

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRUCE M. SMITH HONORED WITH 2017 THOMAS B. DEEN DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP

WASHINGTON -- Bruce M. Smith, member, Apperson Crump PLC, Memphis, Tennessee; and general counsel, Memphis Area Transit Authority, is the 2017 recipient of the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lectureship. Smith will present the Deen Lecture, “Ethical Issues Facing Today's Transportation Agencies: Transparency and Security, Codes of Conduct, and Public-Private Partnerships,” on Monday evening, Jan. 9, 2017, at the 96th Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Smith has more than 40 years of legal experience in transportation and transit law, having represented regional transportation authorities, transit systems, municipalities and private sector transit management firms. In addition to serving as Memphis Area Transit Authority General Counsel, he helped create the Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority. He has represented transit clients in administrative proceedings, arbitrations, and litigation involving the Federal Transit Act and federal regulations.

The lectureship recognizes the career contributions and achievements of an individual in one of the areas covered by the Transportation Research Board's Technical Activities Division. Originally known as the Transportation Research Board Distinguished Lectureship, the award was renamed in 2002 in honor of the eighth TRB executive director, who served with distinction from 1980 to 1994. Honorees are invited to present overviews of their technical areas including evolution, present status, and prospects for the future. TRB also publishes each lecture in a volume of the *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*. Smith is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association and the Memphis Bar Association, where he served as a member of the Board of Directors from 1983 to 1984. He also served as a Hearing Panel Member for the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee from 1982 to 1988. His areas of expertise include tort liability caps, legal ethics and professional responsibility, Americans with Disability Act regulations, Buy America requirements, transit system security, and labor issues. He is a frequent speaker on transit legal subjects, as well as legal ethics and professional responsibility.

He has provided continuous service to TRB as a volunteer on a standing committee, group, or council for more than 23 years. Also active in the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), Smith is the only lawyer to have ever served as the chair of the TRB Legal Resources Group, the TRB Standing Committee on Transit and Intermodal Transportation Law, and the APTA Legal Affairs Committee.

Smith received his A.B. from Duke University in 1970 and his J.D. from the Memphis State University Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law in 1974.

The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. Its annual meeting -- a major focal point of TRB's activities -- provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest. Approximately 13,000 policymakers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the 96th TRB Annual Meeting, in Washington, D.C., taking place Jan. 8-12, 2017. The meeting, held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, includes more than 5,000 presentations in more than 800 sessions and workshops covering all aspects of transportation.

TRB is part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine -- private, nonprofit institutions that provide independent, objective analysis and advice to the nation to solve complex problems and inform public policy decisions related to science, technology, and medicine. The Academies operate under an 1863 congressional charter to the National Academy of Sciences, signed by President Lincoln. For more information, visit <http://national-academies.org>.

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