

## 2020 Board Nominees Madison County Business League & Foundation



**ALVENO N. CASTILLA**  
**Partner - Butler Snow**

Alveno was born in N. Madison County and currently resides in Gluckstadt. He earned his B.A. and MBA degrees at Millsaps College and the University of Virginia School of Law. He is a Certified Public Accountant. His law practice concentrates primarily on federal, state and local taxation matters, including tax planning as well as handling contested matters with the IRS and the Mississippi Department of Revenue. He also handles a variety of corporate, transactional and financing matters and generally serves as a trusted tax and business advisor. He is a member of the Mississippi and District of Columbia bars and has been inducted as a Fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation.

Alveno has been listed in *Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers* for many years. He received the *Mississippi Business Journal* “Leadership in Law” award in 2010, was named a Legacy Lawyer by *Portico Magazine* in 2014. He has twice been named Mississippi “Lawyer of the Year” in Litigation and Controversy (Tax) by *Best Lawyers in America*—in 2013 and 2019, and has the highest possible peer rating from *Martindale-Hubbell*. Alveno has served in several law firm management roles, including as practice group chair and managing partner.

Alveno has a long record of service in civic and community circles and has served or is serving on numerous boards, including the Jackson Arts Council (past president), Mississippi Board of Bar Commissioners, Capital Area Bar Association (past president), Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project, Community Foundation of Mississippi, Downtown Jackson YMCA, Middle Mississippi Girl Scouts Council, Mississippi Symphony, Jackson 2000 (past co-chairman), Leadership Jackson Alumni Association, Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce, Millsaps College, MINACT, Inc., Mississippi Economic Council (past chairman), Mississippi Baptist Health Systems & Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation, Mississippi Center for Education Innovation (chairman), Medgar & Myrlie Evers Institute, E-Center Foundation of Mississippi (chairman), Jackson State University Development Foundation, Alliance for Mississippi’s Future, New Lake Church Trustee Board (chairman), and as a volunteer in many other capacities. In 2018, Mr. Castilla was named as one of Mississippi’s Most Influential African-Americans by *Legend Publishing*.

**Butler Snow is a PILLAR INVESTOR of the Madison County Business League & Foundation.**



**JAMES N. (NICKY) COBB**  
**Market President of Renasant Bank – Madison County**

Nicky Cobb is Madison County Market President for Renasant Bank. He is over operations in the Madison County markets including Madison, Ridgeland, and Canton, and is also responsible for the Clinton market. Cobb has over thirty years of experience in the banking industry. He received a BS from Mississippi State University and a Masters of Business Administration from Texas A & M University. He also graduated from the Southeastern School of Commercial Lending at Vanderbilt University and the Graduate School of Banking at LSU.

Mr. Cobb has been a resident of Madison County for the past eighteen years, and is active in the community. He currently serves on the Board of the Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce and the Advisory Board of the Madison County Business League and Foundation. He is a former member and president of the Board of Trustees for Madison-Ridgeland Academy. He and his wife Elizabeth reside in Madison and have three children: Nicholas, Russell and Caroline. They are long-time members of Highland Colony Baptist Church, where Nicky has served on the finance committee and as a Life Group leader.

**Renasant Bank is a PILLAR INVESTOR for the Madison County Business League and Foundation.**



**PHYLLIS JOHNSON**  
**Executive Director of MS State Board of Nursing**

Phyllis Polk Johnson is Executive Director of the Mississippi Board of Nursing. She brings 40 years of experience in nursing and health care leadership to her role. She is responsible for the enforcement of state laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of over 65,000 registered and practical nurses in the state of Mississippi. A native of Carthage, Mississippi, Phyllis attended South Leake High School in Walnut Grove, Mississippi where she graduated as Salutatorian of her class. She received her BSN (Cum Laude) and MSN degrees from the Mississippi University for

Women, Columbus, Mississippi. Additional studies were completed at Jackson State University where she received her MS degree in Biology with an emphasis in Genetics and Molecular Biology. In addition, Phyllis served in the U.S. Naval Reserves and retired in 2013 at the rank of Commander.

Phyllis is a member of several professional organizations, including the Mississippi Association of Nurse Practitioners, Mississippi Nurses Association, American Nurses Association, and Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society. She serves on the Board of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Nurse Licensure Compact Executive Committee and was recently appointed to the American Red Cross Mississippi Region Southwest Chapter Board of Directors. In July 2018, she was selected as one of the 50 Leading Business Women in the state of Mississippi by the Mississippi Business Journal. This culminated in her being selected as the **2019 Mississippi Business Journal Business Woman of the Year**. Phyllis is board certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner and has served in the following capacities: Appointed to the Governor's Opioid and Heroin Drug Task Force in 2016, Board of Medical Licensure Advisory Board for Physician Assistants, Advisory Board Project Change Initiative, Pharmacy Board PMP Advisory Council, Leadership Mississippi Alumni, and 2020 Governor's COVID-19 Advisory Group. Married to Clinton Johnson, Jr., they are the parents of two sons and one daughter, (William, Trey, Katrina) and the grandparents of eleven adoring grandchildren.

