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**Professor Shirley Norwood Jones**

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### PROFESSOR SHIRLEY NORWOOD JONES

This Issue is dedicated to Professor Shirley Norwood Jones, who retired at the end of the 1999-2000 school year after 23 years of teaching at Mississippi College School of Law. Administrators, faculty and students all look up to her as the cornerstone of this school. Professor Jones has served as a teacher, a leader, a colleague, and a builder. Her countless contributions enabled Mississippi College School of Law to move forward and to grow. The members of *The Mississippi College Law Review* thank her for years of guidance and support. We wish her the very best as she moves on to her next endeavor.



SHIRLEY NORWOOD JONES  
PROFESSOR *par excellence*

*Mary Libby Payne\**

Integrity. Intellect. Work ethic. Compassion. Justice. All of these and more are words that make up the character of the holder of Mississippi College School of Law's Owen Cooper Chair of Law. When Mississippi College looked around the faculty for the holder of its first chair of law, it was unanimous that Professor Shirley Norwood Jones possessed all those qualities Owen Cooper exhibited and desired for his alma mater law school. Shirley Norwood Jones personifies academic excellence in a Christian environment. Never one to "toot her own horn," Professor Jones goes about her daily duties with the diligence of the straight A student that she was, and the loving spirit of one committed to the service of Jesus Christ as Lord. It is only fitting that we dedicate this issue of the *Mississippi College Law Review* to Professor Jones upon the occasion of her retirement.

Shirley Norwood, ever the diligent student, completed Jackson Central High School in three years, Millsaps College in three years, and University of Mississippi Law School in twenty four months, always graduating with highest honors. After her graduation from law school in 1952, she was an associate in the law firm of Watkins, Edwards and Ludlam, where she was made partner. Later, she practiced a number of years as a partner in the Green, Green and Cheney law firm, later known as Green, Cheney, Jones, Hughes, McKibben and Stack.

With the fall semester of 1977, Shirley Norwood Jones became a member of the Mississippi College School of Law faculty, where her principal areas of teaching were Wills and Estates, Trusts, Property, and Oil and Gas. During her tenure, she served as Associate Dean, allowing then Associate Dean J. Richard Hurt the opportunity to pursue an advanced law degree from Yale. Serving willingly on each of the faculty committees at one time or another, her most notable contribution was her yeoman service as the chair of the building committee when the law school was to be moved from the Clinton campus to its present location in downtown Jackson. Complete renovation of the existing building from an office building to a law school classroom and administrative building was but half the job. The planning and construction of a library addition was also under her supervision, with extensive input by Head Law Librarian Carol West. Since that time she has continued to chair the building committee in regard to various proposals for growth of physical facilities for the law school.

Through the years, students have known that they could depend on her assistance and support of their interests, whether it was judging Moot Court argu-

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\* Judge Mary Libby Payne. Charter member of the Mississippi Court of Appeals. Former Dean and Professor of Law at Mississippi College School of Law. J.D., University of Mississippi School of Law; B.A., University of Mississippi.

ments, supporting Christian Legal Society activities, assisting the law review staff, encouraging the Women Student's Bar, or advising the Student Honor Council.

Professor Jones is a member of the Estate Planning Council of Mississippi and is a former president. She is also a Fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation and is a member of the Hinds County Bar, Mississippi Bar, and the American Bar Associations, as well as the Mississippi Women Lawyers Association. She is a member of the ABA Committee on Federal Death Tax Problems of Estates and Trusts.

Her publications include: *Overview of Statutory and Case Law on Foreclosures*, MISSISSIPPI MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES (1984, 2d ed. 1986); *The Demise of Mortmain in the United States*, 12 MISS. C.L. REV. 407 (1992); *Constitutional and Practical Problems in Legislation to Terminate NonProductive Mineral Interests*, 3 MISS. C.L. REV. 175 (1983); *Spendthrift Trusts in Mississippi*, 1 MISS. C.L. REV. 135 (1979).

In regard to civic activities, she is a long-time member and past president of the Pilot Club of Jackson. Active in the North Park Presbyterian Church, she serves as a Trustee and Missions Committee member.

Shirley Norwood was married in 1957 to the late Darrell D. Jones and is the mother of Dr. Pamela K. Jones, Associate Vice President and Dean of Student Learning of Belhaven College, and of D. Flynt Jones, an electrical engineer and computer programmer with Duke Power Company in Charlotte, North Carolina. Flynt and his wife Joy enabled Professor Jones to acquire yet another title, that of grandmother to Brister N. Jones, her pride and joy.

In thanking Professor Jones for her dedicated service to Mississippi College School of Law for the past twenty-three years, we wish her Godspeed as she enters the next exciting phase of her life.