Joan-Marie Dean*

Ms. Dean, the editor of *Alabama Law Weekly*, will review family law cases from Alabama’s appellate courts, dealing with such issues as:

- Reversal of large alimony award to wife of physician
- Clarification of certain aspects of award of post-minority child support and extraordinary expenses
- When juvenile court has jurisdiction to terminate parental rights
- Termination of parental rights where child suffers from various and severe medical conditions and requires constant care parent cannot provide
- Finding of contempt for alleged interference with visitation
- Finding of contempt for failing to pay alimony while appeal is pending
- Setting aside of adoption even though mother had consented more than one year before action

A Trial Judge’s Perspective on Effective Family Law Practice

9:30 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.

*Judge Howard Hawk*  
*Marshall County Circuit Court*

Judge Hawk will discuss traits of effective family law attorneys. His comments will include dos and don’ts on such topics as pleadings (in light of paperless court files), in-court conduct, and out-of-court activities. Judge Hawk will leave time for any questions a participant may have concerning a family court judge’s perspective on effective family law practice and procedure.

Adoption and Surrogacy in Alabama: What You Need to Know

10:45 A.M. TO 11:45 A.M.

*Amber Yerkey James*  
*James Family Law Firm PC*

- Types of adoption in Alabama and stepparent/close relative adoption
- Private adoption/agency adoption
- Consent of biological/presumed/putative parents
- Home studies—pre-placement and post-placement
- Interstate adoptions
- Adoption and same-sex parents in Alabama
- Surrogacy in Alabama

Tax Considerations in Divorce

11:45 A.M. TO 12:45 P.M.

*Maxwell H. Pulliam, Jr.*  
*Maxwell H. Pulliam, LLC*

- Tax-efficient handling of spousal maintenance, child support, dependent exemptions, and other allocated expenses
- Tax ramifications of marital asset valuation and asset/liability transfers between spouses—marital residences and other real estate, investment securities, pensions and retirement plans, closely-held business interests, and marital debt
- Tax-efficient allocation of dissolution-related legal fees

the challenges today’s Alabama family law attorneys face? Learn from Judge Palmer what issues are trending before the domestic relations court in 2013.

2:45 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M. AFTERNOON BREAK

Retirement Division in Alabama & the U.S. Military: Where We Have Been, Where We Are, And Where We Are Headed

3:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

*Amy Strain Creech*  
*Rhodes & Creech*

- Where we have been—the history of retirement division in Alabama and the impact of federal law
- Where we are today—statutory requirements for retirement division, burdens of proof, and drafting enforceable agreements
- Where we are headed—constitutionality of Alabama’s current retirement statute

Hot Topics in Ethics in Family Law

4:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

*Frances Ross Nolan*  
*Nolan Byers, PC*

Ms. Nolan will discuss ethical considerations in limited scope representations, changes in rules regarding limited scope representations and other hot topics in ethics.



Now is your chance to network with and have your questions answered by your state’s most prominent family law attorneys and judges.

Meet your faculty



**Amy Creech** is a member in the firm Rhodes & Creech, LLC in Huntsville. She specializes in the area of family law and is a certified family-law mediator. She is a certified collaborative lawyer and is a member of the Birmingham Collaborative Alliance as well as the International Academy of Collaborative Practitioners. She is the Past-Chair of the Family Law Section of the Alabama State Bar.



**Joan-Marie Dean** has been in private practice in Huntsville since 1996 and concentrates mainly on family law and appellate matters. She previously practiced law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and worked at Lanier, Ford, Shaver and Payne and Wolfe, Jones & Boswell in Huntsville. She has served as the editor for *Alabama Law Weekly* for the past 18 years. She is certified as both an appellate and family law mediator.



**Judge Howard Hawk** currently serves as a circuit judge in Marshall County and is also the county’s presiding family court judge. He was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in 1994, and re-elected in 1998. During these years, he also served as a municipal judge for Arab and practiced law in Guntersville and Arab.



**Amber Yerkey James** practices family law, estate planning and

small business matters in Madison County, particularly in the Huntsville and Decatur areas. She assists clients with divorce, paternity, child custody, child support, dependency, surrogacy, adoption, terminations of parental rights, grandparent visitation, fathers’ rights, appeals, alimony, prenuptial agreements, and post-nuptial agreements.



**Frances Ross Nolan**, of Nolan Byers, PC, represents clients in Birmingham in the area of family law. She is a certified collaborative lawyer and family law mediator. In addition to her work as president of the Birmingham Collaborative Alliance, she is the past chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee of the American Bar Association Section of Family Law.



**Judge Julie Ann Palmer** has served as a domestic relations judge since 2011. She was named Presiding Judge for Jefferson County/Birmingham Division/Domestic Relations court in July 2013. She is a past chair of the State Bar Family Law Section. She was awarded Lawyer of the Year for the Family Law Section in 2005. She has sat on the Child Support Committee for the State Bar from 2005 to present.



**Maxwell H. Pulliam, Jr.**, of Maxwell H. Pulliam, LLC in Birmingham, practices family law, criminal defense, and civil litigation, with a concentration in tax matters. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Pulliam was a tax manager with Deloitte and Touche. He has been included in *Best Lawyers®* since 2009 for White Collar and DUI Defense. He received his J.D. and LL.M in taxation from The University of Alabama School of Law.