

Galligan spoke to students at the College of Law on “Doing Well While Doing Good—How to Have Fun and Make a Difference While Practicing Law in a Small Town.”

## Adjunct’s Gift Helps Center Host First-Year Advocacy Competition

For nine years Mike Galligan drove the 140 miles from McMinnville once each week to teach Trial Practice. His experience as a trial lawyer, trying civil and criminal cases in state and federal courts, benefited the students in his class, but he felt a benefit as well. Galligan loved teaching the course. But after literally thousands of miles, he decided he had to give up the weekly trek across the state. Although “retiring” from his adjunct teaching position, he wanted to stay involved with the advocacy program at the College of Law.




Galligan also served as a judge for the First Annual First-Year Advocacy Competition, an event funded by his generous gift to the Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution. The Competition was intended to introduce first-year students to the Advocacy Concentration and to allow third-year students, trained in trial advocacy skills, to mentor their first-year counterparts.

Twenty-one first-year students were paired with twenty-one third-year students in the inaugural competition which required the competitors to quickly prepare and deliver opening statements based upon a hypothetical case. After preliminary rounds, six finalists delivered their opening statements a second time before a panel of nine judges. The winners received plaques and cash awards.

This spring, Mike Galligan returned to campus to teach a session on closing arguments and to talk about “Doing Well While Doing Good—how to have fun and make a difference while practicing law in a small town.”

### Doing Well While Doing Good

How to have fun and make a difference while practicing law in a small town



**Mike Galligan**, U.T. Law adjunct professor and founding partner of Galligan & Newman, will speak about practicing law and being a community activist in McMinnville.

His practice includes personal injury, medical malpractice, products liability, criminal defense, civil rights, employment, workers compensation, and family law.

**Wednesday**  
**March 12**  
**12:20 - 1:05**  
**Room 241**

Lunch provided

Presented by the University of Tennessee College of Law  
 Center for Advocacy & Dispute Resolution



Nine members of the Tennessee Bench and Bar participated in the Center’s First-Year Advocacy Competition. They included the Honorable Clifford Shirley, Jr., United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee; Ursula Bailey, Stacy, Whitt, & Cooper; Robert Kurtz, Stanley & Kurtz; the Honorable William H. Russell, Loudon County General Sessions Court Judge; the Honorable John R. Rosson, Jr., Knoxville Municipal Court Judge; Mike Galligan, Galligan & Newman; the Honorable H. Bruce Guyton, United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee; Andrew Roskind, McKellar Roskind; and Jerry P. Black, Jr., Professor, UT College of Law.



Six finalists from the first-year class prepare to give opening statements for the nine judges. The six finalists from left were Lillian Napper, Craig Meredith, Chris Collins, Jamie Carter, Monica Rice, and Rachel Stevens.

Following the final round, Jamie Carter received the 1st-place award; Monica Rice received the 2nd-place award; and Rachel Stevens received the 3rd-place award.