

**Ann Huckstep***B-Metro Magazine* - "Lifetime Achiever" Award

Birmingham Attorney Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

B-Metro Magazine honored Adams and Reese Birmingham Of Counsel and former Executive Committee Chair **Ann Huckstep** with a "Lifetime Achiever" award, among the 2015 class of "Top Flight Lawyers" in the March issue of the publication. Ann received the award on March 12 at the HealthSouth Hangar in Birmingham.

Ann joined Adams and Reese in 2003 when she helped guide the merger between Lange Simpson and Adams and Reese. She has previously served as the Chair of the firm's Executive Committee and as the Partner in Charge of the Birmingham office. [Read more.](#)

Adams and Reese Represents Pharmacy in \$66 Million Sale

With the help of Nashville office attorneys **Meredith Edwards Collins**, **Haverly MacArthur**, **Alex Howard** and **Margaret Myers**, Adams and Reese represented Reeves-Sain Drug Store Inc. of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in a \$66 million sales transaction for Fred's Inc. to buy Reeves-Sain in a deal announced by the two companies on March 25. The transaction was covered by several business publications and also Tennessee publications, *Nashville Business Journal*, *Memphis Business Journal* and *Nashville Post*.

Meredith was heavily involved in the transaction during the final 10 days, working with colleagues and Adams and Reese Nashville attorneys Kolin Holladay and Nick DuPuis, drafting and revising the purchase agreement along with various ancillary documents, including company disclosure schedules, negotiating documents and meeting with clients to help negotiate the agreement towards signing. Adams and Reese attorneys Johnny Lyle, Russell Harwell, Bob Schmidt, Tim Gary, Robert McAlhany, Stephen Lewis and Brian Smithweck also assisted in the transaction.

Fred's, Inc. operates 661 discount general merchandise stores, including 19 franchised Fred's stores, in the southeastern United States. [Read more.](#)



New To Adams and Reese



Former Nashville Recording Artist Joins Firm

Meredith Edwards Collins, former Nashville recording artist and entertainment and transactions attorney has joined the law firm's Nashville office as an Associate. Meredith was formerly with Bass Berry & Sims and has been practicing law in Nashville for six years in entertainment, health care, and business transactions. [Read more.](#)



Real Estate Attorney Joins St. Petersburg Office

Amanda Taylor, real estate attorney and former shareholder from Trenam Kemker and also from Holland and Knight, has joined the Adams and Reese St. Petersburg Office as Special Counsel in Real Estate. Amanda joined the Firm with former colleague Derek Houston. [Read more.](#)



Shipbuilders Council Advisor Joins DC Office

Ashley Godwin, Shipbuilders Council Advisor, formerly with the law firm of Ball Janik LLP, has joined the Adams and Reese Washington, DC Office as Governmental Affairs Advisor (non-lawyer). Ashley joined the Firm with Partner Matt Paxton and Governmental Affairs Advisors Joe Carnevale and Ian Bennitt. [Read more.](#)

First Major Cloud Provider, Microsoft, Adapts International Cloud Privacy Standard

Adams and Reese's Data Privacy Bulletin, April 2015 was written by New Orleans Partner **Jaimmé Collins** and Columbia Partner Jack Pringle.

Cloud computing is not without risk. Various data protection laws require businesses to safeguard and protect the privacy of personal information stored in the cloud. As a result, businesses must assess and address information security and privacy risks before becoming a customer of a cloud services provider and entrusting personal information to that provider.



On August 1, 2014, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) issued ISO/IEC 27018- a standard for protecting personal information stored in the cloud. To learn more about ISO/IEC 27018 and its personal information protection requirements.

On February 16, 2015, Microsoft announced that it had become the first major cloud provider to adopt ISO/IEC 27018. ISO/IEC 270018 requires Microsoft to take the following steps (among others) to protect the privacy of personal information stored in the Microsoft Cloud.

[Read more.](#)



Partners Leslie Lanusse, Liz Roussel and Janis van Meerveld
Panel discussion on the latest issues facing businesses.

Adams and Reese Attorneys Present "Current Trends in Labor and Employment Law" Seminar

Adams and Reese held its second annual "Current Trends in Labor and Employment Law" seminar on April 15th at Dickie Brennan's Steakhouse in New Orleans. The seminar was attended by more than 100 human resource department professionals, certified public accountants and business owners and executives.

