

Alabama Jewelers Association

Alabama Jewelers Association
Winter 2019



Alabama Jewelers Association

Executive Director: Nancy Dawkins

1848 McFarland Boulevard Northport, AL 35476 (205) 526-5710

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President's Message

Dear Alabama Jewelers Association Members,

Tis the season, with a chill in the air and lots of optimism for a successful Holiday season!

I would like to thank all of the Alabama Jewelers Association (AJA) Retail and Associate members who participated in our events in 2019. These events wouldn't be possible without our generous and loyal supporters who make our Annual Convention and Saltwater possible through advertising and sponsorship. And a special thank you to the AJA Board of Directors, Advisory Committee and Associate Board that give their time to serve and guided us through another successful year.

We are dedicated to keeping our AJA members informed and in the front of their competition as our world changes and customer demands keep us on our toes. Our Annual convention will be held in Birmingham, Alabama at the Wynfrey Hotel, April 17-19, 2020 with an excellent line up of speakers. We will also bring back the much liked Vendor Discovery Tables, where vendors will be given a chance to exhibit their merchandise and companies they represent.

Make plans now to join us for this exciting convention as we welcome our fellow retailers, vendors, speakers, and guest for one or our best conventions ever!



President

Marshall Sanford

Hayes Jewelers,

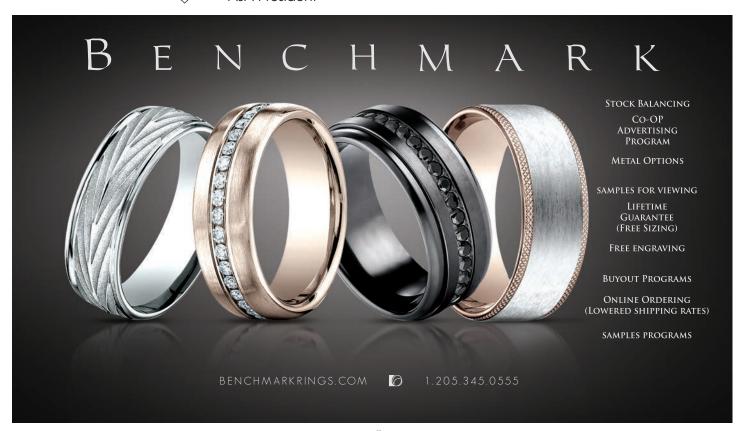
Mobile

In 2020 we will be making some big changes! First, by updating our By Laws. This will bring AJA up to date with the special needs of our Association. This has been in the works for many years and we are proud that at the Annual Convention the new By Laws with be presented. Second, we are excited to announce the Alabama Jewelers Association Scholarship Program. This is a great way for our members to get some financial help with education for their staff. Please look for the scholarship application enclosed.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and prosperous Season and New Year!



Sincerely, Marshall Sanford, AJA President



Alabama Jewelers Association

Back In Birmingham for 2020

Alabama Jewelers Association



April 17th-19th | The Wynfrey Hotel | Birmingham, AL

One Of Our Best Guest Speaker Lineups Ever!

This year's speakers will discuss subjects targeting team aspects of the business and learning the techniques of "Top" Salespeople

For More Information contact
The Alabama Jewelers Association
AJA Executive Director: Nancy Dawkins
(205) 526-5710
Alabamajewelers@icloud.com

- Low Cost Education By National Speakers
- Annual Jewelry Design Contest
- Saturday Evening
 Cocktail Reception & Banquet
 Celebrate With Your Favorite Jewelers!
- Jeweler's For Children
 Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament
- AJA Scholarships & Lifetime Membership Awards
- Sunday Past President's Luncheon

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 12.

Check out the 2019 Annual Convention













Speakers for the 2020 Annual Convention

Ryan Snuggs

Bromberg & Co. - Birmingham, AL

Building a Team and Resetting Culture

It's one of my favorite topics and I enjoy investing in others to find out their gifts, talents, and skills they bring to the team! If you can discover your purpose, develop your skills, then you will be able operate within your sweet spot in your organization! Empower the Culture. Be the Culture.

