

2018

# GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE FORUM



Measuring What Matters.



Welcome to the 2018

# **Gubernatorial Candidate Forum**

hosted by the PARCA Roundtable.

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# THE CANDIDATES



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## **TOMMY BATTLE**

Tommy Battle is currently the Mayor of Huntsville. He's recruited more than 24,000 jobs to Alabama over the last decade. 62% of all jobs that have come to Alabama since 2010 are because of him. That job growth generated more than \$4 billion in economic investments in Alabama.

Earlier this year, he secured more than 4,000 jobs when Toyota and Mazda announced their new manufacturing facility will be built in Alabama. He's responsible for coming up with a pay as you go plan for \$500 million dollars in new roads after Montgomery backed out on its promises. Tommy's team has also funded \$200 million dollars in new and renovated schools. He's helped Huntsville become the #1 most affordable place to live, the fastest growing tech city in the country, and last month, Huntsville was named the 7<sup>th</sup> best place to live in the United States by the U.S. News and World Report. He's ready to take the same plan, vision, and ideas statewide to all 67 of Alabama's counties as the next governor.



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## **SUE BELL COBB**

Chief Justice Cobb, formerly a resident of Evergreen, AL, was the first female Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. She became one of the state's youngest trial judges when appointed district judge of Conecuh County in 1981, accepting trial court assignments in

approximately 40 counties. She was the first woman elected to the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals, where she served two terms. Chief Justice Cobb has devoted her time and talents to improving the justice system of Alabama, working tirelessly on juvenile justice, access to justice, public safety, sentencing reform, and judicial selection reform. Having spoken nationally and internationally on a diverse number of topics, her emphasis is often on courageous, passion-driven leadership. Cobb played an instrumental role in forming Alabama Children First, a non-partisan advocate for all Alabama children. Justice Cobb believes in equal justice, clean water, and safe, healthy families. She is running for governor to save our community hospitals, improve our education system, rebuild our infrastructure, and to ensure that every Alabamian earns a liveable wage.



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## **CHRISTOPHER A. COUNTRYMAN**

Christopher A. Countryman has a diverse background in public service experience, professional experience and personal experience. Christopher has served his community as a pastor, an associate pastor, and as a youth pastor. Christopher has also

served his community as a board member of a county coalition for economic and social change while he was a corrections officer in Idaho. Most recently Christopher was an activist and advocate for equality. During his time as an activist for marriage equality he became one of the founders of Equality Wiregrass, where he organized several rallies and events in support of marriage equality. Christopher attributes his educational accomplishments to a lifelong passion for pursuing knowledge as he committed himself to deep personal study in government, law, and leadership. Christopher also studied at Global University where he completed the necessary courses to gain his certified minister credentials. When asked why he went into government Christopher responded, "As I looked around the state I saw citizens broken. Their faith in government had been shattered, and their hope for a better tomorrow had been lost. I knew that the years I had spent studying, preparing, and gaining experience wasn't for nothing. I knew that it must be for a purpose. So I took a step back, got out of the box and started seeing where I fit in to the picture. It was then I realized that it was time to Rethink Alabama, and so I decided to put everything I had experienced in life, the principals I had been taught and to run for Governor of Alabama. We need real answers, and real solutions. Solutions that are innovative, but also ones that come from someone who has integrity and can inspire others to be more than what they could imagine. I have proven to myself, and to others, that I am that person."

Christopher has included more information about himself, his campaign and his platform on his website at [www.rethinkalabama.com](http://www.rethinkalabama.com). There you can read about his detailed plan to rebuild Alabama's economy, infrastructure, and other important issues through the inclusion of his statewide recycling and clean energy policy.



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## **SCOTT DAWSON**

Scott Dawson is a lifelong resident of Alabama, reared on the west side of Birmingham in Ensley. The son of Paul and Ann Dawson, Scott grew up in a modest, blue-collar family with traditional values and a strong work ethic. As a teenager, Scott got his first job at Shoe City in Five

Points West.

Scott graduated from Ensley High School in 1985, and later earned his degree from Samford University while working at Western Supermarket to pay for school. In 1993, he received his Master of Divinity from Beeson Divinity School and was ordained in gospel ministry by order of Roebuck Park Baptist Church.

