

Young Lawyers Division Seminar

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

by order of presentation

Lisa Bisso

*Butler Snow
Charleston, SC
(Course Planner)*

Lisa is an attorney with Butler Snow in Charleston, where she focuses her practice on commercial litigation. She has handled a variety of cases, including general civil matters, contract disputes, premises liability, products liability, and insurance bad faith. She graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 2021 and received her undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. Beyond her day-to-day practice, she serves as a Co-Chair of the Special Events Committee for the South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division. She is also a member of the Defense Research Institute Steering Committee, where she serves as the Co-Chair of the Supreme Court of the United States Swearing In Committee.

Allison Burch

*Spencer Law Firm
Chesterfield, SC
(Course Planner)*

Allison is a Partner at Spencer & Burch, Attorneys at Law in Chesterfield, SC. Her practice focuses on real estate, probate, civil litigation, family law, and estate planning. Allison also does work for municipalities and cooperatives. Allison graduated from the College of Charleston and the University of South Carolina School of Law and worked at the South Carolina Court of Appeals before going into private practice. She has previously served as a Contract Attorney for the 4th Circuit Public Defender's Office. Allison currently serves as the Attorney for the Guardian ad Litem for Chesterfield County DSS cases. She has served as the YLD 4th Circuit Representative since 2019 and served on the YLD Special Projects Committee since 2024.

Nicholas Denver Smith

*Butler Snow, LLP
Charleston, SC*

Denver is a member of Butler Snow's Tort, Transportation and Specialized Litigation group. With a background in artificial intelligence studies and private sector security, Denver enjoys using the analytical skills he has learned to help clients achieve their legal, professional, and business development goals. Denver strives to bring innovation into the legal community by challenging outdated principles that unreasonably inhibit client success.

Barbara Seymour
Clawson & Staubes, LLC
Columbia, SC

Barbara Seymour represents lawyers, law firms, judges, and law students in matters related to ethics, professional discipline, and Bar admissions at Clawson & Staubes, LLC in Columbia. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Management and Marketing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1990 and her Juris Doctor from the University of Georgia in 1993. Barbara worked as a trial lawyer until 2000 when she joined the staff of the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. She served as the Deputy Disciplinary Counsel from 2007 until 2017. Barbara is a member of the South Carolina Bar, the State Bar of Georgia, the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers, the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, and the South Carolina Women Lawyers Association. She currently serves on the Law Related Education, Professional Responsibility, Unauthorized Practice of Law, and Diversity Committees at the South Carolina Bar. She was a 2006 and 2011 Fellow of the National Institute for the Teaching of Ethics and Professionalism. She is the author of *Trust Accounting for South Carolina Lawyers: An Annotated Practice Manual*, published by the SC Bar. She has also taught a variety of Paralegal Studies courses for the past twenty-five years.

Cal Watson
Robinson Gray Stepp & Laffitte, LLC
Columbia, SC

Cal is a litigator with experience in complex business and insurance disputes, class actions, and professional liability and ethics. During his 38 years of practice, Cal has represented numerous individuals, local and national businesses, partnerships, insurance companies, and financial institutions. Named by South Carolina Lawyers Weekly as 2015 Lawyer of the Year, Cal has been consistently recognized by Best Lawyers, Super Lawyers, and Chambers USA. Active in the South Carolina Bar, Cal has served as President of the South Carolina Bar, President of the South Carolina Bar Foundation, and President of the John Belton O'Neill Inn of Court. Cal is the m

Chelsea Glover

*Jonson, Toal & Battiste, P.A.
Orangeburg, SC*

Chelsea A. Glover is a graduate of Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies with a concentration in Public Relations. As of 2025, Chelsea is a partner at her law firm, Johnson, Toal and Battiste, P.A., where she handles criminal defense, civil litigation, medical malpractice, and nursing home neglect cases. She also works part-time as a Juvenile Public Defender for the 1st Judicial Circuit, serving Orangeburg County. After college, Chelsea studied International Public Relations abroad at Regent's University in London, England.

Shortly after, Chelsea attended the University of South Carolina School of Law, where she earned her Juris Doctor. While in law school, Chelsea worked as a Law Clerk at the South Carolina Office of the Attorney General, where she primarily assisted with general prosecution and securities cases. Prior to working at the Attorney General's Office, Chelsea served as an intern at the Department of Commerce, assisting in South Carolina's division of international strategy and trade. She also served as a Student Attorney with USC's Domestic Violence Clinic.

During law school, Chelsea served as a judicial intern to The Honorable John D. Geathers of the South Carolina Court of Appeals. She actively volunteered with the Matthew J. Perry Chapter of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA). Chelsea later served as a Judicial Law Clerk to The Honorable DeAndrea Gist Benjamin and as an Assistant Solicitor for the 1st Judicial Circuit. She is a member of the South Carolina Association for Justice (SCAJ), the South Carolina Black Lawyers Association (SCBLA), and the Orangeburg and Richland County Bar Associations. She also serves on the boards of the Tri-County Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and the RMC Foundation with MUSC Orangeburg.

Chelsea is licensed to practice law in South Carolina, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, and the state of North Carolina. Chelsea is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and a lifetime member of the NAACP. In her free time, Chelsea enjoys traveling, reading, and spending time with her family.

Elizabeth "Betsy" Gray

*Robinson Gray Stepp & Laffitte, LLC
Columbia, SC*

Elizabeth Van Doren Gray, a frequent participant in CLE programs is a 1976 cum laude graduate of the USC Law School and is a member of Robinson Gray Stepp & Laffitte, LLC in Columbia. She is a former President of the South Carolina Bar and has been involved in a number of Bar and related professional activities. She has been a member of the Chief Justice's Commission on the Profession since its inception. She is an active member of the South Carolina Women Lawyers Association and received its Jean Galloway Bissell Award in 2000 recognizing individuals who have contributed to the advancement of women in the legal profession. She is a former recipient of the Compleat Lawyer Award Gold Medallion Award presented by the USC Law School Alumni Association. She also received the SC Bar Foundation's DuRant Distinguished Service Award in 2018 and the SC Supreme Court Chief Justice's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2024. Her practice is limited to litigation matters only and she concentrates her litigation practice in the areas of commercial litigation, estate and probate litigation, and in representing lawyers in liability actions or in matters before the Commission on Lawyer Conduct.