



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**CARLOCK, COPELAND & STAIR, LLP NAMES THREE TO PARTNERSHIP
LAURA PARIS PATON, TYLER P. WINTON, AND TYLER J. WETZEL SELECTED
TO JOIN THE FIRM'S PARTNERSHIP EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018**

Carlock, Copeland & Stair, LLP congratulates Laura Paris Paton, Tyler P. Winton, and Tyler J. Wetzel on being selected to join the Firm's partnership.



Laura Paris Paton is a Partner in the Charleston office of Carlock, Copeland & Stair, LLP. She is co-chair of the firm's Construction Litigation Practice Group and a member of the firm's General Liability Practice Group. Laura holds an AV Preeminent Peer Review rating by Martindale-Hubbell and has been named a Super Lawyers Rising Stars® by Super Lawyers® in 2014, 2016 and 2017. Laura's practice focuses primarily on Construction and Design Litigation representing contractors and design professionals in both the development of various types of construction projects as well as in a variety of disputes. She also provides corporate and individual clients with exceptional legal services in the areas of product liability defense, personal injury defense, and premises liability defense. Laura has successfully developed and executed resolution plans representing corporate entities and individuals in dozens of pre-litigation disputes and litigated cases and is a certified mediator.

In addition to her practice with the firm, she is a published author, respected speaker, and avid volunteer. Laura is a member of the Board of Directors for the South Carolina Women Lawyers Association, leads the SCWLA Public Service Committee, serves on The CLM's Diversity in Construction Committee, and is a member of the Elliottborough-Cannonborough Community Garden and Good Friends of the Lowcountry. She is a graduate of the South Carolina Bar Leadership Academy's 2014 class.

Laura received her J.D. from St. John's University School of Law in 2005 and a B.A. *cum laude* from Georgia State University in 2000.

Carlock, Copeland & Stair, LLP Press Release

Partner Announcement – Laura Paris Paton, Tyler P. Winton, Tyler J. Wetzel

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Tyler P. Winton is a Partner in the Charleston office where he concentrates his practice in professional malpractice defense work. Tyler proudly focuses on the representation of architects and engineers within the construction litigation context. He frequently defends design professionals against multi-million dollar construction and design defect claims, including class action litigation, multi-family projects, site work design, roadway engineering, design-build projects and more. Additionally, Tyler often represents developers, general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and even owners in lawsuits involving any construction-related disputes. Tyler also defends other professionals, including realtors and attorneys. Beyond counsel in the litigation realm, Tyler offers non-litigation support for construction clients providing advice related to industry issues and payment disputes, as well as analyzing contracts in an effort to prevent disputes from arising in the future.

Prior to joining Carlock, Copeland & Stair, Tyler practiced law at a well-respected litigation boutique in Columbia, S.C., where he concentrated his practice on complex commercial litigation and the efficient resolution of business disputes. His business litigation background enhances his skills, experience, and perspective necessary to represent clients and resolve issues in the most efficient and desired manner. Tyler has been named a South Carolina Rising Stars® by Super Lawyers® in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

After graduating from Porter-Gaud, Tyler attended Vanderbilt University, where he graduated *summa cum laude*, obtained The Dean's Award for Academic Excellence and became a member of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society. Tyler also studied abroad at The University of Sydney and pursued additional studies in London. After college graduation and a three-month motorcycle trip across the country, Tyler returned home to attend the University of South Carolina School of Law where he excelled academically, became a Competition Team Member of the Moot Court Bar and was elected to the Editorial Board of the Southeastern Environmental Law Journal.

Tyler is engaged in his community through his service on the Advisory Council of Big Brothers Big Sisters and through his ongoing involvement with local organizations like One80 Place and Habitat for Humanity.



Tyler J. Wetzel is a Partner in the Atlanta office and focuses his practice on commercial litigation, including accounting and legal malpractice defense. Prior to joining Carlock, Copeland & Stair, Ty served as a Staff Attorney for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He assisted the Court in several capacities, such as serving on the Court's jurisdiction unit, and worked on a broad range of federal cases. Ty's experience with the Court developed his research and writing skills, and it gave him unique insight into both appellate practice and writing persuasive briefs and motions.

Ty graduated *cum laude* from Washington University School of Law in 2009. While at Washington University, Ty served as a Board Member and Primary Editor of the Washington University Journal of Law & Policy. Ty received his undergraduate degree from Macalester College in 2006, where he also graduated *cum laude*. During his time at Macalester, Ty participated on the varsity football team.

About Carlock, Copeland and Stair, LLP

Carlock, Copeland & Stair, LLP focuses on civil litigation and dispute resolution. Founded in 1970, the Firm has office locations in Atlanta, Georgia, Charleston, South Carolina, and Chattanooga, Tennessee. The Firm's 75 lawyers provide counsel and advice in the following litigation practice areas: Appellate, Commercial, Construction, Employment, Environmental, General Liability, Health Care, Insurance Coverage & Bad Faith, Product Liability, and Trucking & Transportation.