



# TITLE WAVE

November, 2018

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## BILL MILLER NAMED TITLE PERSON OF THE YEAR



### Former Recipient Marcus Calloway Presents Award to William F. Miller, Jr. of Land Title Company of Alabama

The Title Person of the Year Award should more accurately be called the Lifetime Achievement Award for this year's recipient. He is a graduate of Loyola University and Loyola University Law School in New Orleans. He was an infantry officer in the United States Army but was called home from active duty to run the family title company when his father passed away unexpectedly in 1963.

Fast forward 55 years, and he still comes to the office every day. However, he doesn't just come to the office. He and his brother grew their father's company to be one of the largest title agencies in Alabama. A person like this deserves more than just a Title Person of the Year award—he deserves the Title Person for 55 Years Award.

Congratulations!

## Letter from the President

Hello SLTA Members,

This first two months of my presidency has been busy, and I'm excited to fill y'all in! In early October I headed out to LA to represent SLTA at the ALTA ONE Convention. It was a fantastic, fast-paced convention, filled with awesome amounts of information. The focus of most sessions was on the need for our industry to embrace innovation, with remote online notarization (a/k/a "RON") as the hot topic of the moment. This convention reinforced for me the importance and value of our governmental affairs committees, and the important role SLTA can and should play in shaping the RON legislation in each of our respective states, so that our industry's interests are represented. Of course, it was certainly not all work at ALTA ONE

... I went bowling with the other land title association leaders (John Alwood's bowling skills are impressive!); attended a party dressed in old Hollywood glamor and walked a (fake) red carpet; saw Amy Niesen win a Vespa; ate dinner under the Space Shuttle Endeavour; spotted Taylor Swift walking through the hotel lobby the night of the American Music Awards; and got to watch a southern girl (albeit from South Carolina) take the helm as ALTA president for the 2018/2019 term! I know people say this a lot, but my experience in LA proved it to be true once more, that the people in the title industry are the BEST. From the other agents and state leaders from across the country, to the knowledgeable ALTA staff, to the underwriters and executives from the various title companies, to the numerous vendors showing off their innovative products, everyone I met reinforced my belief that the title business is a great business to be in!



Upon my return from Lala Land, I've turned my attention to getting to work on my goals for SLTA. I mentioned in my remarks in September that one of my points of focus for our organization this year will be on finding ways to attract, train, and retain the next generation of title professionals. I feel it is our responsibility to find ways to show young people that there is a bright and meaningful future for them in the title industry. SLTA will lead the way in creating a more formalized means of bringing new talent into our ranks. We will set the standards for passing on our great body of knowledge onto the next generation, so that when the time comes, we can confidently pass the torch to professionals who are just as skilled. To serve this goal, one of the actions recently taken by your SLTA board was engaging Bowe Digital to give us a marketing makeover. The board is currently working with Wayne Stanley and his talented team at Bowe Digital to develop a comprehensive marketing approach which will help us reach our desired audience and help educate people about the title industry. SLTA is focused on increasing our social media presence to let even more members know about our events and benefits while introducing more of the industry to all

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)

SLTA does on their behalf. We're excited to launch a new SLTA Facebook page and encourage any SLTA member to join and invite your entire team to like the page as well! Expect a lot more social media activity from SLTA, both on Facebook and Twitter, thanks to Bowe Digital's help. Beyond our new and expanded social media presence, your SLTA board is currently scheduled to meet with the Bowe Digital team at the end of November to develop our organization's "story arc" as well as a new SLTA logo.

As you all know, SLTA hosts an annual Midyear Meeting in the spring consisting of committee planning meetings, a board meeting, and six hours of education geared towards title industry professionals and their staff. We have selected beautiful and historic Savannah, Georgia as the site of the 2019 SLTA Midyear Meeting! The committee and board meetings will be held on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> and our six-hour seminar will be held the following day, Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Events will be held at the Andaz Hotel and a block of rooms has been reserved for March 2<sup>nd</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup>, in hopes that attendees will spend the weekend enjoying Savannah. The education committees are working on the agenda for the seminar, so keep an eye out for the agenda in the coming months.

I'd like to wish you all a prosperous year end, and a very happy holiday season! I hope to see you in Savannah in the spring!

Thanks,

Amanda Calloway



# SLTA Had Fun in Sandestin!

Disco Party on Thursday



From Travolta to the Village People, our Disco Party was a fabulous hit! Everyone dressed in costume.

# Meetings, Fishing, and Moonlight Veranda Dinner on Friday



No matter where you were Friday, you had great fun and learned a lot. Past Presidents met for lunch with eleven in attendance. Marcus Calloway took a boatload of SLTA attendees fishing off the gulf, and though I am not sure they caught a lot of fish, they had big smiles when they returned. The day ended with a beautiful dinner on the veranda with moonlight and a light breeze making the evening just perfect.

## More Fun with Awards and Installation of Officers on Saturday



President Michael Webber welcomed ALTA President Steve Day to the event. Day gave an update on ALTA issues during his presentation, and then installed our 2019 Officers and Directors at the President's Luncheon on Saturday.



