



**Jere F. White Jr.** will long be recognized as one of the most outstanding lawyers in the country. More importantly, he will be remembered as a great person, friend and mentor. A graduate of the University of Georgia and Samford University's Cumberland School of Law, Jere was a founding member of Lightfoot Franklin & White LLC in Birmingham. Jere held himself and others to the highest standard of the practice of law. A third-generation lawyer, he was truly a lawyer's lawyer. He cherished his relationships with the Bench and lawyers on both sides of the Bar. Jere balanced his success as a lawyer with an even stronger devotion to his faith, family, friends and community. Prior to his death on October 3, 2011, Jere and his wife, Lyda, established the Jere F. White Jr. Fellows Program at Cumberland. The Fellows Program seeks to recruit not only outstanding students with strong academic credentials, but also a history of leadership and commitment to service, thereby promoting the development of lawyers who share the ideals that were so important to Jere.



In 2017, **Doug Jones** shocked the political establishment by winning a special election to fill a U.S. Senate seat in Alabama - the first Democrat to do so in the state in 25 years. As a member of the Banking and Housing Committee, the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, the Armed Services Committee, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Committee on Aging, he quickly built a reputation as a well-regarded and effective legislator. He passed more than two dozen bipartisan bills into law in just three years, including legislation to end the military widow's tax, provide permanent funding for historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), shed light on Civil Rights-era cold cases, and expand access to broadband in rural communities. He was also one of the principal architects of the anti-money laundering legislation passed by Congress as part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2020.

Senator Jones began his career in 1979 as staff counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee for Senator Howell Heflin (D-AL). Following his stint in Washington, Senator Jones served as an Assistant United States Attorney from 1980-1984. He left government service in 1984 and was in the private practice of law in Birmingham, Alabama, until President Bill Clinton nominated him to the position of United States Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama. His nomination was confirmed by the Senate in November 1997 and he served as U.S. Attorney until June 2001. It was while serving in that position that Senator Jones successfully prosecuted two of the four men responsible for the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church that killed four young girls, finally bringing full justice and closure nearly 40 years after the attack. Along with taking on the Ku Klux Klan, he indicted domestic terrorist Eric Rudolph and prosecuted other criminals who sought to use fear, hatred, and violence to inhibit the rights of others.

Between his time as U.S. Attorney and his election to the Senate, Senator Jones was in the private practice of law, handling white collar, False Claims Act, and security fraud class actions. He has represented multinational corporations, small businesses, and individuals in high-stakes civil and criminal litigation. Senator Jones is a graduate of the University of Alabama and Cumberland School of Law.

**The Alabama Fellows of the American College of Trial Lawyers** are pleased to be a co-sponsor with Samford University's Cumberland School of Law for the Jere F. White Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute. We are proud that Jere, a Cumberland alumnus, was a member of our group.

The American College of Trial Lawyers was founded in 1950 with a mission to maintain and improve the standards of trial practice, the administration of justice, and ethics of our profession. The Fellows represent plaintiffs and defendants, and are from all parts of the trial bar. The College is proud that its Fellows include every member of the Supreme Court of the United States and the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Alabama Fellows of the American College of Trial Lawyers are dedicated to carrying out the mission of the College as was epitomized by Jere, and are proud supporters of the Jere F. White Jr. Fellows Program.

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# JERE F. WHITE JR. TRIAL ADVOCACY INSTITUTE

*Proceeds fund the Jere F. White Jr. Fellows Program at Cumberland School of Law*

## November 12, 2021

The Sheraton Hotel | Birmingham, Alabama

Six CLE hours, including one ethics hour

**Keynote Speaker: Senator Doug Jones**

*Don't miss drawings for a pair of Iron Bowl and SEC Championship tickets and a custom suit from Harrison Limited.*

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## Program

**7:45 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:25 a.m. Welcome**  
*Drawing for 2021 Iron Bowl Tickets\**

Gaynor L. St. John

**Morning Session Moderator:** S. Greg Burge

**8:30 a.m. Voir Dire**

George W. (Skip) Finkbohner III

**9:30 a.m. Opening Statement**

*Plaintiff Perspective*  
Kendall C. Dunson

*Defendant Perspective*  
Michael L. Bell

**10 a.m. Refreshment Break**

**10:15 a.m. Direct Examination**  
*Drawing for Helen Restaurant Gift Certificate\**

D. Taylor Flowers

**10:45 a.m. What Judges Want from Lawyers**

Hon. Ralph D. Cook  
Hon. Madeline H. Haikala

Hon. Roy B. (Skip) Dalton Jr.  
Dennis R. Bailey, *Moderator*

**11:45 a.m. The Jere F. White Jr. Fellows Program and Tribute To Jere F. White Jr.**

Samuel H. Franklin

Dean Henry C. (Corky) Strickland

**12:10 p.m. Luncheon | Introduction of Speaker**

*Introduction:* Richard H. (Rick) Deane Jr.

*Speaker:* Senator Doug Jones  
Arent Fox LLP  
Washington, D.C.

**1:15 p.m. Break**

**Afternoon Session Moderator:** Brian P. McCarthy

**1:30 p.m. Cross-Examination**  
*Drawing for Harrison Limited Custom Suit\**

*Plaintiff Perspective*  
G. Rick Hall

*Defendant Perspective*  
Kevin L. Butler

**2:30 p.m. Refreshment Break**

**2:40 p.m. Mediation Panel**

Alan T. Rogers  
E. Ham Wilson

Michael E. Upchurch  
Gaynor St. John, *Moderator*

**3:40 p.m. Closing Arguments**  
*Drawing for Gus Mayer Gift Certificate\**

*Plaintiff Perspective*  
David H. Marsh

*Defendant Perspective*  
Walter William (Billy) Bates

**4:40 p.m. Drawing for 2021 SEC Championship Football Tickets\***

**Adjourn**

*\*You must be present at the drawing to win.*

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*Gus Mayer*

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Mail: Cumberland School of Law CLE, P.O. Box 293759 Birmingham, AL, 35229

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Counts as live CLE credit: [cumberland.inreachce.com](http://cumberland.inreachce.com)

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