



SOUTHEAST LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION

# TITLE WAVE

February, 2019

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## JOIN US IN SAVANNAH SLTA MID-YEAR 2019



**Register now to attend the Mid-Year Seminar in beautiful, historic Savannah, Georgia March 4th.**

Southeast Land Title Association is pleased to offer 6.0 CLE/CE credits, including 1 professionalism and 1 ethics at this year's Mid-Year Seminar.

Topics include:

- ◆ Remote Online Notarization
- ◆ Making Sense of Blockchain
- ◆ Professionalism in These Evolving Times of Practice
- ◆ Title Ethics Jeopardy
- ◆ Bankruptcy Basics for Dirt Lawyers
- ◆ Historic Preservation Tax Credits

**Register now at [www.SLTAOnline.net](http://www.SLTAOnline.net).**

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# Letter from the President

Hello SLTA Members!

As we embark into 2019, I find myself immersed in all things SLTA, especially preparations for numerous events we have on the calendar for this year! I'd like to take this opportunity to share what's new and what's on the horizon for our organization.



You have likely noticed our updated logo, courtesy of the brilliant folks at Bowe Digital. The board discussed style and color at length, and eventually decided we could all agree on green and navy, mostly due to the fact these are not the colors of any SEC team. I'm sure you can imagine the debate between various shades in the red-toned color family (red with black, red with navy, crimson, and burnt orange)! Please check out our new logo on our new Facebook page. Our new Facebook page is a public page, unlike the prior group page, which was limited to just our membership. The old group page still exists, but if you partake in social media, please make sure you go and "like" the new, public page (which is listed under Southeast Land Title Association) so that you get the benefit of experiencing all the great content we are posting. SLTA is also on Twitter, so check us out there as well! We are using our enhanced social media presence to keep industry professionals in the know about our events and benefits, as well as to expose the general public to title industry news and information.

The 2019 calendar is packed with opportunities to engage with your fellow SLTA members, potential new members, and industry experts in all three of our member states! I'm so proud of the fantastic, dynamic speakers and exciting, topical content SLTA offers at our seminars, and the slate for 2019 is no exception. Thanks to the hard work of the education committees and board members we are offering 37 hours of title related education opportunities this calendar year. On March 4<sup>th</sup> we will gather in beautiful Savannah, GA for the annual Midyear meeting where we will hear about the status of remote online notarization legislation across the country from an ALTA expert, brush up on some of our core title examination and underwriting skills, test our ethics knowledge, and gain some tips on dealing with historic properties. Later in the spring we will host title schools in Birmingham, Biloxi and Atlanta. Please keep an eye on your emails and our SLTA website for title school details and registration. We will wrap the year up with our annual convention at the award-winning new Lodge at Gulf State Park in picturesque Gulf Shores! Gulf State Park was recently

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)

honored as the 2018 Attraction of the Year by the Alabama Tourism Department due in no small part to the recent improvements and additions to this beautiful park. Convention planning is well under way, but it's not too late to join my convention committee and get in on the fun! Whether you want to develop educational content, plan a social event, take a turn bartending in the hospitality suite, assist with registration, solicit sponsors, or help design some convention swag, the convention co-chairs and I would love your input and your help. More details on our convention will become available as this fun-filled event takes shape, but I highly encourage everyone to block off September 12<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> on your calendar now, and plan to enjoy education, fellowship and gorgeous surroundings with SLTA at The Lodge at Gulf State Park.

Part of my platform as your President is bringing the strong spirit of volunteerism from years past back to our organization. I'm so pleased to see our various committees filled with participants who are bringing new ideas and support to our membership, education and legislative endeavors. As part of this effort to increase volunteerism, the board is also working on a way for SLTA to give back to our local communities through charities that are meaningful to our membership in each state. As your current SLTA president, I'm here to serve you, our membership. Please feel free to reach out to me with any ideas, concerns, or other matters affecting our organization that you'd like to discuss. Happy 2019 y'all, it's going to be another exceptional year for SLTA!

Amanda Calloway

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# SOUTHEAST LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION

SLTA is strong because of our continued tradition of willing and engaged members. To reach even further success in our three states, we need you to best continue our mission of advocacy, education and relationship building among the South's title professionals now and into the future.

## WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN SLTA TODAY



### 1. ADVOCACY

Whether it's fighting for our industry at the state houses of Montgomery, Atlanta and Jackson, or making sure our voice is heard up north on Capitol Hill, SLTA members know about legislation that affects them long before it becomes law.



### 2. EDUCATION

We're proud of our title schools and conventions but we also think it's important to be your resource when it comes to interpreting industry news for you, so you'll know exactly how some new law or set of regulations will affect you right here at home.



### 3. CONNECTIONS

We're proud of our roots, dating back all the way to 1966. Back then, SLTA was purely a social club. Though we've added other functions to best serve our members, we've never stopped fostering a friendly forum for all of our members. Come join the best professionals in Alabama, Mississippi & Georgia!



