

DANESE K. BANKS, ESQ.

ATTORNEY/MEDIATOR/CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL COACH ENERGY LEADERSHIP INDEX MASTER PRACTITIONER

Visionary ~ Business Development ~ Due Diligence ~ Turn-around Management

daneseb@aol.com • (833)294-5433

Accomplished, solutions-focused, client-oriented attorney for over 28 years and Rule 31 mediator with a comprehensive background in pre-suit matters and trial litigation regarding personal injury, wrongful death, premises liability, nursing home negligence, medical malpractice and civil rights (police) cases as well as extensive experience in firm management and working knowledge of employment law. Exceptional ability to both resolve and prepare cases for trial. Admitted to state and federal courts of Tennessee. Pro Hac Vice in Arkansas and Mississippi on both state and federal levels. Also, a life coach, in general, with additional content specific for lawyers and others who are pursuing life, liberty and happiness within and outside of their present occupations.

Areas of Expertise include:

- ✓ Conflict Resolution
- ✓ Case Management
- ✓ Staff Training & Leadership
- ✓ State and Federal Trials
- ✓ Settlement Negotiation
- ✓ Civil Litigation

EXPERIENCE & NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

BANKS MEDIATION SERVICES, PLLC • Memphis, TN • 2021-PRESENT

OWNER AND MEDIATOR

Owner of Banks Mediation Services, PLLC and Rule 31 Listed General Civil Mediator regarding general civil litigation, with an expertise in personal injury, wrongful death, premises liability, nursing home negligence, medical malpractice and civil rights (police) cases and a working knowledge of employment cases.

THE LIFE CHANGER COACH, LLC • Memphis, TN • 2020-PRESENT

OWNER, CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL LIFE COACH AND ENERGY LEADERSHIP INDEX MASTER PRACTITIONER

Owner of Life Changer Coach, LLC and certified professional life coach helping people, particularly lawyers, make progress in their lives in order to attain greater fulfillment. Specifically assists lawyers and others in their pursuit of finding a work/balance, transitioning within and/or outside of their respective field, and moving up the corporate ladder.

THE COCHRAN FIRM • Memphis, TN • 2001 - 2018

SENIOR ATTORNEY (2018)

MANAGING PARTNER/ATTORNEY (2010 – 2017)

ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY (2001 – 2009)

Managed the day-to-day operations of the firm as it relates to clients, staff, and attorneys, ranging from the actual handling of cases to managing the operations of the firm, in conjunction with the Office Manager/Administrator. Maintained an active caseload of up to 250+ cases ranging from pre-suit to litigation, in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice and civil rights within state and federal courts, at the trial and appellate levels. Trained, mentored, and supervised attorneys, staff, and interns, as it relates to their caseloads, conduct, and interaction with clients and each other. Provided input and made decisions regarding staff, firm goals, strategic planning, day to day operations, and managing and planning of the business operational functions. Developed and implemented operational and personnel policies and practices to ensure quality services are being provided to the clients. Developed a positive firm/law office professional work environment through effective communication of information between professional, paraprofessional, management and support staff. Assisted in the preparation of the office's budget.

LAW OFFICES OF JULIAN T. BOLTON • Memphis, TN • 2000 - 2001

ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

Handled a variety of criminal and civil cases with a case load of approximately 75 cases.

LAW OFFICES OF DANESE K. BANKS • Memphis, TN • 2000

SOLO PRACTITIONER

Handled a variety of criminal and civil cases with a case load of approximately 25 cases while also working at Juvenile Court as a part-time Juvenile Court Defender on a contractual basis defending individuals who were behind on child support payments.

INQUISITOR, INCORPORATED • Memphis, TN • 1995 - 2000

ATTORNEY/INVESTIGATOR

Served as in-house counsel for the corporation in a variety of matters ranging from collections of past due accounts to employer/employee relations. Provided legal and investigative services for the criminally accused, particularly those facing the death penalty, including assistance with plea negotiations, preparing motions, court appearances, developing trial strategies and themes, and overall pre-trial and trial preparation.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Rule 31 Mediator

LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR CONFLICT MANAGEMENT | Nashville, TN

Certified Professional Coach/ Energy Leadership Index – Master Practitioner

INSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE IN COACHING | Shrewsbury, NJ

Doctor of Jurisprudence

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW | Austin, TX

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Honors: *cum laude*

XAVIER UNIVERSITY | New Orleans, LA

Tennessee State Bar, Trial and Appellate Levels

Western District of Tennessee Federal Bar

Middle District of Tennessee Federal Bar

United States Court of Appeals – Sixth Circuit

Licensed Private Investigator in Tennessee (inactive)

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Author, Planning Your Life to the 52nd Power Planner (2023)
- Speaker, Develop Her Women's Summit – Junior League of Memphis (2023)
- Speaker, Slip and Fall Cases, A Question of Law Program (2018)
- Restarting The Cochran Firm Memphis 2010 from the ground up. (2010 – 2018)
- Successfully resolving civil rights cases involving excessive force in Memphis, TN; Lebanon, TN; and Columbus, MS. (2010 – 2018)
- Recipient of Top 100 Trial Lawyers, National (2010), ATLA (2007 – 2013), Tennessee (--)
- Highlighted Cases include (2005 – 2018)
 - Arkansas Fire case – Confidential Settlement of a family involving an apartment fire.
 - Rust College case – Confidential Settlement of multiple students involving sexual misconduct of a professor.
 - Marcus Payne – Six figure judgment after Tennessee Court of Appeals reversed GTLA defense verdict.
 - Anthony Scott – Confidential Settlement of wrongful death of a child.
 - Anthony Mitchell – Confidential Settlement of a personal injury matter involving unsanitary conditions at a fitness club.
 - Ezine Anderson – Confidential Settlement of a premises liability case involving negligent security.
 - Michael Luster - Plaintiffs' Jury Verdict for \$2.5 Million on a premises liability case involving the structure of a swimming pool.
- Representing 2000+ clients in personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, nursing home and civil rights matters. (2000 – 2018)
- Obtaining over \$30 million in settlements or verdicts to date. (2000 – 2018)
- Recipient of Top Guns under 40 – Black Business Association, Local (2003 – 2004)
- Successfully overturning three guilty pleas of two minors and one adult convicted of first-degree murder charges for a crime they did not commit. (1996-2000)

ORGANIZATIONS (FORMER AND CURRENT)

- Mid-South Super Lawyers
- Memphis Bar Association, Member/ Memphis Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Tennessee Bar Association, Member
- National Bar Association, Ben F. Jones Chapter, Member
- Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association (TTLA), Board of Governors, Circle of Advocates and Member
- The National Trial Lawyers, Top 100, Top 25 National Women Trial Lawyers, Member
- The National Black Lawyers Top 100, Member
- The Consortium, Board Member
- Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church S.E.C., Board of Directors and Member
- Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Member
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Member