



**May 18-20, 2022, Welcome to Leadership
Speaker Bios**

Rob Aliff '06 is a Member of the Jackson Kelly Law Firm's Charleston, West Virginia, office. Much of Rob's work involves defending health care providers against claims brought under the West Virginia Medical Professional Liability Act (MPLA), including those involving cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, oncology, urology, orthopedic surgery, gynecologic surgery, obstetrics, radiology, and various nursing care issues. He also represents health care providers in disciplinary actions before the West Virginia Board of Medicine, the West Virginia Board of Osteopathy, the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses, and the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy.

Rob also has defended class action and complex litigation matters involving financial services, consumer credit, general business disputes, defective products and pharmaceuticals in both state and federal courts.

Rob has a solid track record of taking, defending, and preparing clients for depositions, presenting oral arguments, and taking cases to trial. At a time when most cases are dismissed or settled, having the courtroom experience necessary to try cases before a judge or jury is critical. Rob has tried a number of health care-related cases in multiple jurisdictions around West Virginia. This experience has allowed him to sharpen his courtroom skills and determine the best way to communicate complicated legal and medical issues.

Rob knows that communicating with clients is another critical skill. This is why a key part of Rob's practice also involves heading off problems before they occur – he often counsels medical providers and practices on issues of confidentiality, risk management, and maintaining medical records. Rob develops relationships with his clients that go beyond the superficial in order to help them navigate litigation – a part of his job that he finds deeply gratifying. Rob knows trust is an imperative part of the lawyer-client relationship, and this trust-building is his favorite part of practicing law.

Outside the office, Rob enjoys any type of live music, from musical theater, to “Mountain Stage” live radio, to an event at the Clay Center. He and his wife, Tracy, have enjoyed introducing their children to the joy of live music. His other great love is travel, and he’s convinced traveling is the best way not only to learn about other cultures, but also to appreciate your own.

Rob is proud of his Fayette County and West Virginia roots. He was the first in his family to attend college and professional school, and his appreciation for those opportunities shines through in his practice.

Dr. Joshua Brown of Mountwest College President started his role at Mountwest in June 2021 after more than eight years as a leader in higher education, most recently as vice president of Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado.

Under his direction, the Colorado Springs institution saw tremendous growth in new programs in the fields of cybersecurity and medical sciences, paving the way for hundreds of students to enjoy high-wage careers.

Baker has identified three primary areas of focus at Mountwest, one of nine community and technical colleges in West Virginia and home to about 2,500 students.

The first priority is to be ready with individualized support and inclusive opportunities for every student who walks through the door. In addition, Mountwest educators will work to ensure that all students have access to training that advances their careers, and that the college continues to be a strong community partner for the residents of the Huntington area.

Baker has an M.S. and a B.A. from Brigham Young University.

Margi Bush'11 is an ACC, ICF Credentialed Coach, National Board-Certified Health & Wellness Coach (NBC-HWC), a Certified Duke Integrative Medicine Health Coach, Certified MBTI Master Practitioner, and an Certified EQ-i 2.0 Coach and Facilitator. Margi is president of Collaborative Thinking LLC d.b.a. Wisdom Tree Coaching.

Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, her focus has been coaching people to improve their overall health and well-being which has a positive impact on their mental health.

Using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® Instrument (MBTI), the EQ-I 2.0 Assessment and the Duke Wheel of Health, Margi does one-on-one coaching and team coaching.

Using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® Instrument (MBTI) Step I and Step II, she provides workshops in the areas of Effective Leadership, Communication, Team Building and Conflict Management around personality types.

Community work includes: Leadership West Virginia (2018-Current) MBTI training first and last sessions, Charleston Chapter of SHRM, Immediate Past-President, University of Charleston School of Business and leadership (SBL) Business Advisory Committee (BAC) 2020-Current), Health and Wellness Coaching 12 sessions pro-bono (60 hours) to 5 people in leadership roles), Leadership Council for the WVU School of Medicine Charleston Campus (2020).

In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, three children, her 7-year-old and 5-year-old granddaughters and her 10-year-old yellow lab, Ruger. Margi also enjoys cooking, reading, gardening, and learning visual facilitation and watercolor skills.

Pam Harvit '06 is founder and director of the Harvit School of Etiquette and Protocol. She is a graduate of the Protocol School of Washington and is certified in Corporate Etiquette and International Protocol by that institution. Ms. Harvit caters to those who wish to improve their self-confidence, enhance their communication skills and outclass their competition. She has been quoted in the *Washington Post*, written for the *West Virginia Executive Magazine*, and is a featured columnist for the largest statewide newspaper in West Virginia, *The Gazette Mail*. Her article, "Mind Your Manners" is a favorite among readers. Ms. Harvit has worked for over 15 years with Fortune 500 Companies where she has held several positions including specialty and training duties. She holds a Masters Degree from West Virginia University and most recently an Executive Specialist with Merck and Company. Pam is a graduate of the Leadership West Virginia Class of 2006.