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

## Mississippi Legislative Affairs Update



Greetings SLTA folks. There was somewhat limited legislative activity in Mississippi in 2018 directly related to real estate transactions, but the legislation that was finalized provides some needed clarification in the area of the conveyance of property where a manufactured or mobile home is present on the property.

House Bill 827, which has been signed by the Governor and will become effective January 1, 2019, establishes a new procedure for the owner of a manufactured or mobile home (“manufactured home”) to retire the title to the manufactured home and convert the manufactured home to real property. The legislation is very detailed and I would encourage anyone in Mississippi that is involved in a transaction involving manufactured housing to take a deeper dive into the bill. Here are some things to consider when reviewing the bill:

1. A manufactured home is classified as personal property and is not insurable for title insurance purposes unless title has been “retired”.
2. The procedures set forth in Miss. Code Ann. § 63-21-30 must be followed to “retire” the title to the manufactured home.
3. The process to retire the title differs where a Certificate of Title has been issued for the manufactured home versus where a Certificate of Title has not been issued versus where a Certificate of Title has been lost.

Again, the bill provides detailed protocols, so please consult the bill as you move forward with real estate transactions after January 1, 2019 involving a manufactured or mobile home.

Although the next topic does not involve legislation, it is still very important in that it has the potential to significantly impact the real estate industry in Mississippi moving forward. A Title Standards Board has been created by the Executive Committee of the Real Property Section of the Mississippi Bar to create proposed standards which, if adopted by

the section membership, would be recommended to be followed in real estate transactions.

The Board members include real estate practitioners, individuals employed by title insurance industry and various other participants. The Board has met several times since April of this year and is continuing to meet periodically to develop a set of Title Standards. The current proposal is that those standards will be presented to those members of the Real Property Section of the Bar that attend the Real Property Section meeting at the 2019 Bar Convention, with a vote to be held as to adoption of the standards at that meeting. Anyone that is interested in learning more about the Title Standards Board and their work is encouraged to contact the Real Property Section of the Mississippi Bar.

**Terry P. Weill, Chair**  
**SLTA Mississippi Legislative Affairs Chair**

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Welcome to  
**Southeast Land  
Title Association**

**Visit and Like our new Facebook Page**

# SLTA Mid-Year in Savannah, GA

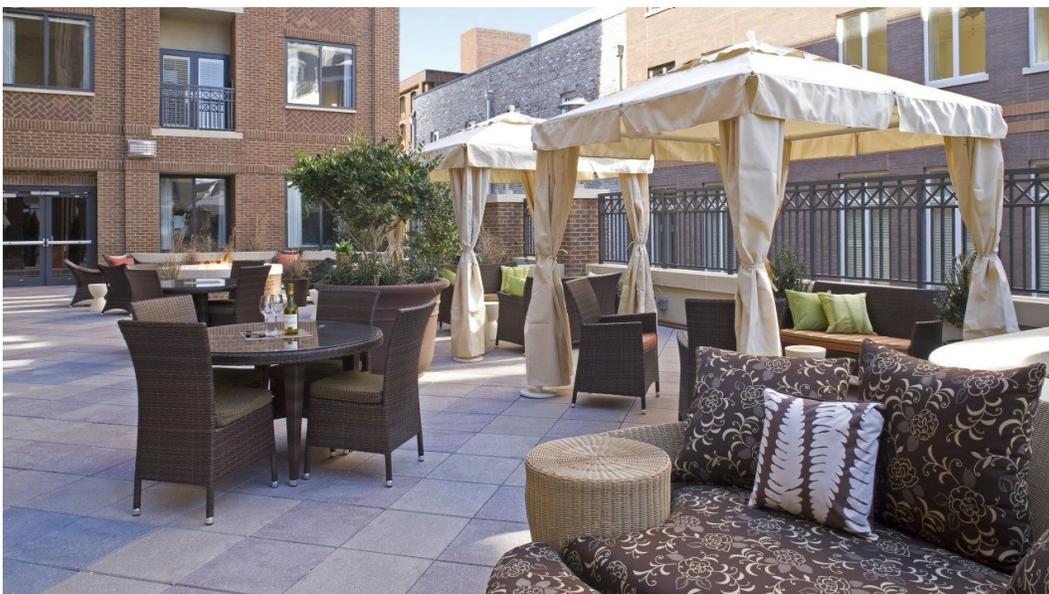
## Andaz Hyatt Hotel

### March 3-4, 2019



## Mark Your Calendar!

Make plans now to attend the Mid-Year Meeting in the heart of the historic district of beautiful Savannah, GA. The hotel is just steps from City Market, River Street, and the city's cultural events.



**SLTA Annual Convention  
September 12-14, 2019  
The Lodge at Gulf State Park  
Gulf Shores, AL**

**Save The Date!**



## 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 LAI-wood@AOL.com.



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[www.SLTAOnline.net](http://www.SLTAOnline.net)