

First Quarter 2011

Womble Carlyle Attorney Jacquelyn Austin Named Federal Magistrate Judge

GREENVILLE, S.C.—Womble Carlyle’s loss is the federal bench’s gain.

[Jacquelyn Austin](#), a business litigation attorney in the firm’s Greenville office, has been named the newest Federal Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, Greenville Division. In early 2011, she will move her office a few blocks down the street and begin her new role as Magistrate Judge.

“It’s rare that one of these seats comes open and I thought it would be a great experience,” Austin said. “It is an opportunity I didn’t think I could pass up.”



The selection process for Federal Magistrate Judges is an intensive one. Candidates were first screened by a panel of local legal leaders, including Womble Carlyle attorney Brent Clinkscale. That blue-ribbon panel selected the five finalists. From there, the U.S. District Court Judges themselves decided on who should fill the post—and they selected Austin.

In her new role, Austin will oversee a wide range of legal matters, including Social Security appeals, some criminal arraignments, pre-trial criminal matters, discovery matters in civil cases and pro se cases.

She noted that Magistrate Judges serve an eight-year term, meaning she could still return to private practice after her first term, should she so choose.

“We certainly view this news with mixed emotions,” said [Allen Grumbine](#), Managing Member of Womble Carlyle’s Greenville Office. “On one hand, we will miss Jacquelyn daily. She has been a friend and valued colleague for more than a decade. On the other hand, we are proud of her being selected to this prestigious post, and we wish her nothing but continued success.”

Austin joined Womble Carlyle in 1997 and represents clients in intellectual property litigation matters including DNA sequencing, anti-counterfeiting technology, and software. She has also been involved in several class action matters, engineering malpractices case, health care fraud cases, and has also handled a number of ERISA matters.

Before joining the firm, Austin served as a Law Clerk to Judge Matthew Perry in the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina.

In addition to her outstanding work on behalf of her clients, Austin also is active in her community. She serves on the United Way Women’s Attorney Committee, and the LEAD Academy Board of Directors. Austin has been an active supporter of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, serving as a panel speaker at events targeting aspiring attorneys. She also is a former Member of the South Carolina Bar’s Judicial Qualifications Committee.

Hada Haulsee Named to UNC Law Alumni Board

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.—Womble Carlyle attorney [Hada de Varona Haulsee](#) has been named to the Board of Directors of the University of North Carolina Law Alumni Association.

The goals of the Board of Directors are to:

- Provide leadership for the University of North Carolina School of Law Alumni Association through representation of a geographic area or special constituency.
- Serve as an “ambassador” for the School of Law in the community and with legal colleagues.
- Support the private fundraising efforts of the School of Law by making an annual gift to the school.
- Provide guidance for the School of Law’s services to alumni and the legal community.



Haulsee has been elected to serve a three-year term (January 2011 – December 2013) and represent UNC School of Law alumni in the following NC counties: Davidson, Forsyth, Rockingham, Stokes.

Haulsee has nearly 30 years of experience in defending clients in large-scale class action and product liability lawsuits. Her successes include representing Dryvit Systems Inc. (a building materials manufacturer) in a landmark 2001 product liability case that established a legal standard for similar litigation. The case (*Lienhart v. Dryvit Systems, Inc.*) has been cited dozens of times in courts across the country.

Haulsee has been named to North Carolina Super Lawyers and to The Best Lawyers in America. Also, in 2009, she was named one of the Triad’s Women Extraordinaire by Business Leader Media.

Earlier this year, Haulsee [was named the first-ever winner](#) of UNC’s Outstanding Latina Alumna Award. She is a 1981 graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Bernard Coleman Named One of Atlanta’s “40 Under 40” Business Leaders

ATLANTA—One day, [Bernard Coleman](#) might be negotiating a nine-figure corporate acquisition. The next, he might be helping a struggling filmmaker find funding for her next project. Or he could be advising a celebrity athlete on a promising new business venture.

One thing is for sure: Coleman, a Womble Carlyle Corporate and Securities attorney, is making deals happen in the Atlanta market. That’s why he has been named one of Atlanta’s “40 Under 40” by the [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#). The award honors local business leaders under the age of 40. Coleman was honored at an awards ceremony at the Georgia Aquarium on November 11, 2010.

Coleman has negotiated, structured and closed deals worth hundreds of millions of dollars, finding success even when the market is otherwise sluggish.

