



TITLE WAVE

January, 2017

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SLTA 2017 MID YEAR MEETING IN ATLANTA



We are pleased to announce the 2017 Midyear Meeting will be held in Atlanta! Our Mid-year Meeting will kick off with a family friendly social gathering at the College Football Hall of Fame on the afternoon of Sunday, April 9th! This fun event will include admission to tour the College Football Hall of Fame, as well as a reception with food and drinks for our attendees and their families.

Our 6 hour CLE/CE program will be held on Monday, April 10th at the Georgia State Bar Headquarters, located in Downtown Atlanta at 104 Marietta Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Our current SLTA President, Maria Martinez, and the Georgia Education Committee are working diligently to put together a day of fantastic speakers discussing matters relating to title and real estate closings, both residential and commercial, across all 3 states. Topics will include a 2017 economic forecast, legal description issues, marketing and the use of social media, cyber fraud, and the use of drones in real estate practice. We will have door prize giveaways and a fantastic lunch buffet as well! Please mark your calendar for the 2017 Midyear Meeting on Monday, April 10th, 2017, and plan to spend a beautiful spring weekend enjoying some of the great entertainment, dining and fun that Atlanta has to offer!

A full, detailed agenda and a list of recommended downtown hotels will be available on our website later this month.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am honored to serve as the 51st President of this fine organization. Our annual convention in Fairhope was a huge success thanks to the efforts of Past President, Danny Crotwell, and his Convention Chair, Michael Webber. The 50th Anniversary Celebration, complete with a spectacular fireworks show and a flawless transition to our new name, Southeast Land Title Association, was a first class event.

As I stated during my speech to those present at the convention, I am thankful to the board and the membership for selecting me as the next president of SLTA. Our organization has a rich history and I feel privileged to be a part of it. I believe that we are members of SLTA because we love this organization and want to see it thrive and survive for another 50 years. I promise to you all that I will do my best to make that happen.

Although I know many of our members, there are many of you who are not familiar with my background. For that reason, I thought I would take a moment to introduce myself to you and then focus on what this next year holds for our organization.

I come from a very small town in Louisiana called Raceland, which is located on Bayou Lafourche in Lafourche Parish. If you have ever been to Thibodaux, or Houma or Grand Isle, you probably passed through Raceland and didn't even know it. You would have seen lots of sugar cane fields and very few traffic lights. I got my undergraduate degree and my Law degree from LSU. I am licensed to practice law in Louisiana, Mississippi

and New York. I have been, for the past 20 years, with the law firm of Rushing & Guice located in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. Rushing & Guice is one of the oldest law firms in Mississippi, having been established in 1908. I am the Managing Partner there, and my practice focuses on many areas in addition to real estate, namely commercial litigation, professional malpractice and estate planning and probate. I don't do loan closings every day or even every week, but most of what I do requires an understanding of real estate and the ability to write title insurance, as many of our attorney members can appreciate. Being a member of this organization has given me unlimited resources to draw from in my practice, and that is one of the reasons why I care so much about it.

We have a great year ahead of us. Not only will this organization continue on its mission to educate its members, but also equally as important, to have a good time and to enjoy one another's company. I recently had the honor of attending the ALTA Annual Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. ALTA is the national trade association and voice of the abstract and title insurance industry and is a great resource for our membership. If you aren't already a member, I strongly encourage you to join. SLTA will hold its Mid-Year Meeting in Atlanta in the spring of 2017 and will offer continuing education credits to all attendees. SLTA's next annual convention will be held in one of my favorite cities, New Orleans. We will return to the Monteleone Hotel and we are working on

scheduling at least one event at the world renown World War II Museum along with several other fun, exciting and educational programs.

Thanks again for choosing me to be your President and I look forward to seeing all of you at Mid-Year.

Maria Martinez
SLTA President



DLTA BECOMES SLTA



After much thought and deliberation, the DLTA Board of Directors determined that in today's times, we must face the fact that the term "Dixie" may hinder us in our lobbying and recruitment efforts for the future. The board reached out to the membership to obtain input, and voted unanimously to change the name of our organization to Southeast Land Title Association. The new name and logo were unveiled at the end of the 50th Anniversary celebration of Dixie Land Title Association in Point Clear, Alabama last September.

Since that time, we have changed our website to www.SLTAOnline.net. Visit our site for information on upcoming activities.



President Danny Crotwell presents new SLTA logo.



Wait staff deliver coffee mugs to the participants with new SLTA logo.

2016-2017 SLTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Board of Directors from left to right include: Russell Gaines, Charles Greer, Kyle Levstek, Gina Matthews, Lynn Hightower-Moore, Amanda Calloway, Jance Voytanovsky, Maria Martinez and Michael Webber

Incoming President Maria Martinez and Outgoing President Danny Crotwell exchange plaques and gavels at installation ceremony.



Maria Martinez becomes the first President of Southeast Land Title Association.



TITLE PERSON OF THE YEAR



Congratulations!

Kathy Mitchell of
The Title Group Incorporated
Birmingham, AL

DLTA PAST PRESIDENTS



Twenty-one Past Presidents of Dixie Land Title Association attended the 50th Annual Convention. Each was given a rosewood pen set to commemorate the occasion.



Pictures from 50th Annual Convention



CONVENTION PHOTOS CONT'D



Attendees enjoy black tie dinner, champagne toast and fireworks!



SLTA MEMBERS HEAD IN MASS TO ALTA CONVENTION IN SCOTTSDALE, AZ



Deborah Bailey and Amanda Calloway at General Session

Roy Perilloux and John Alwood enjoy the final event at the convention.



Charlie Gray and Amy Niesen at General Session.



Lynn Hightower-Moore was a presenter at the conference, and dressed the part.



Maria Martinez, Charlie Gray and Amy Niesen at final event.



The SLTA Gang poses for final picture.

SLTA VISION STATEMENT:

Southeast Land Title Association sets the standard for ethics, knowledge, and success in the land title industry.

SLTA MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of Southeast Land Title Association is to promote the safe and efficient transfer of real property ownership through education, public awareness, and legislative advocacy.

SLTA COMMITTEES:

- Finance Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Education Committee
- Convention Committee
- Governmental/Legislative Committee
- Membership Committee

If you wish to participate as a member of one of these committees, please notify the Executive Director at 225-291-2806, or LAlwood@AOL.com.

Southeast Land Title
Association
P O Box 14806
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
225-291-2806

Visit our website at
www.SLTAOnline.net

Join us in New Orleans
September 14-16, 2017

