

NEWS

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Former US Attorney General Griffin Bell to be Honored at STC Foundation Gala *Annual Opportunity Gala set for December 1*

SAVANNAH – Griffin Bell, senior partner in the Atlanta law firm of King and Spaulding and former United States Attorney General, will be the honored guest at the annual Opportunity Gala, to be held on the college's Savannah Campus December 1, 2006. The event is sponsored by the Savannah Technical College Foundation, the volunteer organization responsible for fundraising to support the college.

Griffin Bell graduated with honors from Mercer Law School in 1948 and practiced law in Savannah and Rome before joining his current firm in 1953. As the managing partner at King and Spaulding, Bell was drawn into Georgia political life, and in 1958 he was appointed chief of staff to Governor Ernest Vandiver. In that capacity he was influential in organizing the Sibley Commission, which mapped Georgia's approach to school desegregation. He helped moderate state policy concerning civil rights and was instrumental in keeping Georgia's schools open during that turbulent period.

Bell served as a chair of John F. Kennedy's 1960 presidential campaign, and in October 1961 President Kennedy appointed him judge of the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, where he actively participated, often as a moderate voice, in the implementation of desegregation orders across the Deep South. He returned to King and Spaulding after fourteen years on the bench. In 1976 President Jimmy Carter nominated him to the position of attorney general of the United States, a position he held until he resigned in August 1979 to return to private practice.

"Griffin Bell's stature speaks for itself," says College President C.B. Rathburn. "It is a pleasure to honor him with the Opportunity Award." Past recipients include former Governor Zell Miller (2004) and Arnold Tenenbaum (2005). The Opportunity

Award was established by the Savannah Technical College Foundation to recognize individuals for a lifetime of service in creating and enhancing opportunities for others.

For sponsorship, ticket and table information, please contact the Savannah Technical College Foundation at 912.443.3019.

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