

The JLF Report

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JLF Awards Outstanding Students

For the fifth consecutive year, the Joye Law Firm has awarded five graduating seniors \$2,000 scholarships to assist them with their college education costs. This year's winners were Chelsea Shope (Summerville High School), Kamaal Brown (Goose Creek High School), Sara Elgradawy (James Island Charter High School), Meagan Smalls (Hanahan High School), and Jennifer Preslar (Socastee High School). The law firm hosted the Charleston-area winners and their parents for a dinner on June 16.

Ken Harrell, the law firm's managing partner, said the scholarships are a core part of the law firm's community service efforts. "Our law firm has always been heavily involved in the community, and that has certainly expanded since we started the Joye in the Community program," said Harrell. "I know of nothing we do which gives us greater satisfaction than the aid we provide to outstanding local students. It really makes you feel good about our future when you meet these talented young people."

Deana Nash, a paralegal in the law firm's workers' compensation department, has coordinated the law firm's scholarships program since its inception. Ms. Nash said she finds the countless hours she spends reviewing the scholarship applications and essays to be rewarding, stating, "I know how important financial aid is to college students as my daughter is cur-



JLF attorney Ryan LeBlanc, Kamaal Brown, Sarah Elgradawy, JLF attorney Ken Harrell, Meagan Smalls, & JLF attorney Matt Jackson.

rently attending the College of Charleston. I am proud to work for a law firm which is willing to share some of its success to help young people in our community succeed."

A summary about each of this year's winners follows.



Chelsea Shope
(Summerville H.S.)

Chelsea Shope (Summerville High School) - Chelsea completed her stellar academic performance at Summerville High School, finishing 12th in a class of 739 students. Her high school activities included participating on the tennis team and the cheerleading squad, as well as participating in the Key Club, the Student Council, and the Beta Club. Despite her busy schedule, she has worked part-time as a media center assistant for the Newington Elementary School. Chelsea will begin her college studies at the University of South Carolina in its Honors Program in August. She intends to study advertising and international business.



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JLF Awards Outstanding Students



Sara Elgradawy
(James Island Charter H.S.)

Sara Elgradawy (James Island Charter High School) - Sara had an outstanding academic record at the James Island Charter High School, finishing with a grade point average of 3.61. Sara was a member of the school's soccer team and cheer-leading squad. She also was active with the school's Spanish Club. Sara's work ethic is evidenced by the fact that she has held two jobs throughout her senior year of high school. Sara will be attending the College of Charleston, where she will study Spanish to attain her dream of becoming a Spanish teacher.



Kamaal Brown
(Goose Creek H.S.)

Kamaal Brown (Goose Creek High School) - Anyone who is concerned about our future should spend time with a young man like Kamaal Brown. Kamaal finished second in his class at Goose Creek High School. He was a participant on several athletic teams, including the Gators' football, wrestling, and track and field teams. Kamaal was also a member of the school's Beta Club and he was honored to give a rendition of Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech as part of the school's Black History Month celebration. Kamaal will be attending Clemson University where he plans to study electrical engineering.



Meagan Smalls
(Hanahan H.S.)

Meagan Smalls (Hanahan High School) - Meagan certainly understands the value of an education, as her mother has been a public school teacher for over 25 years in the Hanahan public school system. Meagan finished in the top 20% of her class at Hanahan. She participated on the school's volleyball and track and field teams, but her real love was basketball. She received several honors for her basketball skills, including an award for being the team's best defensive player. Meagan will be attending Lander University pursuing a nursing degree.



Jennifer Preslar
(Socastee H.S.)

Jennifer Preslar (Socastee High School) - Jennifer has the distinction of being our first Myrtle Beach-area scholarship winner. Jennifer's outstanding academic performance culminated in her finishing third in a class of 323 at Socastee. She is also an accomplished swimmer, having been named a member of the All-Region swim team for five consecutive years and she was honored with the school's excellence of academics with athletics award. Jennifer will be attending Furman University, where she intends to study biology. Her eventual goal is to then attend medical school.

