

WHAT YOUR LAWYERS DO FOR YOU

Cooper Shattuck, General Counsel
The University of Alabama System
March 3, 2015

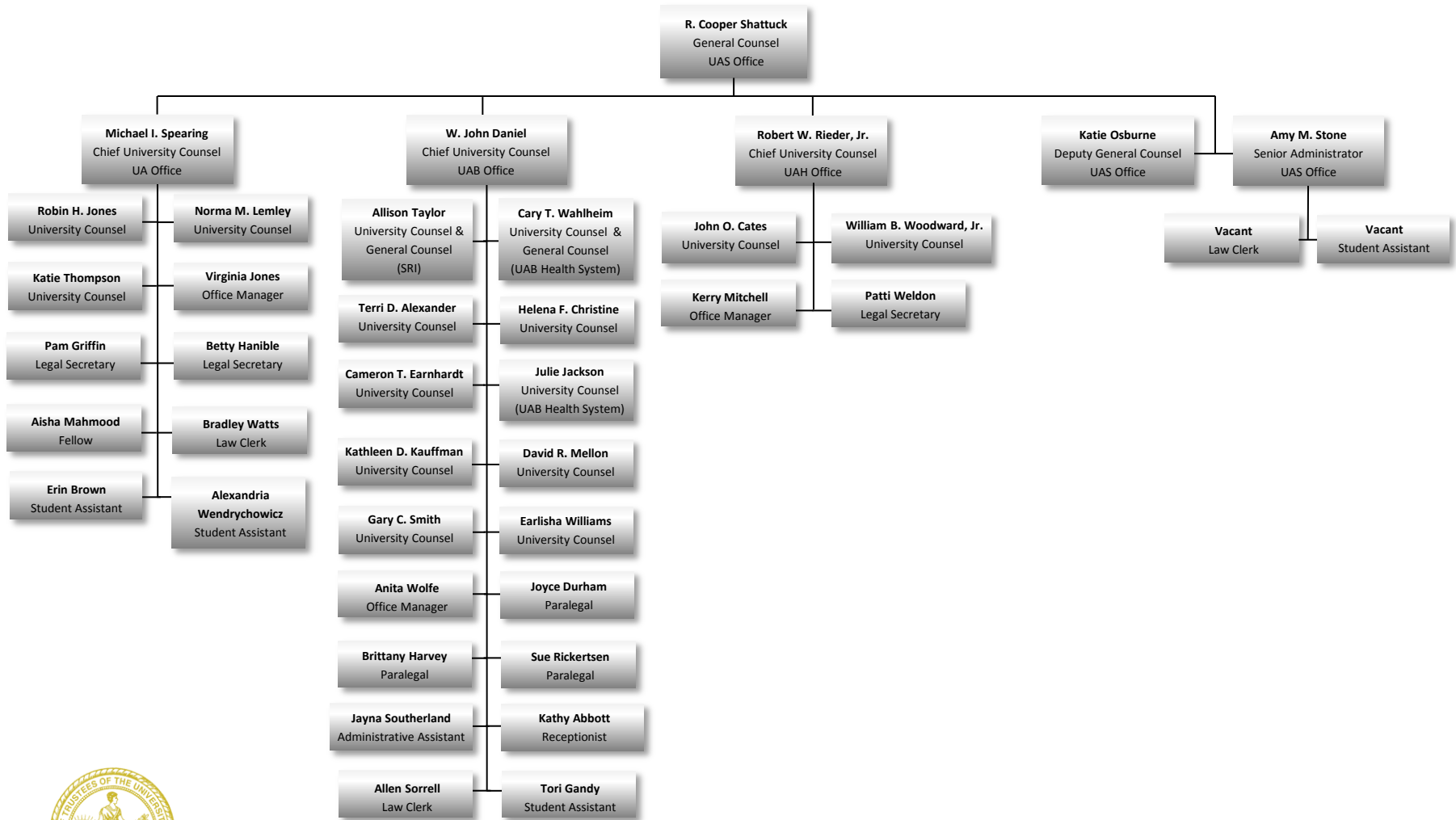


GENERAL COUNSEL

- Created by Bylaws
- “The General Counsel shall be appointed by the Chancellor with the approval of the Board. The relationship between the General Counsel and the Board of Trustees of the University shall be that of attorney-client and shall be governed at all times by the rules and standards of professional conduct. The General Counsel shall, as authorized by the Board, prosecute and defend claims, and engage outside counsel to represent the University’s interests. The General Counsel and its staff will be available at all times to advise the Board on any matter involving the University’s interests.”



OFFICE OF COUNSEL



OFFICE OF COUNSEL

Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of Counsel is to provide comprehensive legal services to and for the benefit of its client, The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama. The Office of Counsel furnishes legal services to the Board of Trustees directly, through its members and committees, and indirectly, through senior administrators for the University's System office, three campuses and affiliated foundations. Services are provided by attorneys and staff strategically located throughout the University of Alabama System.

The Office of Counsel will provide, manage, and coordinate legal services promptly, reliably, efficiently and professionally, and will ensure that the services provided through the use of outside counsel yield the best quality service at a reasonable cost. The Office of Counsel will exercise the highest ethical standards and professional competence, and will effectively communicate constructive advice based on independent judgment and thoughtful analysis.



TOP 10 TAKEAWAYS REGARDING LEGAL

1. One big primary legal entity, but lots of others.
2. Ask questions.
3. Ethics – you are a public employee.
4. Who is our client?
5. Open meetings.
6. Public records.
7. Immunity.
8. NCAA.
9. Governance – Bylaws, Board Rules, Statutes, Constitution.
10. Ask questions.

