

## Leander Dale Barnhill, Esq. U.S. Dept. of Justice (Ret.) Lieutenant Colonel, USMC (Ret.)

Lee Barnhill ("Dale") is the former United States Trustee Senior Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice's Maryland Division. He is the son of Mack and Louise Barnhill. Born in Thomasville, Georgia in 1958, he was inducted in the city's Hall of Fame in 2017.

He struggled in kindergarten and elementary school, but credits the persistent love and encouragement from his parents, teachers, neighbors, and his St. Mary M. B. Church family as the strong foundation that propelled him to unimaginable success. He played on the National Champion Thomasville Football team in 1974 and went on to lead the team as captain and valedictorian in 1976.

He was nominated to the U.S. Naval Academy by Senator Sam Nunn. He graduated from the Academy in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science in General Engineering & Political Science and was commissioned as a U.S. Marine Corps Officer. He spent 6 years on active duty and served an additional 16 years as a United States Marine Corps Active Reserve Officer. In 1985, Lee was honored to receive the prestigious 3-year Virgil Hawkins Fellowship and attend the Florida State University College of Law. He started working with the United States Department of Justice in 1986 as a legal intern, and was appointed as a United States Attorney General's Honors Program Attorney in 1988 after receiving his Juris Doctorate degree.

A former Division Head, Assistant U.S. Trustee, and Attorney-Advisor in the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., he has represented the United States in complex bankruptcy, labor, privacy, and financial litigation throughout the country including: New York, California, Louisiana, Colorado, Kansas, Texas, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, D.C., and Virginia. Recipient of several United States Attorney General awards, he managed the Freedom of Information Act Program for 94 U.S. Trustee offices, coauthored the President's Report on Financial Privacy & Identity Theft, and served on the United States Attorney General's Council on White-Collar crime.

The Marine Corps recalled him to active duty several times over the years. He fought on the front lines in Southeast Asia where he was blessed to study God's Word under fire from cover to cover, Genesis through Revelation, preparing him to become the Coalition Country Coordinator on the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon. Working with officials and heads of state in 68 countries, he helped to obtain, organize and utilize Coalition contributions deploying over 16,000 Coalition personnel to wage the Global War against Terrorism. The Secretary of Defense awarded Lieutenant Colonel Barnhill the Meritorious Defense Medal, the military's third highest peacetime award.

He is very happy and blessed to be co-founder of the Armstead-Barnhill Foundation for Sickle Cell Anemia, a Gideon, a Devotion Leader for the Baltimore-Washington United Methodist Men's Conference, a choir member, and the Men's Bible Study Facilitator at Asbury United Methodist Church, Germantown, Maryland.