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2016 ALABAMA AGENTS SEMINAR  
FACULTY

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**Tripp Watson** is the founder of The Watson Firm. He is an “Entrepreneur Attorney,” which means that he is an advocate and counselor to risk-takers. Tripp is one of the only individuals in the county who offers business consulting and legal advice specifically tailored to entrepreneurs of all sizes. From a family of entrepreneurs, Tripp went to law and business schools with the explicit purpose of opening a firm dedicated to advising aspiring and existing entrepreneurs with high-growth businesses. Unlike many attorneys who only advise on business law matters, Tripp is also a business owner who personally knows the stresses and demands of running a small business and who can advise on both the legal and management issues entrepreneurs face. Because of his legal and business training and years of experience, Tripp provides his clients unique insights into the problems that keep entrepreneurs up at night.

**\*\*Paul H. Greenwood** is a partner at the Birmingham office of Balch & Bingham LLP and is a member of the Firm’s Creditors Rights & Bankruptcy and Litigation Practice Groups. He represents a variety of banking, corporate and individual clients in bankruptcy cases, commercial litigation, loan workouts and the enforcement and execution of judgments. Paul received his J.D. from Cumberland School of Law and his B.S. from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

**\*M. Lee Johnsey, Jr.** is an attorney in the Birmingham office of Balch & Bingham LLP. He is a member of the Firm’s Real Estate and Creditors Rights & Bankruptcy Practice Groups. He represents a variety of banking, corporate and individual clients in real estate and lending transactions, as well as commercial litigation, loan workouts and the enforcement and execution of judgments. Lee received his J.D. from The University of Florida and his B.S.B.A from Auburn University.

**Jesse P. Evans, III** is a lawyer at Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell, LLC. Mr. Evans received his B.S. from Athens College and his J.D. from Birmingham School of Law. He has represented clients in a wide variety of real estate development, land use, eminent domain, title insurance and real estate litigation matters for over thirty years. Mr. Evans has served as lead counsel in over two hundred jury trials and a greater number of bench trials as well as over one hundred appeals in the state and federal courts. He is the author of *Alabama Property Rights and Remedies* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), one of the leading works on real property law in Alabama. He has also served as a Professor of Law at Birmingham School of Law and as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Alabama School of Law. Mr. Evans is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Real Estate Law, Land Use and Zoning Law and Eminent Domain and Condemnation Law (since 1995), as well as in *Alabama Super Lawyers* in the category of Real Estate, Eminent Domain, and Land Use/Zoning. IN 2011 and 2012, Mr. Evans was named by *Alabama Super Lawyers* to “Alabama Top 50.” Mr. Evans is also recognized in *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for usiness and Real Estate* for Zoning/Land Use. He was named Birmingham Litigation-Real Estate Lawyer of the Year for 2012.

**John Voso, Jr.** is a Senior VP and a Manager with the Agency Relations Services Division of Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. John was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. A member of the Professional Bowlers Association since 1977. John traveled the tour from 1977 through 1981. He has one regional Pro title, 7-300 games and 4-800 series to his credit. He has been in the real estate industry since 1981 and the title industry since 1987. A Realtor for 6 years and a Sales Representative, Operations Manager and Sales Manager for 2 major title underwriters since 1989. His life has been developing relationships, through a sales process! John has traveled throughout the Midwest, Florida and recently is traveling the United States in his new position with Old Republic. He served as chairman of the Publication, Education committees and the state’s Political Action committee of the Ohio Land Title Association. In 2002-2003 served as President of the OLTA. John served 5 years as Chair of TIPAC, the American Land Title Association’s Title Insurance Political Action Committee, with his committee raising over \$1,250,000. Presently the chair of Congressional Liaisons, a committee that is leveraging relationships of ALTA members and the Members of Congress to foster a stronger legislative front for the title industry.