Ryan Snuggs is a bench jeweler, gemologist, retail sales, and store sales manager with individual store record and been apart of a team's record success.



Become a Sales & Marketing Super Star Using Hypnotic Selling Secrets of the Successful

Seminar Description: Now you can learn "Hypnotic" selling secrets from "Diamond"
Bill Warren using techniques borrowed from the "Hypnosis" industry. These sales and marketing techniques are also known as "NLP" or "Neuro Linguistic Programming."
Who uses NLP? Detectives, lawyers and top salespeople! Learn these techniques and watch your own personal sales soar!

"Diamond" Bill Warren is a successful jewelry store owner, professional motivational/marketing speaker and columnist for Instore Magazine & Mid-America/Southern Jewelry News. He is the founder of Diamond Bill Marketing in which he privately coaches jewelers for ever increasing success. He also has a flourishing but private Facebook group known as "Diamond Bill Warren's Jewelers Success Group."

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What Jewelers Should Know Before Signing a Commercial Lease

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hen it comes to understanding commercial real estate leases, it's not as easy as renting an apartment where the tenant agrees to pay the landlord a certain fee each month.

Commercial leases are more complex.

If you don't fully understand what you're signing up for, you could be in serious trouble.

Here's one example of the endless number of mishaps that have left others reeling:

Let's say you are renting a freestanding building to operate your jewelry business. Due to the tight real estate market for rental properties, your landlord requires you to sign a triple net lease.

After several years of operation, the building is struck by lightning and results in a fire, causing extensive smoke and fire damage to the building as well as the contents.

Unfortunately, you weren't sure of the requirements of the lease and didn't have insurance on the building. You are now personally responsible for covering all the costs associated with the damage and rebuilding of the property.

Back to reality.

The liability in this story could have shifted had you known there are three different types of commercial real estate leases: net, gross and modified gross.

These leases are organized by different rent calculation methods and may prompt you to seek additional insurance coverage.

Here are a few things to keep in mind about these leases before signing:

Net Lease

In a net lease, the rent is lower, but the tenant is also required to pay other expenses such as property tax, insurance, utilities, and maintenance. Here are three types of net leases:

- Single Net Lease The tenant pays base rent plus a share of the building's property tax, utilities and cleaning services. The landlord covers all other expenses related to the building.
- Double Net Lease The tenant is responsible for base rent plus a share of the building's property taxes and insurance on the property. The landlord covers repairs and common maintenance for the building.
- Triple Net Lease The most common type of net lease for freestanding buildings and retail space is the triple net lease. This type of lease is more landlord-friendly because the tenant pays all or most of the property taxes, insurance, and maintenance for the building. It's important for tenants to carefully review the lease and associated fees.

Costs associated with a triple net lease can also fluctuate due to operating expenses making budgeting tricky for tenants.

Even though it doesn't seem like it, there are tenant benefits with a triple net lease. Tenants have access to the operating expenses and can compare to what they are actually being charged. Monthly rent is typically less than in a gross lease as you, the jeweler, have more financial responsibility when it comes to the building.

Gross Lease

In a gross lease or full-service lease, the tenant pays one lump sum for rent and the landlord then pays expenses from that lump sum.

The landlord pays all or most of the expenses for the property including taxes, insurance, and maintenance out of the rent received from the tenants.

Before entering this type of lease make sure to ask how often janitorial services are provided and what types of services are included because excess consumption may be charged back to you, as the tenant.

This type of lease is very tenantfriendly as the landlord assumes responsibility for the building while the tenant can focus on their business.

Modified Gross Lease

A modified gross lease can be seen as a compromise between a gross lease and a net lease. Similar to a gross lease, rent is required in one lump sum.

It also has components of a net lease such as the tenant being responsible for property taxes, insurance, and maintenance.

The compromise is that tenants and landlords can negotiate what "net" components can be included in the base rent such as taxes, insurance, etc.

Takeaways before signing a lease

When looking at leasing options for your jewelry business, it's important to:

- Compare the different types of leases.
- Keep in mind the extra expenses, not just the base rent cost.
- Work with an attorney to review the terms of a lease before you sign.
- If you've already signed a triple net lease or an absolute triple net lease, work with your insurance agent to arrange adequate limits of coverage.

