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Local Attorney Spotlight – Mary House



Attorney House graduated from Emory University with a BA and from Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University for her JD. Over the past 25 years, Mary M. House has worked to build a practice based on expertise and emotional awareness. In 2007 she became a licensed mediator in domestic relations and general civil matters to better serve clients that would prefer to avoid the court system. In her regular practice, she puts her legal experience to work handling wills, probate disputes and litigation work for individuals and businesses.

MARY M. HOUSE
827 Fairways Court Ste. 200
Stockbridge, GA 30281
Phone: 678-272-7774

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Upcoming Luncheons

September 14

Human Trafficking
Thomas Worthy
Director Governmental
Affairs for the State Bar

November 2

Lawyers Assistance
Program

Upcoming Events

October

HCBA Bar Social
Jailhouse Brewery

December 3

HCBA Christmas Party
Eagle's Brooke County
Club
6:30 p.m.

Announcements

Check out HCBA's New
Website at:

[http://www.henrycounty-
bar.com/](http://www.henrycounty-bar.com/)

For More Information
Contact Christina Kempter

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Advice From The Bench

Judge Kelley S. Powell, Henry County Probate Court



At the HCBA Seminar last month, my attention was turned to The Lawyer's Creed. Judge Warren Davis, our first speaker, has it hanging in his courtroom in Gwinnett Superior Court. What a great reminder of why we joined this profession. I encourage you to read the creed, even print it out and put it by your desk.

Too often, I have attorneys before me who have forgotten that this is a dignified profession. Recently, an attorney filed a contempt against opposing counsel for failing to respond to a demand. He filed this after he learned that her daughter died suddenly while at college. Just as bad are the attorneys who seek exorbitant and unjustified fees from vulnerable individuals appearing in my court such as widows/widowers, minors or incapacitated adults.

We can make a difference by adhering to the oath and calling out those who do not. I have the easy job because I have the power to reduce fees and deny motions for contempt. The harder job is yours, but peer pressure is a huge tool for change. Let us protect and preserve our profession by not tolerating behavior that does not adhere to the creed. Rogue lawyers will always be around but maybe they will decide Henry County is not a place they prefer to do business.

A LAWYER'S CREED

To my clients, I offer faithfulness, competence, diligence, and good judgment. I will strive to represent you as I would want to be represented and to be worthy of your trust.

To the opposing parties and their counsel, I offer fairness, integrity, and civility. I will seek reconciliation and, if we fail, I will strive to make our dispute a dignified one.

To the courts, and other tribunals, and to those who assist them, I offer respect, candor, and courtesy. I will strive to do honor to the search for justice.

To my colleagues in the practice of law, I offer concern for your welfare. I will strive to make our association a professional friendship.

To the profession, I offer assistance. I will strive to keep our business a profession and our profession a calling in the spirit of public service.

To the public and our systems of justice, I offer service. I will strive to improve the law and our legal system, to make the law and our legal system available to all, and to seek the common good through the representation of my clients.

Thoughts on the Law

By Richard D.C. Schrade, Jr.

After over 25 years at the practice of law, I have come to several conclusions borne of trial and error - too often learning my lessons the hard way. When clients first come to see me, they often ask "Can you be as nasty as the other side". My response is that nasty might seem satisfying now but what the client likely really wants is an effective advocate that will PREPARE and present their case in such a way that gives the client the highest likelihood of success.

Preparation is an essential part of advocacy. Long winded letters accusing the opposing party of everything under the sun and threatening to call down the wrath of God is NOT preparation. It is too often used by some attorneys as a substitute for preparation. Unfortunately for the legal profession and the legal system, clients are gratified because their attorney is "Such a Bad Ass". Too often lazy lawyers become successful lawyers because they are more schooled at marketing than they are at presenting an effective case for their client.

However, until the justice system begins to police itself and stops rewarding bad behavior (on both sides of the aisle), those who seek to pervert the system will continue to thrive financially. Those persons charged with protecting and improving the system (the judges and the legislature) should be called upon to increase the disincentives and punishment for inappropriate behavior. Until that happens people need to be very careful when selecting the person who will guide and protect them as they make their travel through the legal system.

Many people do not realize how "out of whack" the criminal justice system has become. For example not only are police officers allowed to lie to a suspect, they are trained to do so. Yet, if a person questioned by the police (even if they are not yet a suspect) fails to tell the truth, they can be charged with obstruction of justice. The police will often make empty threats to a person in order to coerce cooperation. But if a citizen threatens the police in any way they will usually find themselves in handcuffs.

I firmly believe that the justice system required that both sides conduct themselves honorably and reasonably.

Read more at www.richardschrade.com



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Side Bar – Football Edition

GEORGIA TECH FOOTBALL 2015 SCHEDULE

ALCORN STATE September 3 (Thank.)	TULANE September 12	NOTRE DAME September 19	DUKE September 26
NORTH CAROLINA October 3	CLEMSON October 10	PITTSBURGH October 17	FLORIDA STATE October 24
VIRGINIA October 31	VIRGINIA TECH November 12 (Thank.)	MIAMI November 21	GEORGIA November 28

GEORGIA 2015 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

9/5	vs.	LA Monroe
9/12	@	Vanderbilt
9/19	vs.	South Carolina
9/26	vs.	Southern
10/3	vs.	Alabama
10/10	@	Tennessee
10/17	vs.	Mizzou
10/31	vs.	Florida (Gainesville, FL)
11/7	vs.	Kentucky
11/14	@	Auburn
11/21	vs.	Georgia Southern
11/28	@	Georgia Tech
12/5		SEC Championship

2014 PRESEASON SCHEDULE

MIAMI FRIDAY, AUGUST 8 // 7:00 PM THE GEORGIA DOME FOX	HOUSTON SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 // 8:00 PM RELIANT STADIUM FOX	TENNESSEE SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 // 7:00 PM THE GEORGIA DOME FOX	JACKSONVILLE THURSDAY, AUGUST 28 // 6:00 PM EVERBANK FIELD FOX
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2014 REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE

NEW ORLEANS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 // 1:00 PM THE GEORGIA DOME FOX	TAMPA BAY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 // 1:00 PM* RAYSONG JAMES STADIUM FOX	CINCINNATI SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 // 1:00 PM PAUL BROWN STADIUM CBS	CAROLINA SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 // 1:00 PM* BANK OF AMERICA STADIUM FOX
TAMPA BAY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 // 8:25 PM** THE GEORGIA DOME CBS	CLEVELAND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 // 1:00 PM* THE GEORGIA DOME CBS	MINNESOTA SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 // 4:25 PM TCF BANK STADIUM FOX	ARIZONA SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 // 4:05 PM* THE GEORGIA DOME FOX
NY GIANTS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 // 1:00 PM* METLIFE STADIUM FOX	GREEN BAY MONDAY, DECEMBER 8 // 8:30 PM** LAMARCA FIELD ESPN	CHICAGO SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 // 1:00 PM* THE GEORGIA DOME FOX	PITTSBURGH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 // 1:00 PM* THE GEORGIA DOME CBS
BALTIMORE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 // 1:00 PM* M&T BANK STADIUM FOX	NEW ORLEANS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 // 1:00 PM* MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME FOX	DETROIT (IN LONDON) SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 // 9:30 AM* WEMBLEY STADIUM FOX	CAROLINA SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28 // 1:00 PM* THE GEORGIA DOME FOX
BYE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 // BYE			

RISE UP

■ HOME ■ AWAY // * FLEX SCHEDULE ELIGIBLE // ** NATIONALLY TELEVIEWED GAME // ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN // ATLANTAFAALCONS.COM/TICKETS