In 2011, John authored *Today's Heroes, Surviving with Style*. Written in memory of his nephew, Richie White. In 2013 he self-published *Italian Recipes from My Friends*. Both books benefit the Richie White Pediatric Family Fund at The Cleveland Clinic. The Fund's purpose to "Make Children Smile" has been doing just that since 1992. It has sponsored 23 Christmas parties and 18 picnics for Children being treating in the Clinic's Pediatric Oncology Department. Since 2014 John has served on the Dancing Wheels Board of Directors and heads their Fund Development committee. Dancing Wheels is a non-profit founded by Mary Verdi-Fletcher. Dancing Wheels is an organization that supports a dance troupe consisting of wheel chair dancers and upright dancers, promotes dance education and support individuals with disabilities. John lives in Sagamore Hills, Ohio with his wife of 32 years, Debbie. They have three children and two grandchildren.

**W. Parrish Fortenberry** is Executive Vice President, Secretary, and Title Counsel for Mississippi Valley Title Services Company and is located in the Madison, Mississippi office. He is also a Vice President for Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. Parrish received his Bachelor of Professional Accountancy from Mississippi State University in 1993 and his J.D. from The University of Mississippi School of Law in 1996. He has over 12 years of title insurance experience in the title insurance industry. Before joining Mississippi Valley Title in 2003, Parrish practiced corporate law in Jackson, Mississippi. Parrish is a member of the Mississippi State Bar.

**JEFFREY M. LANG** is Vice President and Underwriting Counsel for Old Republic National Title Insurance Company and is located in Minneapolis. In that capacity, he reviews transactions in excess of \$25 million or that create an extrahazardous risk for the Company. In addition, he also acts as a resource for the Company's field operations. Prior to joining Old Republic's corporate legal team, he was Manager and Counsel for another major underwriter's national commercial operation also located in Minneapolis. With nearly 20 years of title insurance experience in both an operational and legal capacity he is able to take a common sense approach to resolving often complex legal and business matters.

**THOMAS E. MARVIN** is Vice President and Alabama State Manager for Mississippi Valley Title Services Company, and a Vice President of Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. He has over 25 years of experience in title insurance and real estate law. He received his B.A. from Belhaven College in 1973, and his J.D. from Mississippi College School of Law in 1981. He is a member of the Mississippi State Bar.

**GINA K. MATTHEWS** is Vice President and Alabama State Counsel for Mississippi Valley Title Services Company, and a Vice President of Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. She has over 30 years of title insurance and real estate law experience. She received her B.A. from Auburn University in 1980 and her J.D. from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1983. Before joining Mississippi Valley Title in 1988, Ms. Matthews was a member of the law firm of Evans & Matthews in Marshall County, Alabama, where her practice emphasized real estate law. She is a member of the Alabama State Bar.

**J. Price Evans, IV** is Assistant Vice President and Commercial Underwriting Counsel at Mississippi Valley Title Services Company, and an Assistant Vice President of Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. Mr. Evans graduated from The University of Alabama with a B.A. in Geography with specialization in Regional and Urban Planning and received his J.D., with honors, from The Birmingham School of Law. Before joining Mississippi Valley, Mr. Evans was a Commercial Underwriter at a title insurance agency and prior to that, the Land Development Manager for a home building and land development company. Additionally, he is a member of the Alabama State Bar and the Birmingham State Bar Association.

**Charles W. Smith, III** is Assistant Vice President and Agent Representative, Business Development and Associate State Counsel at Mississippi Valley Title Services Company, and an Assistant Vice President of Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. Mr. Smith received his undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama with a major in marketing in 2005. After undergraduate school, he attended Jones School of Law and graduated in 2008. While attending Jones, he served as the Chief Justice on the Honor Court. Before joining Mississippi Valley, Mr. Smith was in private practice with a law firm in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he handled a broad range of cases, including collection actions, bankruptcy, unlawful detainers, personal injury, real estate litigation, probate litigation, construction and contract litigation and various other cases. Mr. Smith is a member of the Alabama State Bar and the Birmingham State Bar Association. He was born in Alexander City, Alabama and is married to Natalee Smith. They have one child, Charles (Chip) W. Smith, IV.