

GET TO KNOW ...

ASPE
Executive Director/CEO

Billy Smith

Hometown:
Montgomery, Alabama

Family Members:
Carol (wife); Leigh and
Kristi (daughters)



What book do you recommend everyone should read?

Not necessarily just one book; however, I really enjoy anything written by John Grisham. If I was to be forced into recommending just one book, I would highly recommend *Painted House*. **Why?** Those who know me well understand that in most cases when I'm talking to any group, regardless of size, I really enjoy conveying my thoughts on a given subject or topic in the mode of a "storyteller" if you will. It's just what I do and am most comfortable with. I do believe that you must know the subject matter to best present your message convincingly, and doing so in the manner of a "story" is best for me. With that in mind, John Grisham is known as one of the best or a master storyteller within his industry.

What is your greatest accomplishment outside of your career? Getting married to the woman of my dreams (42 years ago) and helping raise our two daughters. I'm an extremely blessed man!

What is your favorite animal? A dog of course. We currently have a Shih Tzu named Bella. Yes, she is in charge. **Why?** Unconditional love, always!

What are your hobbies outside of work? Golf. Some may not understand that as it is a four-letter word.

What is your favorite type of music, band, and song? I love all genres of music. At times, the mood directs my choice. However, if I'm forced to pick one, and regardless of mood, that would have to be Contemporary Christian.

What do you do to relax? Read or spend time with my granddaughter.

If you could play any sport professionally, what would it be and why? Baseball. Only if you understand the strategies of the game, would that make sense as many think the game is too slow.

Do you have a favorite vacation spot? A beach, anywhere. **Where is it and why do you keep going back?** However, I am most fond of the beaches of Alabama in the Gulf. The beauty is mesmerizing, and just watching the immense power of what the oceans bring keeps me coming back.

If you could live anywhere, where would it be? Home! **Why?** It's where the heart is!

What is your favorite meal? Is it prepared at home or found at a restaurant? At home. To define my response, my wife will not eat a steak anywhere but at home, prepared by me on a grill. Like the commercial states, "You can have it your way."

What is your favorite holiday and why? I would have to say that Christmas is my favorite holiday and the quality time spent with all of our family enjoying being together and celebrating the "reason for the season."

Who is your hero? That's an easy one. My Mother!!!

What's your favorite type of foreign food? Chinese, any day and any time.