



New Member Spotlight

Katie Marshall

Where are you from? Tell us about your path to practicing law. I knew I wanted to go to law school for a long time. My older sister, Adrian, attended law school, and I really enjoyed hearing about her classes—and watching Law and Order marathons when she would come home on breaks. Adrian probably first put the idea of law school in my head—I like to contest that fact at family dinners.

My natural interests kept me engaged and ultimately drove me to pursue a legal career. I have always loved to read, write, and travel, and I have always been generally interested in how the world works. A family trip to Pompeii, sparked my curiosity about history, and that interest gradually morphed into an interest in politics and the law. My experience visiting Pompeii also prompted me to study Latin, which taught me to appreciate word choice and placement and to appreciate advocacy techniques. I attended college at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where I majored in Political Science and History, with a minor in International Studies. After college, I moved to Nashville to attend Vanderbilt for law school.

What brought you to Nashville? I moved to Nashville in 2014 to attend law school at Vanderbilt. The Vanderbilt community was incredibly welcoming, and I felt at home very early on. A good friend from college (who happened to be a Nashville-native) also moved back when we graduated. She introduced me to a great group of friends outside of law school. Nashville is an incredible place to live and work, and I feel so lucky I was able to find a permanent place in the community.

Tell us about your family. I am originally from Charlotte, North Carolina. I have one sister, Adrian, who is eight years older than me. My family has scattered down the Carolina coasts over the last several years. My Dad and I are very close. He has always been my biggest cheerleader. Every success I have had professionally began with his words of encouragement and support.

What do you do professionally and what is your favorite part of your job? I work, primarily, in the Pharmaceutical, Medical Device and Healthcare Litigation practice group at Butler Snow. I also work on commercial litigation cases. First and foremost, the people at Butler Snow are what make it a great place to work. Even when we have tough deadlines and challenging projects, my friends and mentors make the practice of law enjoyable. Our drug and device litigation team currently serves as lead counsel for multiple MDLs, and we have a variety of other cases pending in jurisdictions across the country. The attorneys in my group have an incredible amount of technical talent and skill. However, their insight concerning strategy is what I find the most fascinating. I really enjoy learning how strategic decisions are made. The collaborative culture of the firm makes it possible for me to work with attorneys across the firm's footprint and ensures that younger attorneys, like me, get the hands-on experience needed to grow professionally. I also really enjoy the opportunity to travel for work and to be involved with cases across many jurisdictions.

What books are you reading right now? I am halfway through "When," by Daniel Pink. If you need an airport pick up, I just finished "Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates," by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yeager. One of my friends commented that it looked really boring, but it was actually really good!

What is your favorite quote, piece of advice, or a motto you try to live by? Follow your instincts and be creative.

Any other fun facts that LAW members don't know about you? I like to garden and paint in my free time.

What woman inspires you most and why? There definitely is not just one! I mostly draw inspiration from the women I am around every day. I work with some incredible women and am lucky to have friends that inspire me. My Grandmother is also a major influence in my life. She is a depression baby who has lived through a lot, but she laughs more than anyone I know.