

May 15, 2024

MERITAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

Johnston Allison Hord hosted the **Meritas Law Firms Worldwide** 2024 Annual General Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina May 8-10. The event drew approximately 300 attorneys from more than 50 countries, showcasing an unmatched gathering of legal minds from around the globe.

During the three-day conference, legal professionals attended diverse educational sessions highlighting prevailing trends within the legal industry. Topics ranged from the changing landscape of banking regulations, transactional risks in mergers and acquisitions, navigating DEI in the legal environment, the potential of automation, and the impact of generative AI on legal practices.

In addition to providing legal knowledge, the event gave an incredible opportunity for Meritas members to connect and network with their international peers. Another event highlight was a keynote speech from Edgar Award-winning author and North Carolina native, John Hart.

As the exclusive Meritas firm in Charlotte, NC, Johnston Allison Hord hosted the annual meeting. The firm's planning committee, led by Managing Partner **Marty White** and partners **Steve Gennett** and **Sheldon Stokes**, played a pivotal role in the lead-up and execution of the conference.

As part of the firm's host duties, Marty White extended a warm welcome to attendees in his opening address, inviting them to experience the charm of the Queen City. Additionally, Sheldon Stokes contributed to the Women's Leadership Congress, leveraging her position on the Leadership Council to drive meaningful discussions on advancing women in the legal profession. Steve Gennett also had the honor of introducing John Hart before his keynote address.

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From Left to Right: Alex Nibert, Iyanu Lipede, Sheldon Stokes, Stacy Reid Monroe, Jeanne Pearson



Sheldon Stokes (*right*) after being recognized at the Women's Leadership Awards



Robert Lindauer (*back row, third from left*) at Sports Law Breakfast



Author John Hart delivering keynote address



Sheldon Stokes (*second from left*) at Meritas event with husband Houston Stokes (*first from left*)



• Sheldon Stokes (*second from right*) at Women's Leadership Congress





Marty White delivering opening remarks

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