The unfortunate circumstances of smoke and fire damage caused by lightning is only one example of how a lease can blindside your business.

If your insurance is lacking in other areas, you'll likely run into issues elsewhere.

Whether you have a lease, are looking to move, or own your own building, there's a Jewelers Mutual agent ready to help you to fit your needs.

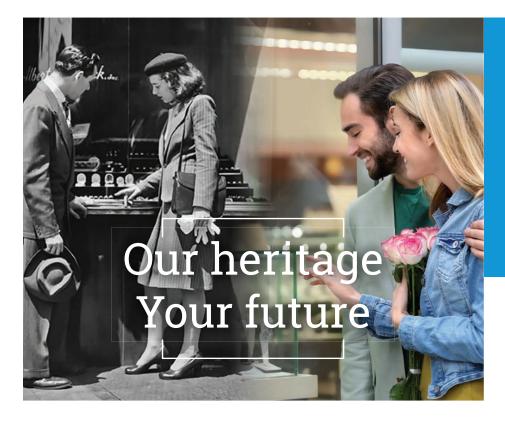








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Resources | Representation | Recognition

www.jewelers.org/join

RESOURCES



Jewelers of America Members receive valuable marketing promotion, business resources and discounts with membership - most of which more than pay for the cost of annual membership dues.

SAVE MONEY WITH EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS AND BUSINESS SERVICES

- Access to lower rates on health care through JewelersHealthCare.com
- Discounts on shipping & insurance services from FedEx
- FREE IDEX membership (\$500 value)
- Discount on GIA distance courses
- Scholarships to GIA & DCA (up to \$1,500)
- Reduced rates on consumer financing from Synchrony
- Two options for low rates on payment processing from FIS and Chosen Payments
- Worker's Comp Insurance through Jewelers Mutual

DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER ADVERTISING

- Capitalize on Jewelers of America's press, social media and advertising campaigns
- Receive a listing and profile page in the "Find A Jeweler" directory on jewelers.org

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

- FREE webinars on vital industry and business topics
- Scholarships and discounts on leading industry education, including GIA and DCA
- Guidance materials on important industry issues

RECOGNITION



Jewelers of America Members stand out from the competition as recognized and trusted jewelry industry professionals.

Today's consumers have many choices when it comes to shopping for fine jewelry and gifts. As a Jeweler of America Member, you can distinguish your business from the competition, reinforce your professional reputation and build stronger consumer trust.

REPRESENTATION



Jewelers of America represents our Members – and the entire industry – in Washington, D.C. and abroad on legislative, ethical, social and environmental issues.

The strength and ability to fight for you on these critical issues are a direct result of the strength of our membership support. *Stand with us!*



Welcome to Our Newest Members!

Tiffany Shireman Osborn's Jewelers Athens, AL

Jim Cummings Cummings Fine Jewelry Inc. Birmingham, AL Andre' Savoie
High Level Thinkers
Mandeville, LA

Ivy Lowe
Nancy & Co. Fine Jewelers
Demopolis, AL

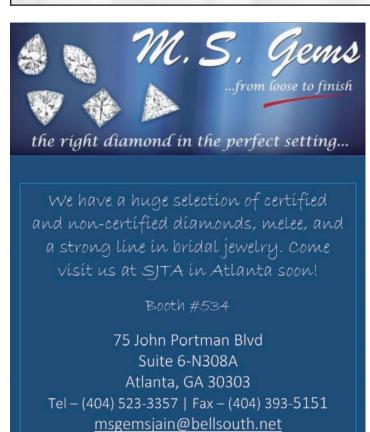
Matthew Roth Overnight New Hyde Park, NY

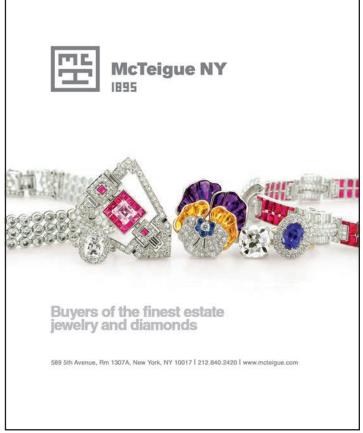
Jospeh Spil Samuel Spil Company Charlotte, NC

Tammy Raney
Tammy's Fine Jewelry
Athens, AL

Micheal Gervais Geib Refining Inc. Warwick, RI

Membership Makes A Difference!

