In addition to his significant transactional experience, Bernard also leads Womble Carlyle’s Sports and Entertainment Practice. In this role, he utilizes his extensive business experience to counsel professional athletes and entertainers in various business deals, such as evaluating, negotiating and structuring

investment opportunities, product endorsements (including, television commercials and strategic partnerships), and reality television shows.

Perhaps Bernard's most famous client is legendary boxing champion and hometown Atlanta icon Evander Holyfield. Bernard has become a trusted business advisor to Holyfield and is helping the Champ develop and market a line of revolutionary nutritional supplement products and develop a line of fitness centers in India.

Bernard also works with film industry clients in Georgia. Using his extensive business experience and vast network of contacts, Bernard counsels independent filmmakers on organizing, structuring and raising capital for film productions. Bernard understands the market, and knows how to help obtain funding from lenders and investors, including creative strategies such as micro-financing, co-productions deals, and tax incentives programs. He works with filmmakers to help their projects qualify for tax credits from the Georgia Department of Economic Development.

Bernard serves on the Board of Advisors for the Peachtree Village International Film Festival and Southern Television and Film Summit. He has organized, led and spoken at numerous events designed to help filmmakers finance, develop and distribute motion pictures. Bernard also has written extensively about legal issues pertaining to the sports and entertainment fields.

Active in the community, Bernard has served on the Board of Directors of the National Kidney Foundation of Georgia, and is a Member of the Corporate Leadership Council for the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Since joining Womble Carlyle in May 2009, he has been active in the firm's Striking Back at Cancer Bowl-A-Thon to benefit the Aflac Cancer Center at Children's Healthcare, including bringing in a number of celebrities to promote the charity event.

"Bernard is highly deserving of this award. He is an outstanding attorney and a community leader, and we are proud to call him our colleague," said [John F. "Sandy" Smith](#), Member in Womble Carlyle's Atlanta Corporate and Securities practice.



Alison Ashe-Card Profiled in DRI Publication

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.—Womble Carlyle product liability litigation attorney Alison Ashe-Card [was profiled in *The Voice*](#), published by DRI, the Voice of the Defense Bar.

Ashe-Card currently serves as the webpage/blog chair for DRI's Diversity Committee, where she provides quality content on diversity and women's issues for DRI's blog. She also recently has been appointed to serve on DRI's Public Policy Committee for the 2010-2011 term.

At Womble Carlyle, [Ashe-Card](#) counsels clients involved in high profile, large-scale product liability cases where complex medical and scientific issues are critical to the defense. She has extensive expertise in a full range of legal, factual and scientific issues involved in product liability litigation and has a particular expertise in crafting medical and science-based defenses.

Ashe-Card also has extensive experience in utilizing technological innovations to formulate efficient and cost-effective approaches to case/matter management in complex litigation and transactional matters.

She is the former president of the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers (2004-2008), a group comprised of more than 900 lawyers and judges. Ashe-Card practices in Womble Carlyle's Winston-Salem office.



Womble Attorneys Speak at MCCA *Pathways to Diversity Conference*

Firm attorneys Sanjay Beri, Bernard Coleman, and Kevin Lyn, along with Chief Talent Officer Carmen Canales, and Sales Director Kelvin Chin, attended the Minority Corporate Counsel *Pathways to Diversity Conference* November 10 in New York City. Beri was a panelist on the topic *The Great Equalizer: Using Social Media to Level the Playing Field* and Coleman was a panelist for *Managing Fluctuating Diversity Budgets: Doing More with Less*. The conference provided a great opportunity to network with in-house counsel and lateral candidates.

The Minority Corporate Counsel Association, Inc. (MCCA) was founded in 1997 to advance the hiring, retention, and promotion of diverse attorneys in legal departments and the law firms that serve them. MCCA accomplishes its mission through the collection and dissemination of information about diversity in the legal profession.



Jackie Camp, Ellen Gregg, Erna Womble Named 2010 *Women Extraordinaire* Winners

Womble Carlyle attorneys [Jackie Camp](#), [Ellen Gregg](#) and [Erna Womble](#) have been named winners of the 2010 [Business Leader Media](#) Women Extraordinaire Awards.