In 1987, he founded and became CEO of the Scott Dawson Evangelistic Association (SDEA), based in Birmingham. What began with one man, a mailbox, and a Bible has become a national outreach organization with a multimillion dollar annual budget touching millions of lives each year and has brought Scott before crowds across the Southeast to share and inspire with a message of hope.

Scott is married to his high school sweetheart, the former Tarra Blackmon of Midfield, and they have two children: Hunter (22) and Hope (18), both graduates of Spain Park High School and current students at Samford University.



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### **JAMES FIELDS**

James graduated from Hanceville High School in 1973 and attended Gadsden State Junior College from 1973-1975, where he majored in Law Enforcement and Sociology. James further advanced his studies at Jacksonville State University. He became a graduate in December of

1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Law Enforcement and Sociology. His thirst for knowledge didn't stop there. Following college, James attended the Marine Corps Officers School in Quantico, Virginia from 1976-1978 and he received an Honorable Discharge.

James is no stranger to hard work. In fact, his work experience and community involvement have molded and prepared him to be a leader in his community and the state. In his early years, James worked on his family small farm. He held his first public job at the age of 16 in the dietary department of Cullman Medical Center. Later he paid his way through college with a series of jobs at the Golden Rod Broiler Poultry Processing Plant, Lansing Industries, Cullman Products, and Bowden Electric Motor Company. After college, James began working for the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, where he served for over 28 years, assisting the public in locating jobs and he worked as a supervisor of the North Alabama Unemployment Fraud Division Investigators. He retired from this position to seek the Office of State Representative District 12, to devote his entire energy to serving the people of District 12. He was elected, January 29, 2008 in a Special election and served until November 2, 2010, with distinction and honor.

Today, he serves as a pastor at St. James United Methodist Church, a position he has held for the past twelve years. He has served as a pastor for the past eighteen years in the North Alabama Conference of The United Methodist Church. In addition, James has also served as a Youth director, Young Adults Coordinator and United Methodist Men President. He served two quadrennium on the General Board of Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns of The United Methodist Church.



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### **BILL HIGHTOWER**

Bill originally moved to Mobile in 1968, with his mom and dad, when his father established one of the first Open Heart Surgery Centers on the gulf coast.

In his youth, Bill worked at his grandparent's farm (where he became an avid sportsman), cleaned swimming pools, and also worked as a laborer on construction projects. Bill attended

University of South Alabama and graduated with his B.S. in Commercial Banking/Finance, with studies in economics from the London School of Economics & Political Science. He later went on to receive his M.B.A. at Vanderbilt University.

Bill has worked with Fortune 500 corporations including Emerson Electric, AlliedSignal, Eaton, and Balfour-Beatty. In 2002, shortly after the terror attacks of September 11, Bill returned home to Mobile to be closer to family.

He now runs several small businesses. His business experience makes him uniquely qualified to contribute job-growing policies for hard-working families in Alabama.

Bill is a Board Member to Outback America, a Christian organization that holds family camps in Mobile and other cities; a Board Chairman of a local Christian School; a Board Member to N.E.S.T., a local organization servicing the needs of the Strickland Youth Center; and an Executive Committee Member of the Alabama and Mobile Republican Parties.

In the Alabama State Senate, he serves on the following committees: Constitution, Ethics, & Elections (Chair), Banking and Insurance (Vice Chair), Fiscal Responsibility & Economic Development, Local Legislation No. 3 (Chair), County & Municipal Government, Rules, Finance & Taxation General Fund

Bill is married to Susan Binegar Hightower, and they have three children—Will (wife: Jeanette (Brabston)), Haven, and Ben, and three grandchildren.



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### **WALT MADDOX**

Walt is a Tuscaloosa native and graduated from Central High School in 1991. He earned his bachelor's degree in political science and master's degree in public administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

In 1996, Walt began his professional career as a Field Director with the Alabama Education Association. In 2001, he was appointed Executive Director of Personnel for the Tuscaloosa City Schools. In that same year, he was elected as City Councilman for the Sixth District.

