



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**Fournier J. “Boots” Gale Elected to the Alabama Judicial Inquiry Commission**

**Birmingham, Ala.** – Fournier J. “Boots” Gale III, a shareholder at Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C., has been elected to the State of Alabama Judicial Inquiry Commission. Gale was elected by the Board of Bar Commissioners in September to serve a four-year term as one of two attorneys on the Commission.

The Judicial Inquiry Commission was established in 1973 by an amendment to the Constitution. The Commission is an independent agency of the judicial branch of government that is authorized “to receive and initiate complaints; to conduct investigations; and, where reasonable basis is found by a majority of its members to exist, to file and prosecute complaints before the Court of the Judiciary charging [a judge with] violation of any canon of judicial ethics, misconduct in office, failure to perform duties, or physical or mental inability to perform duties.” The Commission’s jurisdiction extends over all judges of any court in the State of Alabama. The Commission is composed of nine members: an appellate judge; two circuit judges; one district court judge; two lawyers; and three non-lawyers, all of whom serve four-year terms.

Gale is a founding shareholder of Maynard Cooper, and currently serves as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the firm. He has been practicing law for over 38 years with a focus on litigation, environmental law, appellate and governmental affairs. Gale has been active in various bar activities at the local, state and national levels, including: immediate past-President of the Alabama State Bar Association; member of The Judicial Conference of Alabama; lawyer representative to the Permanent Study Commission for Alabama Courts; President of the Birmingham Bar in 1989; served on the Jefferson County Judicial Nominating Commission from 1994-2000; Fellow of the Alabama and American Bar Foundations; and served on the Board of Directors of the American Judicature Society from 1980-1985.

The Birmingham-based law firm of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C., with more than 170 attorneys, offers a full array of legal services to a broad and diverse client base consisting of Fortune 500 companies as well as closely held companies, partnerships, professional associations, charities and individuals.

Maynard, Cooper & Gale is Alabama's only member of Lex Mundi, an international association of more than 140 widely recognized independent law firms, which by membership gives the firm access to high quality local legal expertise throughout the world. The firm is also Alabama's only member of the Southern Law Network, a regional network of independent law firms. For more information, visit [www.maynardcooper.com](http://www.maynardcooper.com).

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