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FOREWORD: MEMORIAL TO KATHRYN ANNE BOCKMAN

Toal: Foreword: Memorial to Kathryn Anne Bockman

The Honorable Jean H. Toal*

It is with gratitude, affection, and sadness that we dedicate this edition of the *South Carolina Law Review* to the memory of Kate Bockman, who died on October 17, 2008, at the age of 24. I first knew Kate when she was just a child. Even then, she loved to learn and possessed an insatiable curiosity. Kate grew up to become the brilliant and promising young lawyer I was deeply privileged to have accept a position as my law clerk. Our relationship became that richly personal collaboration of equals which is the hallmark of the relationship between the law clerk and judge. So it is with great sadness that I pen these words in remembrance of Kate, a young woman blessed with so much talent and energy who undoubtedly was one of the legal profession's brightest and most gifted young stars. Kate's passing was an irreplaceable loss for South Carolina, for the bar, for her many friends, and of course, for her loving family.

Kate was born in Columbia on November 9, 1983. She was the eldest child of Robert and Elizabeth Kevin Warwick Bockman and the sister of Molly and Rob Bockman. At the time of her passing, Kate was engaged to be married to Josh Golson of Columbia.

Kate graduated from Dreher High School in 2001 and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2005, where she received degrees in anthropology and poetry. Kate earned her law degree, with honors, from the University of South Carolina School of Law in May 2008. As a law student, Kate distinguished herself as a member of the *South Carolina Law Review*, an Associate Justice of the Moot Court Bar, a member of the Order of the Barristers, and a member of the Order of the Coif. Also during law school, Kate worked as a law clerk for the Senate Judiciary Committee and the law firms of Willoughby and Hoefler; Sowell, Gray, Stepp and Laffitte; and Nelson, Mullins, Riley and Scarborough.

Kate was extremely well-suited for the legal profession. She worked with diligence, professionalism, candor, and grace. She believed passionately in public service. With others, she was always gentle. I consider myself fortunate to have observed Kate's exceptional character in my chambers, where she performed with great distinction. Certainly, Kate's colleagues on this *Law Review* observed the same during their time of service together.

Although we mourn her passing, Kate's legacy remains with us. She lives on in the people and institutions she enriched, in the South Carolina Supreme Court, in the University of South Carolina School of Law, and in the pages of this journal. She lives on as an example to all the lawyers privileged to have known her, both young and old, who strive to uphold the highest ideals of this profession. As we remember Kate Bockman, let us remember the legacy she embodied so effortlessly, as described by her parents: "an inquiring mind, a welcoming kindness, an abiding loyalty and a loving peace."

* Chief Justice, South Carolina Supreme Court.

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