In 2005, Walt was elected Mayor of Tuscaloosa. On May 22, 2017, he was sworn in for his fourth term as the 36<sup>th</sup> Mayor.

During his 12 years as Mayor, Walt led the City through ups and downs. He has been nationally recognized for his crisis management after April 27, 2011, when an EF-4 tornado destroyed 12.5 percent of Tuscaloosa. In 2012, Walt was named Municipal Leader of the Year by American City and County for his strong, decisive and comforting leadership. Walt is currently serving as a fellow with the Program on Crisis Leadership at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Walt is married to Stephanie and has two children, Taylor and Eli.

# THE INTERVIEWERS



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## **GIGI DOUBAN**

### **News Director, WBHM**

Gigi Douban became the news director for WBHM in 2016. She has reported for public radio since 2006. She's filed stories for WBHM, NPR, Studio 360, and Public Radio International's The World. Prior to

WBHM, Gigi reported for Marketplace, bringing the country stories about toxic landfills, debtors prisons, and lighter fare, like why urinals are ubiquitous in public bathrooms, but not in homes. She's also written for Bloomberg News and Runner's World, and on occasion, actually runs.



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## **VICTORIA HOLLIS\***

### **Strategy Director, Birmingham Education Foundation**

Victoria was born in New York City and lived in Pittsburgh and Louisville before moving to Alabama in 2003. A two-time graduate from

Auburn University, her credentials include twin bachelor's degrees in English and Psychology, a Master's in English, and a Doctorate in Education from Vanderbilt University. As a former adjunct instructor of freshman composition at AUM, Victoria demonstrates a distinct enthusiasm for education reform, progressive teaching strategies, and building relationships with people in the school community. She is on the Board of Directors for Growing Kings, Inc. and ACE Mentoring, Chair of local NPR-affiliate WBHM's Junior Board, a speaking coach for TEDxBirmingham, an alumni of the Alabama Leadership Initiative, and a recipient of the Vulcan Newcomer Spear Award in 2016, a National Philanthropy Award for Volunteerism from WBHM in 2017, and BBJ Top 40 Under 40 in 2018. As program director at the Birmingham Education Foundation, Victoria designed and built the foundation of Ed's signature programming, Educate Local, and in her current role as strategy director is researching and developing new opportunities for Ed to innovate around education. In her free time, Victoria enjoys revitalizing her 100-year-old Southside home, reading postmodern fiction, and adding to a growing collection of antique and vintage furniture.



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## **DR. ANTHONY HOOD**

### **Associate Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham**

Dr. Anthony C. Hood, PhD is an Associate Professor of Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship

in the UAB Collat School of Business. Leveraging social and behavioral science, Dr. Hood's research explores psychological safety, transactive memory, conflict, and friendship in teams. His research is published in outlets such as Production and Operations Management, Journal of Organizational Behavior, and the Journal of Business and Psychology among others.

Anthony chairs the community engagement components of a number of organizations including that of Innovate Birmingham and the UAB Center for Clinical and Translational Science. He also serves on several local and national boards focused on economic and community development including the Industrial Development Board of the City of Birmingham; Birmingham Education Foundation; Woodlawn Foundation; Community Investment Network; and the Green Resource Center for Alabama.

Prior to academia, Anthony enjoyed a 10-year career with BellSouth and AT&T where he served in roles such as network engineer, systems designer, and technical sales consultant. Prior to his career in telecommunications, he also worked for AmSouth Bank (now Regions), American General (now AIG) and Walmart.

Anthony received his PhD in Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa). He is also an alum of Stanford University's Teaching and Learning Studio and the Morehouse School of Medicine's Community Health Leadership program.



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## **DR. PETER JONES\***

### **Assistant Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham**

Peter Jones is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Alabama at

Birmingham. Broadly, his research focuses on public budgeting and finance, and in particular, he examines K-12 funding and the financial ramifications of various education policy issues. In his recent work, he examined where charter schools located across the US and how the recent charter school movement has influenced the revenues and expenditures of traditional public school districts. He has also examined how public school districts prepare for and respond to economic recessions.

