

## A. Kelly Brennan

**Date of birth:** Nov. 11, 1971

**Title:** Partner

**Company:** Balch & Bingham LLP

**Type of company:** Corporate law firm with offices in Birmingham, Montgomery, Atlanta, Gulfport, Miss., Jackson, Miss. and Washington, D.C.

**Education:** J.D., Tulane Law School (2001); B.A., Hofstra University (1995).

**City of residence:** Birmingham

**Family:** Husband, Peter Bolvig; daughter, Elizabeth Brennan; son, Jake Bolvig; stepchildren, Tucker and Petersen Bolvig.

**First job:** Babysitter

**What is your ultimate career goal?** The Army's slogan sums it up: Be all that you can be.

**What tools or factors helped you**



**achieve early success?** Terrific mentors and an incredible support system.

**What is your guiding business principle?** Integrity

**What is your yardstick of success?** If my child is smiling and my plate is full.

**How do you keep your competitive edge?** Focus and multiple, daily trips to my local barista.

**What are the necessary characteristics for a good leader?** Humor, open-mindedness, and an understanding that loyalty works from the top down, not just the bottom up.

**Who are your mentors?** Too many to mention, but they include my mother, Mike Edwards, Lee Zell, Will Hill Tankersley, Greg Cook and Kimberly Powell.

**What's the best advice you've ever**

**received?** Follow your heart.

**What's the worst advice you've ever received?** Follow your heart.

**What's the most important lesson you've learned?** Mother really does know best (especially now that I am one).

**What word best describes you?** Right now? Pregnant. Very, very pregnant.

**What would be your first choice for a new career?** Pastry chef

**Favorite book?** Anything by Oscar Wilde.

**Favorite movie?** The Usual Suspects

**Favorite restaurant?** Bottega

**Favorite vacation spot?** Anywhere with room service and a beach or hiking trails.

**What's your guilty pleasure?** Who feels guilty about pleasure?

**Civic organization involvement:** Hand in Paw, Birmingham and Alabama State Bars, Association of Anti-Money Laundering Specialists and several others.