



Fellows Spotlight

Tommy Preston, Jr.—South Carolina Fellow

Tommy Preston, Jr. is a South Carolina Fellow and Chair of the American Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division. He is currently the Director of Government Operations/National Strategy & Engagement at The Boeing Company. Mr. Preston joined the Fellows of the American Bar Foundation in October 2014.

Spotlight Template Questions

Q: What does being a Fellow mean to you?

A: First, I still remember when I received the notification that I was selected as a Fellow. I knew the prestige of the program and the remarkable legal professionals who were part of it. It is validation of one’s contributions to the profession and our judicial system. To say I am honored to be included in this group is an understatement.

Q: Where were you born and raised?

A: I like to say I was accidentally born in Pittsburgh, PA because my mother had me there while visiting family in her hometown. However, I’ve spent my entire life in South Carolina.

Q: Why did you decide to pursue a career in law?

A: I know it is always cliché to say that I went to law school to make a difference, but that is the honest truth. I didn’t have lawyers in my family and didn’t know many in the profession, but I always knew lawyers played a role in making the lives of others better.

Q: If you hadn’t pursued a career in law, what would you have done?

A: I probably would have been a teacher. I love education and helping people achieve their dreams.

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: What is free time? Seriously, I love being with my family. I have an awesome wife, Felicia, who I met in law school. We have two beautiful and highly energetic little ones: Charlotte (3) and Benjamin (1).

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with us?

A: I encourage Fellows to get more involved in the work of the ABF. Between the great research the organization does and its commitment to innovation and diversity, the ABF really is at the forefront of moving the profession forward.