A native of Kentucky, Prof. Jones earned his Ph.D. from the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Kentucky. Since moving to Alabama, he has joined the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama's Roundtable and serves as member of Alabama's State Advisory Committee for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. He and his wife, Prof. Allison Jones, live in Birmingham with their daughter, Evelyn, and bloodhound, the Great Gatsby.





**KENDRA KEY\***  
Attorney,  
Maynard Cooper & Gale

Kendra Key is an attorney in Maynard Cooper's Birmingham office. A member of the firm's Banking and Finance Practice Group, she has represented lenders, borrowers, purchasers, and sellers in affordable housing transactions, new market tax credit transactions, municipal bond transactions, and real estate transactions. Kendra's practice also includes land use planning and economic development.

Kendra is a graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School, where she held multiple leadership roles including Chief Justice of the Moot Court Board and Symposium Editor for the Environmental Law and Policy Annual Review. After graduating from law school, Kendra served as a law clerk for the United States Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in the chambers of Judge David F. Hamilton in Bloomington, Indiana.

Prior to attending law school, the Tuscaloosa, Alabama native served as Legislative Coordinator for the District of Columbia Public Schools and as a Legislative Aide in the Office of Congresswoman Terri Sewell in the U.S. House of Representatives, both in Washington, D.C. She earned her B.A. magna cum laude in Political Science from The University of Alabama, where she was student chair of the Blackburn Institute and was selected as a Harry S. Truman Scholar.



**DR. BRIDGETT KING**  
Assistant Professor,  
Auburn University

Bridgett A. King is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science and Master of Public Administration Program at Auburn University. Dr. King

teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in state and local government, American government, the Presidency, political participation, and public policy. She is also an instructor in the Election Center Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) Program.

Prior to joining Auburn, Bridgett was a Voting Rights Researcher at the Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School of Law. While completing her graduate studies at Kent State University, Bridgett coordinated the McNair Scholars program, which aims to boost the number of low income, first generation, and underrepresented college students who pursue doctoral degrees.

Her primary research interests include political participation, public policy, citizen voting experiences, and race and ethnicity. She has conducted extensive research on state voting regulations, race and turnout, and race, gender and access to technology. She is currently working on projects that address the relationship between state-level voting policies like felony disenfranchisement on voter turnout, citizen confidence in electoral outcomes, and the role of non-profits in civic engagement.



**OWEN TROTTER\***  
Project Manager,  
Dunn Building Company

Owen is a 1999 graduate of Gadsden High School and a 2005 graduate of Auburn University with a degree in Operations Management. He was involved in high-end, custom residential building in Nashville, Tennessee and was partner in Champion-Trotter, LLC a design-build site contractor. In 2013, Owen moved to Birmingham and transitioned to industrial and commercial construction with Dunn Building Company. With Dunn, Owen is a project manager and estimator focusing on heavy concrete and pre-engineered metal buildings. He is involved with the ABC, AGC, and is an associate member of the DBIA. Owen has two children--Leland, 6 years old and Elise, 4 years old.



**LEE ANN PETTY\***  
Moderator

Lee Ann is a native of Birmingham and a 1997 graduate of Mountain Brook High School. She graduated from Davidson College in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Spanish. She works at Regions Bank, where she spent the first 15 years as a Litigation Paralegal in the Legal Department and the past two years as a Program Manager in Community Relations, working closely with United Way of Central Alabama, Junior Achievement, and Birmingham Education Foundation. Outside of work she is active with the Junior League of Birmingham, the Firehouse Shelter, the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama, and the Cahaba Foundation. She is a member of the 2016 class of the BBJ's Top 40 Under 40, the 2015 recipient of the Crawford T. Johnson "Loaned Executive of the Year" award, and a recent winner of the "Corporate Volunteer of the Year" award presented by Hands on Birmingham.

# ABOUT PARCA

## Our Mission

Alabamians want similar things: good schools, safe neighborhoods, a strong economy, freedom, equality, and opportunity, but we often disagree about the best way to achieve these goals. We resolve these disagreements through healthy debate and negotiation, which requires accurate and unbiased information. PARCA exists to provide this information.