- Jackie Camp has nearly two decades of experience as a corporate and securities attorney. Some of her most notable transactions include large-scale international project finance work. For example, Camp has financed projects ranging from the new U.S. Embassy in Belize to affordable housing in Honduras to a luxury hotel in Liberia. She practices in the firm's Greensboro office.
- Ellen Gregg leads Womble Carlyle's [Case Management Facility](#). The CMF is an entire practice team devoted to backing state-of-the-art technology that organizes, tracks, searches and synthesizes "the paper" into information attorneys can use. To date, the CMF has worked with more than 100 law firms, including more than 30 of the nation's 100 largest firms. In the past three years alone, the CMF handled more than 41,000 active cases and 68 million litigation-related documents. She practices in Winston-Salem.
- Erna Womble has more than 23 years of legal experience in all phases of products liability defense and life, health and disability insurance/ERISA issues. Womble is the winner of the [2007 Distinguished Service Award](#) from the Product Liability Advisory Council, and is recognized by *North Carolina Super Lawyers* and *Best Lawyers in America* as a top product liability litigator. She practices in Winston-Salem.

Award winners were honored at a Dec. 6th luncheon at the Hawthorne Inn in Winston-Salem. The winners were featured in an issue of [Triad Business Leader](#) magazine. The Women Extraordinaire Award honors business leaders for their professional achievements and community involvement. Previous winners include Reynolds American Chairman, President & CEO Susan Ivey, Volvo Logistics President Susan Alt and Bonnie Poindexter, Executive Director of the Piedmont Opera.

Womble Carlyle attorneys [Hada Haulsee](#) (Triad) and [Marilyn Forbes](#) (Triangle) were honored with the Women Extraordinaire Award in 2009.



Jackie Camp



Ellen Gregg



Erna Womble

Veta Richardson Speaks at Womble Carlyle

Executive Director of the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, Veta Richardson, spoke to Womble Carlyle attorneys and clients during a luncheon program entitled *Client Relations and Diversity – Paving the Way to Successful Partnerships*. Richardson talked about the role diversity plays in successful relationships between clients and outside counsel. This event took place Wednesday, December 15, in our Washington, D.C. office, and was broadcast to the rest of the firm.



Womble Carlyle Attorneys, Professionals Attend NAPABA INSPIRE CONVENTION

LOS ANGELES—Womble Carlyle was well-represented at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's 22nd INSPIRE Annual Convention, held Nov. 17-21, 2010, in Los Angeles.



Brent Clinkscale, Guanming Fang, Kevin Lyn and Kelvin Chin attended the convention, giving Womble Carlyle a valuable presence at the networking and educational event. Many in-house and strategic alliances with other law firms outside our footprint were initiated and continued at the event.

Fang participated in the International Law Symposium during the convention, and the entire Womble Carlyle delegation participated in the Partners/IHC (in-house counsel) Networking Dinner. The 2010 INSPIRE Convention attracted more than 1,600 attorneys, judges, legal professionals and law school professors, making it one of the largest conventions of its kind. The event also featured a star-studded welcome reception, featuring Hollywood celebrities including Justin Chon (*Twilight*), James Kyson Lee (*Heroes*), Tamlyn Tomita (*Joy Luck Club*) and Nikki SooHoo (*The Lovely Bones*).

The 2011 INSPIRE Annual Convention takes place November 16-20, 2011, in Atlanta, which will give Womble Carlyle an even greater opportunity to build relationships with NAPABA members. Fang will serve as Programs Chair for this event.

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association is the national association of Asian Pacific American attorneys, judges, law professors and law students. NAPABA represents the interests of more than 40,000 attorneys and 62 local Asian Pacific American bar associations.

Diversity Committee

Brent Clinkscale (Chair)	x5408	GRN
Virginia Hoptman (Vice Chair)	x2230	NVA
Alison Ashe-Card	x2685	WS
Jacquelyn Austin	x5406	GRN
Alison Bost	x6328	CHAR
Jackie Camp	x8069	GSO
Bernard Coleman	x7576	ATL
Isabel De Obaldia	x2269	NVA
Guanming Fang	x7388	ATL
Jon Hammond	x5407	GRN
Todd Harris	x2267	NVA
Hada Haulsee	x3655	WS
Deborah Israel	x4466	DC
Sterling Laney	x5429	GRN
Jim Lennon	x4326	WIL
Kenneth Lewis	x2328	RTP
Kevin Lyn	x8151	RAL
Pamela Rothenberg	x4422	DC
Sid Shenoy	x4970	CHAR
Tiffani Otey	x3629	WS
Keith Vaughan	x3540	WS
Joann Waters	x3781	WS
Sky Woodward	x5823	BAL

Professional Staff

Carmen Canales	x6633	WS
Beth Keasler	x4979	CHAR
Russell Thomas	x4517	DC
Romelia Torres	x7437	ATL
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Diversity News welcomes your comments and suggestions, as well as ideas for future topics and written materials for publication. Please send your items to Carmen Canales at Carmen.Canales@wcsr.com