**Mississippi Board of Nursing is a GOVT/SCHOOL MEMBER of the Madison County Business League & Foundation.**



**ROBBIE KEMP**  
**Manager - Region Customer Service, Entergy MS, LLC**

Robbie's career with Entergy spans over 34 years in customer service and operations. In her customer service role for the Madison and Yazoo County areas, she engages in targeting and maintaining relationships with political and key community constituents, civic organizations and small business leaders. Within these counties, she also manages municipal franchises to include community and local area economic development and she specifically focuses on driving strategies to improve customer centricity in the company's overall efforts.

She has served in several of the company's chair and/or coordinator roles to engage employee support and participation internally and externally for such organizations as the American Heart Association, United Way, JDRF, and March of Dimes. She has also actively participated in Entergy's Super Tax Day providing income tax preparation assistance through the VITA program. She is a Board Member of the Community Foundation for Mississippi where she also serves on the Grants & Strategic Planning Committees, an Ambassador for the Madison The City Chamber of Commerce, member of the Ridgeland Chamber, and a graduate of Leadership Jackson. She also held leadership roles in Jackson Public Schools including PTSA, Power APAC's A-Cubed, and band booster club. She is a member of New Jerusalem Church, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority Inc., Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and American Association of Blacks in Energy. She holds a Bachelor of Science in business administration from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in organization and management from Capella University. A lifelong Mississippian, Robbie has two adult daughters.

**Entergy is a SILVER MEMBER of the Madison County Business League & Foundation.**



**STAN WRIGHT**  
**Vice President – Neel Schaffer, Inc.**

Stan is a Vice President for Neel-Schaffer, Inc., the largest Mississippi-based engineering, planning and construction management firm in the Magnolia State.

Stan manages the firm's Madison (MS) office, overseeing work on a wide variety of civil engineering, water/wastewater and transportation projects.

Stan earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Mississippi State University and has worked in the Central Mississippi area for 25 years, where his clients have included the City of Ridgeland, the City of Madison, the Town of Flora and the Madison County Board of Supervisors.

He has managed several significant transportation improvement projects in the Madison County area, including Lake Harbour Drive, Old Canton Road, East County Line Road, Gluckstadt Road, and currently Hoy Road and Bozeman Road. He was involved in developing transportation plans for the City of Ridgeland and South Madison County. In addition to providing engineering and planning services for clients, Stan has also assisted many in securing funding for their projects. Stan has lived in Madison County for over 20 years and is active in the community. He has coached over 20 different soccer, softball and Upward basketball teams in the Madison County area over the last 15 years and he was part of the Mayor's Youth Council Scholarship selection committee.

Stan and his wife Paige are actively involved with their church, Madison United Methodist, where he has served on the Board of Trustees, as an usher and as a Sunday School teacher. He is also a member of the Mississippi Walk to Emmaus group and Why Not Now, a ministry that funds meals for the homeless in Jackson.

Stan and Paige have three daughters. One attends Mississippi State University and the other two attend Madison Central High School.

**Neel Schaffer is a GOLD INVESTOR of the Madison County Business League & Foundation.**



**TRACE SWARTZFAGER**  
**Vice President – Business Development at St. Dominic Memorial Hospital**

Mr. Swartzfager joined St. Dominic Hospital in July 1996 where he has served in various administrative positions within the health system. In January of 2014, he transitioned into his current position of Vice President, Business Development.

Mr. Swartzfager is a native of Laurel, Mississippi. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Mississippi in 1987 receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. Mr. Swartzfager received his Master's Degree in Business Administration from Mississippi College in 1993.

Trace Swartzfager is board certified in healthcare management and a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). He was elected to serve as the ACHE Regent for state of Mississippi from 2008 – 2011.

Mr. Swartzfager is the immediate past Board Chairman of the Mississippi Telehealth Association, former Board Chairman of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Diabetes Association and currently serves on the Board of the Fondren Renaissance Foundation.

Mr. Swartzfager has been a resident of Madison County since 1987 and currently resides in Ridgeland, MS. He and his family are members of Chapel of the Cross Episcopal Church in Madison, MS.

**St. Dominic is a PILLAR INVESTOR of the Madison County Business League & Foundation.**