



THE OKLAHOMAN

GableGotwals law firm celebrates 75th anniversary



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Amy Stipe, GableGotwals' first female president

Amy Stipe is president of GableGotwals. What has helped the firm reach its 75th anniversary?

Established in 1944 by Ellis Gable and Charles Gotwals, GableGotwals has grown into a full-service law firm that employs 100 attorneys and 60 professionals with offices in Oklahoma City, Tulsa and San Antonio. We have a long history of serving clients in the banking, real estate and energy industries, and, over time, we have grown our practice in other areas such as health care, education, intellectual property, bankruptcy, employment, corporate transactions and Native American law. Providing consistent, high-level client service is fundamental to our success.

How is GableGotwals unique?

GableGotwals is different from other firms because we place a great emphasis on attracting and retaining talented lawyers and on providing an atmosphere where lawyers can begin, grow and thrive throughout their careers. We also have attorneys with a wealth of nonlegal experience such as a petroleum engineer, a natural gas marketer, a compliance officer, the former Chief of the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office of Civil Rights Enforcement, the former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma and Chief of the Financial Fraud Unit, and a former Human Resources Director. Clients benefit from the vast knowledge and experience our team leverages to solve their problems and to achieve their strategic goals.

What are some of the traditions and key values the founding members of the Firm have passed on?

The Firm has a long history of providing community support, civil leadership and pro bono work in the communities we serve and beyond. Our attorneys have taken active roles in serving various bar associations as well as civic-related organizations. In honor of our 75th anniversary, GableGotwals has pledged an additional 750 community service hours in 2019. We ensure the longevity of the Firm by prioritizing giving back.

What factors can you identify that contributed to your development and personal growth?

Having a mentor guide you through the process and answer questions is so valuable, but having an advocate and sponsor is equally important. I was fortunate to have Sid Dunagan in that role. Sid relocated from Tulsa in 1995 to open Gable's Oklahoma City office and handled many notable matters for the FDIC, energy companies, publishers and aircraft manufacturers. His wonderful mentoring and support laid the foundation for me to become a Shareholder, a member of the Firm's Board (shortly after having my third child), and, most recently, GableGotwals' first female president. Every day, I am grateful and honored to be a part of leading such an incredible law firm that has a rich 75-year history, as well as a very bright future.

Paula Burkes, Business writer



PAULA BURKES

A 1981 journalism graduate of Oklahoma State University, Paula Burkes has more than 30 years experience writing and editing award-winning material for newspapers and healthcare, educational and telecommunications institutions in Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Boston. Since February 2001, she's worked as a business writer for The Oklahoman state newspaper, specializing in personal finance and workplace enterprise stories that have far-reaching effects for readers' lives. Paula and her teenage daughter, Jessica, live in Edmond, Okla.