Leslie Lanusse, Liz Roussel and Janis van Meerveld



Katie Brownlee



Lauren Tafaro

In each session, a brief overview of the area of law was provided, and particular attention was paid to court decisions, and how employers can incorporate lessons from those decisions into their own business practices. Participating attorneys included: Katherine Cazayoux Brownlee, Brooke Duncan III, Leslie A. Lanusse, Kellen J. Mathews, Gregory F. Rouchell, Elizabeth A. Roussel, Lauren L. Tafaro, Janis van Meerveld, Laurie Briggs Young. [Read more.](#)

Tampa Women Attorneys Elected Partners

Kimberly Madison and Melissa Rizzo, have been elected to Partner, effective January 1, 2015. [Read more.](#)



Kimberly Madison has practiced law since 2002 and is a member of the Firm's Litigation Practice Group. She has represented both businesses and individuals in matters including commercial property, real estate and governmental law.



Melissa Rizzo is a member of the Firm's Special Business Services Practice Group and practices primarily on intellectual property matters, including the litigation of patent, trademark, copyright, and trade secret disputes.



Seminar Fun

Adams and Reese Tampa Partner **Lynn Sherman** pictured with Caryl Delano, United States Bankruptcy Court Middle District of Florida, moderator-attorney Roy Kobert and attorney Harley Riedel was a presenter/debater at the 39th Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar, March 5-7, 2015 in Tampa. Lynn presented on, "Eat Dirt! Can Secured Lenders Be Forced to Take Title?"



Lisa Merz Hedrick



Tiffany Dilorio



Dawn Hardesty

Thomson Reuters Contributing Authors

Several women attorneys from the Adams and Reese bankruptcy practice produced chapters for two recently released Thomson Reuters books, *Strategic Alternatives For and Against Distressed Businesses and Commercial Bankruptcy Litigation*, Second Edition. New Orleans Partner Lisa Merz Hedrick authored, "Louisiana – Receiverships and ABCs," while Columbia Associate Dawn Hardesty authored "South Carolina – Receiverships and ABCs." Tampa Special Counsel Tiffany Dilorio authored a chapter, "Credit Bidding in Plan Sales," included in *Commercial Bankruptcy Litigation*, Second Edition. The book helps attorneys deal with the wake of the BAPCPA (Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act) and the current economic downturn.

Adams and Reese Tampa Partner **Lynn Sherman** pictured with Caryl Delano, United States Bankruptcy Court Middle District of Florida, moderator-attorney Roy Kobert and attorney Harley Riedel was a presenter/debater at the 39th Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar, March 5-7, 2015 in Tampa. Lynn presented on, "Eat Dirt! Can Secured Lenders Be Forced to Take Title?"

Partner Speaks at Chamber "Pearls of Wisdom" Event

Tampa Partner, **Kimberly Madison** serve as a guest speaker at the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce Women of Influence Committee's "Pearls of Wisdom" luncheon in March.

The theme of the event sponsored by Adams and Reese was "Making It Happen For You."

[Read more.](#)



Patty McMurray with BRAC President/CEO Adam Knapp
Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce
"D. Jensen Holliday" Leadership Award



Jacksonville Partner in Charge Featured Among Jacksonville Business Journal's Diversity Leaders



Leslie Wickes, Adams and Reese Jacksonville Office Partner in Charge, was featured in a special Jacksonville Business Journal diversity section article, "Adams and Reese Partner Leslie Wickes is Paving the Way for Diversity," published on March 27. Leslie has received many honors for her work to enhance the workplace for women. [Read more.](#)

Partner Receives Leadership Award

Adams and Reese Baton Rouge Partner **Patty McMurray** received the D. Jensen Holliday Award from the Baton Rouge Area Chamber for her extraordinary leadership and exemplary service to the organization's board in 2014. Patty received the award at BRAC's Shareholders Meeting on March 24. [Read more.](#)

Honors / Recognitions



Firm's Diversity Chair Recipient of the National Urban League Empowerment Award

Jaimmé Collins, Adams and Reese Diversity Committee Chair and New Orleans Partner, received the "Urban League Empowerment Award" from the National Urban League at the 2nd Annual National Urban League Holiday Luncheon at the Roy A. Glapion Hall at the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club in New Orleans in December.

[Read more.](#)



Clients Select Lanusse Among Nation's Top Labor and Employment Attorneys

Leslie Lanusse has been named by corporate counsel to the "BTI Client Service All-Stars" for 2015, the only independently researched, client-driven ranking of attorneys. [Read more.](#)



Columbia Partner Appointed to Bankruptcy Rules Committee

Tara Nauful, Columbia partner has been appointed to the Advisory Committee on Local Rules and Practice for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of South Carolina. Nauful will serve a three year term from 2015-2017. [Read more.](#)



New Orleans Partner Elected to Boards of TMA of Louisiana, IWIRC

Lisa Merz Hedrick, New Orleans Partner has been elected a board member of Turnaround Management Association Louisiana, a nonprofit comprised of turnaround and corporate renewal professionals to serve as a forum for corporate renewal professionals from all disciplines. [Read more IWIRC.](#) [Read more TMA.](#)



Jacksonville Attorney Philanthropic Giving Award Recipient

Angela Grewal was named a Delores Barr Weaver Fellow with the Women's Giving Alliance of Jacksonville, an organization of women that pool their philanthropic giving to distribute grants to organizations affecting the lives of women and girls in Northeast Florida.