### WHO WE ARE

The Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama (PARCA) provides independent, objective information and analysis to Alabama's citizens and leaders to promote effective, efficient, and equitable decisions in its governments, schools, and nonprofits.

### WHAT WE DO

**Data Analysis:** Data should be a flashlight, not a hammer. PARCA provides complex data analysis to illuminate opportunities and improve outcomes.

**Research and Recommendations:** Numbers may tell what, but they don't tell why. PARCA seeks to understand what is working, what is not working, and what changes might be feasible.

**Performance Evaluation:** Trying hard is not enough. PARCA works with nonprofits, schools, and government agencies to define goals, measure accomplishments, and identify areas for improvement.

**Implementation Services:** Policies and programs are only as good as their implementation. PARCA works with administrators to design and implement evidence-based solutions.

### WHERE WE WORK

PARCA focuses on issues impacting Alabama's state and local governments, education and workforce development, and quality of life.

#### State and Local Government

- Analysis of proposed amendments to Alabama's Constitution.
- Comparative studies of Alabama's budgets and taxes.
- Comparative studies of municipal finances.
- SMART budgeting analysis for cities and counties.

#### Education and Workforce Development

- Studies of Alabama's Pre-K program.
- Deep dives into school systems' performance.
- Audits of school systems' administrative practices and procedures.
- Long-form research in partnership with the Business Education Alliance.

#### Quality of Life

- Comparative studies of infrastructure and the built environment.
- Research in health, poverty, community wellbeing.
- Community Vitality Indexes.
- Program evaluations of local nonprofits and social services providers.



## Our Staff

### RYAN HANKINS, CFRE

Ryan Hankins has served as the Executive Director of PARCA since October, 2015. Hankins holds a BA in religion and English literature, a Master of Divinity, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in public policy at Auburn University. Between his undergraduate and graduate degrees, Ryan studied at Oxford University. He serves on the Board of the Alabama Association of Nonprofits, where he is chair of the Education and Membership Committee. He has served as the Co-Chair of the Workforce Development Council of the Bold Goals Coalition, on Admission Review committees for the United Way of Central Alabama, on the Steering Committee of the Birmingham-Jefferson Food Policy Council, and as past President of the Alabama Association of Free Clinics. He is a graduate of Harvard Business School's Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management Executive Education program, the Alabama Association of Nonprofits' Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute, Leadership Birmingham, and is a 2015 Top 40 Under 40 Honoree.



### MARCI EDWARDS SMITH, MPA

Marci Edwards Smith joined the PARCA staff in October of 2003. As Director of Communications & Development, Marci is responsible for planning, coordination, and management of the strategic communications program, as well as event planning and administration for the organization. She also coordinates the PARCA Roundtable, which is a member-based group of young civic and business leaders who meet with public officials and other leaders to discuss issues currently affecting Alabama. Prior to becoming Director of Communications, Marci was a research associate at PARCA. This involved acting as project manager for several research studies, including topics such as education, community indicators and county water system collaboration. Marci holds a Master's Degree in public administration and a B.A. in political science, both from the University of Alabama.



### JOE ADAMS, PH.D.

Joe Adams, Ph.D. is the research coordinator for PARCA. He came from the John C. Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, where he worked with state and local governments to improve operations. He has taught more than 40 college courses in the areas of public policy, political theory, program evaluation, and ethics in public administration, and served as an active participant of 15 doctoral dissertation committees as a member of the MSU graduate faculty.



Adams has 23 years of experience in government research, analysis, and planning, including eight years in state government as a senior legislative research analyst with the Comptroller of the Treasury's Offices of Research and Educational Accountability in Tennessee, as a budget and performance analyst for the Texas with the Legislative Budget Board, and as the first director of planning for the Texas Workforce Commission. Before working in government, he was the research director for Political Research Inc., and a visiting assistant professor at Auburn University. He holds a B.A. in political science and history from Texas A&M University and a Ph.D. in political science from Vanderbilt University.