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



Like SLTA on Facebook

**SLTA: ROOTED IN TRADITION,  
UNITED FOR THE FUTURE.**

## Title Professionals Care . . .



First American Title Insurance Company held their Annual Agent Seminar on November 16th, 2018. Alabama agents from all over the state joined with First American, and together raised over 700 pounds of canned goods that were donated to the Community Food Bank of Alabama. This Food Bank provides food for over 200 Partner Agencies in Alabama and you can learn more about what they do by visiting their website at [www.feedingal.org](http://www.feedingal.org). This was the 4th consecutive year that Alabama agents came together for this worthy cause and they should be commended for their efforts to help others during the Holiday season.

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**GEORGIA 2019 SPRING SEMINAR  
MARCH 19TH  
COBB GALLERIA  
ATLANTA, GA**

Register now to attend the Georgia 2019 Spring Seminar at the Cobb Galleria in Atlanta, GA on March 19th.

Participants will have the opportunity to earn 6.0 CLE credits, including 1 hour of Ethics. Register on line at [www.SLTAonline.net](http://www.SLTAonline.net).

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**ALABAMA 2019 TITLE SCHOOL  
APRIL, 2019  
BIRMINGHAM, AL**

Watch for details on the upcoming Alabama 2019 Title School, which will be held in early April, 2019, in Birmingham.

Six CLE credits will be offered to attendees, including 1 hour of Ethics. Visit our website at [www.SLTAOnline.net](http://www.SLTAOnline.net) for details.

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**MISSISSIPPI 2019 TITLE SCHOOL  
MAY 20TH  
BEAU RIVAGE RESORT  
BILOXI, MS**

Mississippi title agent members can receive 7.0 hours of FREE continuing legal education credits by attending the Mississippi 2019 Title School on May 20th. The seminar will be held at the Beau Rivage Resort in Biloxi, MS on the Gulf Coast.

The seminar will include 7.0 hours of CLE credits, including 1 hour of Ethics. Register now online at [www.SLTAonline.net](http://www.SLTAonline.net)

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

## Georgia Legislative Affairs Update



The 2019-2020 session of the Georgia General Assembly convened on January 14, 2019, and it is highly probable that Georgia will join South Carolina and Utah to become the 3<sup>rd</sup> state in the union to introduce a Predictable Recording Fees (“Flat Fees Recording”) bill in this legislative session. Like South Carolina, Georgia is also expected to propose a statewide flat fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for filing certain documents in the real estate records. For the last few years, the idea of flat rate recording fees has gained traction and the number of states enacting these bills have steadily increased and the comments from the states that have adopted Flat Fees Recording have been overwhelmingly positive.

The State Bar of Georgia’s Legislative Program, an advocacy and education program updated on legislation that impacts the practice of law, announced that the State Bar of Georgia Executive Committee, Board of Governors or Advisory Committee on Legislation have approved a study committee to look at Remote Online Notaries to its 2019 State Bar Legislative Agenda. This proposal sets the stage for a study committee in the Legislature to convene relevant stakeholders and investigate ways to modernize Georgia’s notary statute. The committee will look specifically at the Model Legislation for Remote Online Notarization that was developed by the collaborative efforts of the Mortgage Bankers Association and the American Land Title Association

Further afield, on May 25, 2018, the European Union (“EU”) implemented the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679). This regulation provides EU-based individuals (“data subjects”) with certain rights and privileges with respect to their personal information. Within the GDPR framework, the term personal information is precisely defined in the regulation and data subjects are given certain rights including the right to be informed about the collection and use of personal data, the right to access the data and the right of erasure. Furthermore, data subjects must “opt in” before their personal data can be collected and stored.

On June 28, 2018, staying true to its reputation as an early adopter state, California enacted AB 375, the Consumer Privacy Protection Act of 2018, referred to by some observers as “GDPR Lite.” This Data Privacy law is currently on scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2020. This law is unprecedented in the United States in that it grants California residents a broad range of right like the GDPR does to its data subjects. What is left to be determined is how this law will be applied as California residents do business in other states, and whether other states will follow California and adopt their own data protection law. What is certain is, if you hold data on more than 50,000 people which is easy to do if you are in the land conveyancing business, or do business in California or with California citizens, this law will impact the way you do business and should remain on your radar.

**Deborah S. Bailey, Esq.**  
**Bailey Helms Legal LLC**  
**Chair, SLTA Georgia**  
**Legislative Affairs Committee**

# Thank you SLTA Sponsors

## Platinum Sponsors



## Silver Sponsors



## Mid-Year Meeting Sponsors

Chicago Title/Commonwealth Land Title—Georgia Agency  
Softpro

**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 Linda@rivermgt.com.

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

Visit our website at  
[www.SLTAOnline.net](http://www.SLTAOnline.net)



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