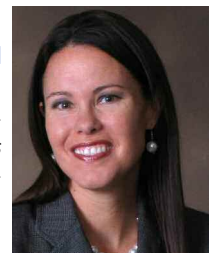
[Read more.](#)

Honors / Recognitions

Tampa Partner In Charge Featured Among "Law Newsmakers"

Deb Oliver, Partner in Charge of the Tampa Office, was featured in the *Tampa Bay Business Journal's* "Law Movers, Shakers, and Newsmakers" in the January 24 edition.

[Read more.](#)



Marilyn Healy - "Good to Know"

Marilyn Mullen Healy, Tampa Partner, was featured in Florida Trend magazine in the "Good to Know" section in the November edition. The business and community leaders featured were recognized for their help to improve the area economy and community. [Read more.](#)



Bankruptcy Moot Court Coaching

Tiffany Dilorio, Tampa Special Counsel, served as co-coach of the Stetson University College of Law Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court team that competed at the 23rd Annual Duberstein National Bankruptcy Memorial Moot Court Competition in New York.



Jennifer Barriere and Lee Reid
"Good Apple" Award

Barriere and Reid Receive Applesed Award

Adams and Reese attorneys **Jennifer Barriere** and **Lee Reid** received a "Good Apple Award" from Louisiana Applesed presented by Philip A. Wittmann, President, at the organization's sixth annual awards event, held January 15. Jennifer and Lee researched and edited the Louisiana Charter School Board Legal Handbook, as well as developed and presented related CLE programs to assist administrators in addressing some of the more pressing legal and organizational issues facing Louisiana's charter schools. [Read more.](#)



Lara White
Partner
New Orleans
Women's Initiative
Committee Chair
Newsletter Editor



Jaimmé Collins
Partner
New Orleans
Diversity Committee Chair
Women's Initiative
Committee Chair



Victoria White Baudier
Partner
New Orleans

**Women's Initiative
Committee Members**

- Kimberly Madison
Partner, Tampa
- Marilyn Mullen Healy
Partner, Tampa
- Tara Naufal
Partner, Columbia

Women Partners Gather in New Orleans at Dooky Chase's Restaurant

In conjunction with the annual Adams and Reese Partnership Meeting in New Orleans, the Women Partners held their 2nd Annual Women Partners Dinner on February 23 at Dooky Chase's Restaurant in New Orleans. The dinner provides Adams and Reese's women partners the time to network and discuss cross-business, practice area opportunities throughout the firm's regional footprint and various offices represented by the attorneys.



Dooky Chase's owner Leah Chase also joined our Partners in attendance. Leah Chase, at the age of 82, is still very involved in the well-renowned New Orleans restaurant, and nicknamed the "Queen of Creole Cuisine," she is an advocate of Creole cooking and African-American art. Dooky Chase's opened its doors in 1941, and what was initially a sandwich shop and lottery ticket outlet has thrived into a thriving bar and Creole food restaurant in Treme.

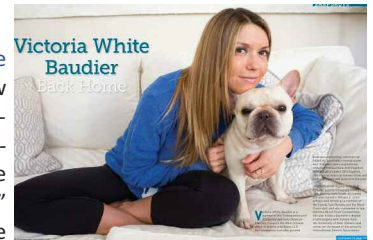
Jacksonville Attorney Helps Shelter Raise More Than \$100,000

Caroline Prieto led the charge for Adams and Reese to support "Mutt March" one of two annual fundraisers put on by the Jacksonville Humane Society. It is a dog walk and festival that took place on March 7. The event raised more than \$100,000, which will provide service to the more than 6,000 dogs and cats that JHS helps every year. Caroline chairs their young professionals group "Pawfessionals" and does pro bono legal work for JHS. [Read more.](#)



Partner Featured in TMA "Journal of Corporate Renewal" Q&A

Victoria White Baudier, New Orleans partner, was featured in the "Snapshots" section of the March 2015 issue of the Turnaround Management Association's Journal of Corporate Renewal. In a three-page Q&A, Tori discusses her legal work in turnaround/restructuring law, her involvement with NextGen and women leadership opportunities, and also her charitable work. [Read more.](#)



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For additional information, please see the firm website at www.adamsandreesecom.com.

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