### THOMAS SPENCER

Thomas Spencer is Senior Research Associate. He has two decades of experience in journalism, most recently with *The Birmingham News*. Spencer has a diversified background, researching and writing on a wide variety of topics including the environment, education, economics, governmental and community affairs, politics and civil rights. His work has earned top national, regional and state awards. Before joining the News, Spencer was among the team of writers that launched *The Birmingham Weekly* and later served as its editor. Prior to that, he was Montgomery bureau chief for *The Anniston Star*, covering state government and politics. A Birmingham native, Spencer is a graduate of the University of Virginia.



### SUZANE CHURCHMAN, MSW

Suzane coordinates PARCA's development efforts and performs administrative duties for executive management. She is a trained social worker with a background in non-profit administration and management, holding a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Social Work from Louisiana College and Louisiana State University respectively.



### KENESHA REYNOLDS, PH.D.

Dr. Reynolds conducts economic research and coordinates data management and database design. She previously served as Assistant Professor at Rutgers University, where her primary focus was production and marketing of traditional and new agricultural products, agri-tourism, economic development and enterprise analysis. She held leadership roles in several public and academic organizations in New Jersey. Kenesha holds a B.S. degree from Northern Caribbean University, a Master's Degree in economics from Tuskegee University, and a Ph.D. in applied economics from Auburn University.



# ABOUT PARCA

## 2018 Board of Directors

### **PRESTON BOLT\***

PRESIDENT  
Member  
Hand Arendall Harrison Sale, LLC

### **LARKIN MARTIN\***

VICE-PRESIDENT  
Managing Agent  
Martin Farm

### **BETSY BUGG HOLLOWAY, Ph.D.\***

TREASURER  
Vice President Marketing  
and Communication  
Samford University

### **DAVID DONALDSON\***

SECRETARY  
Vice-President, Governmental &  
Community Relations  
Vulcan Materials Company

### **PHILIP DOTTS\***

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  
Managing Director  
Public Financial Management, Inc.

—

### **Robert Aland**

Birmingham Regional President  
National Bank of Commerce

### **Fred Blackwell\***

President  
Fred Blackwell Roofing

### **Stan Blanton**

Managing Partner  
Balch & Bingham

### **Fred O. Braswell, III**

President & CEO  
Alabama Rural Electric Association

### **William J. Canary**

President & CEO  
Business Council of Alabama

### **Greg Curran**

Chairman of the Firm  
Maynard, Cooper & Gale

### **Bob Davis**

Associate Publisher/Editor  
The Anniston Star

### **Bruce P. Ely**

Partner  
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

### **Tyrone Fenderson, Jr.**

Senior Vice President  
BBVA Compass Bank

### **Ann D. Florie**

Executive Director  
Leadership Birmingham

### **Robert A. Gates**

Executive Vice President  
Wells Fargo Bank

### **Nancy Goedecke**

CEO  
Mayer Electric

### **Ray Hayes**

Chancellor  
University of Alabama System

### **C. Wayne Hutchens**

President  
AT&T Alabama

### **Donny Jones**

Chief Operating Officer  
Chamber of Commerce  
of West Alabama

### **Barbara W. Larson**

Executive Director  
Leadership Alabama

### **Deborah J. Long\***

Executive Vice President, Chief  
Legal Officer and Secretary  
Protective Life Corporation

### **Beth Marietta Lyons**

Partner  
Lyons Law Firm

### **Gordon Martin**

Senior Vice President, Corporate  
and Administrative Services  
Alabama Power Company

### **Macke Mauldin**

President  
Bank Independent

### **Scott McLain**

Principal and Managing Broker  
Coldwell Banker Commercial  
McLain Real Estate

### **David Muhlendorf**

President & CEO  
LDM Company, Retired

### **Brenda Pike**

Executive Director  
Alabama Education Association

\* Executive Committee  
+Ex Officio

### **Jerry W. Powell**

General Counsel  
Cadence Bank, N.A.