Nate Randolph'15 is AIA, Principal at Edward Tucker Architects. Raised in a construction and engineering family and recognized in architecture school for his exceptional design abilities, Nate brings practical experience and an eye for design to his work. He graduated with high honors from the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor of Architecture in 1998. Licensed in 2004, in 2014 he was promoted to firm principal and has continued to develop exciting new projects and clients, including the commercial, industrial, pharmaceutical, health care, collegiate, and residential markets. He enjoys working on his property at East Lynn Lake.

Community Involvement and Volunteer Work: Huntington Urban Renewal Authority, Chair, City of Huntington City Council Member, Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Committee, Chair, and AIA West Virginia.

Mychal Schulz '05, LWV Chair is a shareholder in the Litigation, Employment & Labor Services, and Energy & Natural Resources groups of Babst Calland. Mr. Schulz has extensive experience litigating matters in state and federal courts throughout West Virginia. He has been lead trial counsel in both state and federal courts on a variety of matters, including employment, premises liability, insurance bad faith and coverage, commercial, officers and directors liability, ERISA, product liability, consumer protection and criminal matters. He has appeared before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and the United States Circuit Court for the Fourth Circuit.

Mr. Schulz graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a B.A. in 1987. He received his M.A. from the University of Virginia in 1990 and J.D. from the William and Mary School of Law in 1992. Originally from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Mr. Schulz has spent his entire legal career litigating throughout West Virginia.

In addition to his legal work, Mr. Schulz is a USTA/ITA certified tennis official who officiates matches in the Mountain East Conference, an adjunct professor of history at West Virginia State University and a broadcaster for the University of Charleston men's and women's basketball teams.

Mr. Schulz is admitted to practice in West Virginia, the United States District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of West Virginia, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. He is a member of the Kanawha County, West Virginia and American Bar Associations. He is also a member of the Defense Research Institute, Defense Trial Counsel of West Virginia and Saint Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Society. He has been named in *The Best Lawyers of America*® in the ERISA Litigation Section.

Steve Williams was elected mayor of Huntington, West Virginia, in 2012 and re-elected in 2016 and 2020 to become the first three-term mayor in the city's 150-year history. Since taking office, he has utilized his diverse background in economic development, finance, state government and local governments to shepherd a renaissance in Huntington that has not been seen in decades.

Under Williams' leadership, Huntington was named the \$3 million grand prize winner of the America's Best Communities competition in April 2017 for a comprehensive plan to transform Huntington into the economic gateway of the Appalachian region.

The Highlawn redevelopment project includes the reuse of underutilized, former manufacturing sites located just east of Marshall University. Williams' vision for these sites includes recreational and riverfront facilities; a baseball stadium; retail and hotel development; research facilities; and green infrastructure for storm water management.

Williams' administration also has worked closely with neighborhood leaders to revitalize the West End of Huntington and the Coalfield Development Corp., which has developed a network of social enterprises throughout the region in building a new economy in the wake of the decline in the coal industry.

The Fairfield neighborhood is also undergoing a transformation with the development of a former public housing complex, Marshall University's School of Pharmacy, revitalization of the A.D. Lewis Community Center and the formation of a citizen-based community development corporation known as the Fairfield Alliance.

Huntington has also gained recognition as the "city of solutions" for innovative programs to address the opioid epidemic. In 2014, Williams established the Mayor's Office of Drug Control Policy. The Office formed several partnerships in developing a harm reduction program and focused on reducing drug trafficking and related crime while promoting prevention and treatment options. In 2016, Williams was named to a joint task force of the National League of Cities and National Association of Counties to address the opioid epidemic. In 2019, he was appointed as co-chairman of the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Substance Abuse, Prevention and Recovery Services Task Force.

Williams earned a bachelor's degree in political science with Cum Laude honors from Marshall University in 1978 and a master's degree in public administration from West Virginia University in 1980. He began serving as the city's director of economic development in 1984 and, later that

same year, he was named the youngest city manager in Huntington's history. He served as city manager until Huntington switched to a strong mayor form of government in 1985.

Williams also represented Cabell and Wayne counties in the West Virginia House of Delegates from 1987 to 1994 where he spent much of his time working to reform the higher education and medical education systems in West Virginia.

Professionally, Williams established a career in finance with 26 years in investment banking and investment brokerage. He has served as an investment banker, stock broker, sales manager and senior level executive, overseeing many of the largest markets for the largest banking institutions in the nation.

Williams returned to politics in 2008 when he was elected as an at-large Huntington city councilman. He fulfilled his four-year term and served as the governing body's Finance Committee chairman before he was elected mayor. He was named as the 2015-2016 Mayor of the Year by the West Virginia Municipal League. In December 2018, he was elected to a two-year term on the National League of Cities' Board of Directors. He was re-elected in 2020. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Williams is married to Mary Poindexter Williams. He has two stepdaughters, Nikki Reed and Laura Urban; three beloved family dogs, Darby, Foster, and Bailey; and a cat, K.C.