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CONTACT: Executive Director Kim Crouch, 919-832-1413

Leading Attorneys Elected to the NC Advocates for Justice Executive Committee and Board of Governors

RALEIGH, NC —

The North Carolina Advocates for Justice (NCAJ) elected new leadership for the 2018-19 fiscal year this past weekend at its annual convention in Wilmington, NC. The members of the Executive Committee, a subset of the NCAJ Board of Governors, have made many positive contributions to the legal profession:

President: **Mary Pollard**, Executive Director, NC Prisoner Legal Services (NCPLS)

Mary Pollard leads NCPLS in their work to evaluate the criminal convictions of those who are currently incarcerated to determine whether there were any legal errors made.

President-Elect: **Vernon Sumwalt**, The Sumwalt Law Firm

Vernon Sumwalt is a board-certified specialist in the field of workers' compensation and formerly served as chair of the NCAJ workers' compensation section.

Immediate Past President: **Bradley Bannon**, Patterson Harkavy LLP

Bradley Bannon participated in drafting legislation that strengthened North Carolina's open-file discovery laws and other protections for the criminally accused.

Fundraising/Development Officer: **David Henson**, HensonFuerst, PA

David Henson has led HensonFuerst PA's injury, disability, and mass tort sections for 15 years and currently focuses in the area of eminent domain/land condemnation.

Past President Appointed by the President: **Danny Glover**, Glover Law Firm, PLLC

Danny Glover served as President of NCAJ in 2014-2015 and as Chair of the Executive Director Search Committee in 2016-2017.

PAC Chair: **John McCabe**, Law Offices of John M. McCabe, PA

John McCabe exclusively represents people who have been injured by trucking collisions, medical negligence, defective products, and on-the-job accidents.

Diversity Officer: **Karonnie Truzy**, Crumley Roberts, LLP

Karonnie Truzy, a member of the Order of Barristers, was named a 2001 Outstanding Advocate and recognized by the National Trial Lawyers as a "Top 40 Under 40" lawyer.

At-Large: **Valerie Johnson**, Copeley Johnson & Groninger, PLLC

Valerie Johnson represents injured and wronged individuals, teaches North Carolina law students, and works for the rights of injured workers.



Legislative VP: **Philip Miller**, Blanchard, Miller, Lewis & Isley, PA

Philip Miller represents plaintiffs in personal injury and wrongful death cases.

Membership VP: **Jennifer Marsh**, Self-Help Credit Union

Jennifer Marsh is on the Executive Staff at Self-Help Credit Union, which creates ownership and economic opportunity for all by providing responsible financial services, lending to small businesses, and promoting fair financial practices.

Education VP: **Adrienne Blocker**, Law Offices of Adrienne Blocker, PLLC

Adrienne Blocker focuses her practice in the area of serious personal injury including automobile collisions, motorcycle wrecks, trucking collisions, bicycle accidents, and premises liability.

Communications VP: **Sonya Pfeiffer**, Rudolf Widenhouse

Sonya Pfeiffer joined Rudolf Widenhouse after working in the business litigation division of Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge and Rice.

Legal Affairs VP: **Andrew Banzhoff**, Devereux & Banzhoff, PLLC

Andrew Banzhoff handles a broad range of civil and criminal litigation cases throughout western North Carolina.

President Emeritus: **Charles Blanchard**, Blanchard, Miller, Lewis & Isley, PA

Charles Blanchard is a founding member of NCAJ.

NCAJ also elected new members to its Board of Governors for the 2018-19 fiscal year:

Class of 2021: **Julie Bell, Dan Bryson, Kevin Bunn, Yolanda Fair, Anna Pishko Kalarites, C. Douglas Maynard, Jr., Ann Ochsner, Ruth Sheehan, and Robert Warlick.** *Class of 2019* (filling unexpired term): **Meredith Hinton.** *AAJ Governors:* **Douglas Abrams** and **Charles Monnett.** *AAJ Delegate:* **Cliff Britt.** *AAJ Minority Delegate:* **Curtis Osborne.**

NCAJ is a nonpartisan association of legal professionals dedicated to protecting people's rights. NCAJ provides continuing legal education aimed at enhancing the quality of the legal profession, works to improve access to the legal system, and advocates at the legislature in the areas of criminal and civil justice. NCAJ has served its members for over 50 years. xx