In addition to their stellar qualifications, each of the scholarship applicants wrote an essay addressing their suggestions on how our community can do a better job to prevent teenage drinking and driving casualties. In

his essay, Kamaal Brown wrote, "We need to expose children to the photos of the wreckage and videos of people who have been affected by intoxicated driving . . . If we wish to prevent drinking and driving from occurring, then we must deal with it head on because our biggest failure would be not to try." The law firm congratulates each of this year's winners and it looks forward to continuing its scholarship program in 2011.

"Furry Affair" Sponsored by JLF Raises Over \$60,000.00



JLF attorney Ken Harrell appears on Live 5 News with Kay Hyman of the Charleston Animal Society, a kitten named Jezebel, and Channel 5 anchorman Bill Sharpe.

The Joye Law Firm served as a primary sponsor for the Charleston Animal Society's Furry Affair, held at The Holiday Alumni Center at The Citadel in Charleston on

basketball sneaker and a fishing charter trip.

Tara Gerardi, a paralegal in the law firm's workers' compensation department and a board member for the Charleston Animal Society, said it was rewarding to see the society's hard work result in such a successful event. "I have always been an animal lover and I am thrilled that the Furry Affair was such a big hit this year," said Ms. Gerardi. "We could not put on an event like this without the support of local businesses like the Joye Law Firm, and it makes me feel good to work for a law firm which is so involved in our community."

If you are interested in volunteering at the Charleston Animal Society's shelter located at 2455 Remount Road in North Charleston or if you are interested in making a donation to the Society, the society may be contacted by calling (843)747-4849 or by e-mail at info@charlestonanimalsociety.org

June 19, for the second consecutive year. The Furry Affair is one of three primary fundraisers for the Animal Society. The Charleston Animal Society (formerly known as the John Ancrum SPCA) has been in existence in Charleston since 1874. The society focuses on promoting responsible guardianship of domestic animals and it advocates compassionate treatment of all animals. Among the many services provided by the Animal Society are the provision of temporary homes to lost, abandoned, or abused domestic animals with an active adoption program; the provision of medical care to indigent pets; and efforts to eliminate the over-population of animals with an aggressive spay/neuter program and education programs.

This year's Furry Affair event was a huge success for the society, as the event raised over \$60,000 based on money donated by the primary sponsors, tickets sales, and the live and silent auctions of numerous donated items. While most of the items auctioned at the event were pieces of art contributed by local artists, the items offered included eclectic pieces such as a signed Shaquille O'Neal



JLF attorneys Matt Jackson and Ken Harrell with JLF paralegal and Charleston Animal Society board member Tara Gerardi at the fundraiser.

JLF Helps Habitat



The 2009 target charity for the law firm's Joye in the Community outreach program was Habitat for Humanity. Over the course of the year, the law firm raised nearly \$7,000 for Habitat for Humanity.

Pictured is the completed home which was built for Annette Lemon in North Charleston. In addition to the financial contributions made to this worthy charity, numerous Joye Law Firm attorneys and employees donated time toward the construction of Ms. Lemon's home.



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Wide Screen TV Presented To Lucky Winner In Charity Raffle for MUSC Children's Hospital



Pictured above from left to right are JLF attorney Ken Harrell, JLF receptionist Wanda Lowe, TV winner Jeff Harrah of Summerville, JLF paralegal Erin Rojas, and JLF attorney Mark Joye.

Each year, the law firm's Joye in the Community committee designates a local charity and then proceeds to look for innovative ways to raise funds to be donated to this charity at the end of the year. The charitable recipient for the law firm's 2010 fund-raising efforts will be the MUSC Children's Hospital.

Recently, the Joye in the Community committee sold raffle tick-

ets for an opportunity to win a wide-screen television set donated by the law firm.

The lucky winner of the raffle was Jeff Harrah, who was represented by attorneys Ken Harrell and Matt Jackson for work injuries he sustained. Harrah was obviously thrilled with his win, stating, "I didn't think there was any way that my experience at the Joye Law Firm could get any better but winning this TV was icing on the cake."

Paralegal Erin Rojas is the chairperson of the law firm's community outreach committee. She reported that the raffle ticket sales helped raise over \$800 for the Children's Hospital.

We invite all of our readers to attend a yard sale benefitting this charity at the firm on Saturday, August 21, starting at 8 a.m..



"Joye in the Community"

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