### **J.T. Price\***

CEO  
McKinney Capital

### **Dudley Reynolds**

CEO  
Alagasco, Retired

### **Brandon Robinson+**

Partner  
Balch & Bingham

### **Andrea Smith**

CEO, Birmingham  
BBVA Compass Bank

### **Clint Shelton**

Publisher  
The Decatur Daily

### **J. Robin Stone**

Vice President, Governmental Affairs  
Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Alabama

### **Ken Tucker**

Director, State and Local  
Government Operations  
The Boeing Company

### **John M. Turner, Jr.**

President  
Regions Financial Corporation

### **Lynne Berry Vallely\***

Realtor  
Berry Millsaps Properties

### **Jesse Vogtle**

Partner  
Balch & Bingham

### **Neal Wade**

Director, Economic Development Academy  
University of Alabama

### **Tony Waldrop, Ph.D.**

President  
University of South Alabama

### **Andrew Westmoreland, Ed.D.**

President  
Samford University

### **Linda Wilder**

Southeast President  
HealthSouth

## 2018 Roundtable

\* Executive Committee

The PARCA Roundtable was established in January of 1998 to give young civic and business leaders the opportunity to study issues and government policy in Alabama in conjunction with the research conducted by the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama. The group meets with public officials and other leaders to learn about and discuss issues currently affecting the state and local governments. The Roundtable exists to increase the involvement of its members in seeking solutions to the state's problems.

**Khadijah Abdullah**

Teach for America

**Anne Knox Averitt**

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

**Joel Blankenship**

The Blankenship Law Firm

**Ellis Bledsoe**

Altec, Inc.

**Derek Conrad Brown\***

Merrill Lynch

**Wendy Davis**

Command Alkon

**Robert Dawson, Jr.**

Southern Company

**Donya Deal**

Vestavia Hills High School

**Alex Flachsbart**

Balch & Bingham

**Drew Fravert**

Fravert

**Scott Frederick**

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

**Harmony Gilder**

Blue Cross Blue Shield

**Katie Glenn**

Planned Parenthood Southeast

**Brandon Glover**

Alabama Power Company

**Linn Groft**

Breakthrough Birmingham

**Jessica Hightower Hopper**

United Way of Central Alabama

**Marshall Hollis**

Regions Financial Corporation

**Victoria Hollis**

Birmingham Education Foundation

**Ashley Hugunine\***

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

**Waymond Jackson**

Birmingham Business Alliance

**Caroline Janeway**

Samford University

**Kelley Javinett**

Tarrant School System

**Peter Jones**

University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Tyler Jones**

1504

**Courtney Kelly**

Courtney Christy Kelly Architect

**Eva Kendrick**

Human Rights Campaign

**Kendra Key**

Maynard Cooper & Gale

**Amanda Kin**

Jefferson State Community College

**Andrew Knowlton**

Hand Arendall

**Ashley Floyd Kuntz\***

University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Laura Leigh Latta**

Protective Life Corporation

**Michael Mahon\***

FHL Capital Corporation

**Michel Marcoux**

Balch & Bingham

**Daniel McKinney**

McKinney Capital

**Callan McWilliams**

Sloss Real Estate

**Radcliff Menge**

Tom Beckbe & Co.

**Adam Muhlendorf**

Longleaf Strategies

**Barbara Blackburn Mulligan**

Cadence Bank

**Drew Nelson**

Alabama Medicaid Office

**Jessica Payne**

Regions Financial Corporation

**John Peihnardt**

Directorpoint, LLC

**Lee Ann Petty\***

Regions Financial Corporation

**Thomas Raines**

A+ Education Partnership

**Ryan Robichaux**

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

**Brandon Robinson\* (Chair)**

Balch & Bingham

**Emily Schultz**

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

**Rebecca Boykins Selase**

Alabama Department of Human Resources

**Zarinah Shahid**

Alabama Power Company

**Kendra Sheppard**

Sheppard Consulting

**Susan Shields**

Leadership Birmingham

**Harrison Smith**

Maynard, Cooper & Gale

**Fred Smith**

Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama

**Dan Stephens**

United Way of Central Alabama

**Michael Stone**

Porter, White & Company

**Owen Trotter**

Dunn Building Company

**Jesse Unkenholz**

Balch & Bingham

**Tom Walker**

Sloss Real Estate

**Griffith Waller**

City of Montgomery

**Brandon Wolfe**

University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Alvis Wright**

Alabama Power Company



**Public Affairs  
Research Council  
of Alabama**

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