Alabama Jewelers Association

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Alabama Jewelers Association













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Time Delay Corp
Equity Diamond Brokers –
Arthur Back
Prime Mountings Inc.

Want To Be An Annual Convention Sponsor?

Once again we will have exciting sponsorship levels for this event. Sponsorship levels include Platinum, 24KT Gold, 14KT Gold, Silver, Bronze and Pewter. Please consider being a 2020 sponsor.

For more information on how to be a sponsor, please contact the AJA office at Alabamajewelers@icloud.com or 205-526-5710.



2020 ALABAMA JEWELERS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Hyatt Regency Birmingham - The Wynfrey Hotel April 17th - 19th, 2020

Room Reservations: www.alabamajewelers.org

Or (888) 591-1234 • Group Code: 3JEL

Special Convention Room Rate Starting at \$109 (Room Block Ends March 17th)

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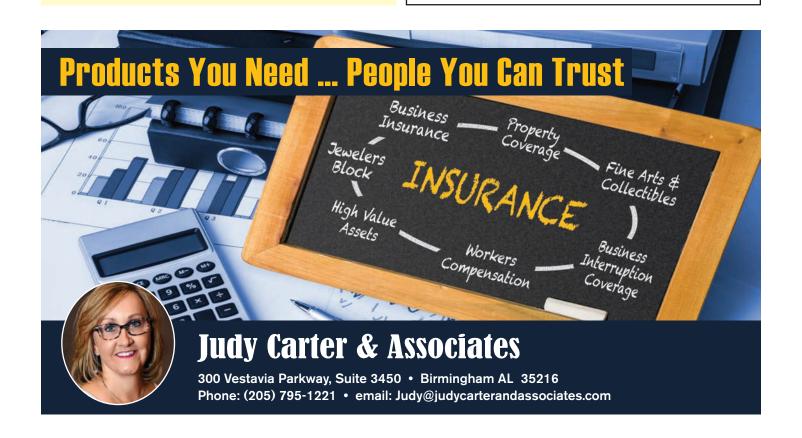
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Recipes

Apple Dip



- · 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- · 1 Heath Bar, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- · Sliced Apples

Mix first 3 ingredients together, then add last 2 ingredients. Make the day before. Serve with sliced apples.

Cabbage, Sausage and Tomato

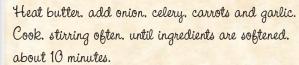


- 1 pk Hillshire Farm link sausage, thinly sliced
- 2 cans Rotel Tomato's, drained
- 1/2 head of a large cabbage. chopped in bite size pieces
- · Salt and pepper to taste.

Cook sausage in a deep skillet until browned. Add tomatos and cabbage, cook until cabbage is cooked but still firm. (I like mine to still have a little crunch.) Salt and pepper to taste.

Chicken & Wild Rice Soup

- 2 Tablespoons butter
- 1 lg onion, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup celery, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup carrots. finely chopped
- 2 med. garlic cloves, minced
- 12 cups chicken broth
- · 2 boxes Uncle Ben's Chicken Wild Rice Blend
- 1 1/2 pounds cooked. diced chicken
- 403 onion & chive cream cheese



Add broth, rice and season packet from rice. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium low and simmer. covered about 25 minutes. Add chicken, cook 10 minutes. Stir in cream cheese. Season with salt and pepper to your taste.

Serve with cornbread.



EVERY Member is listed with a link to THEIR website!

You can register online for upcoming conventions, sign up to receive our digital newsletter, find info and pics from past conventions and stay up to date on any upcoming events!

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Alabama Jewelers Association

Membership Makes A Difference!

Alabama Jewelers Association

It's true! Here are some of the many benefits that come with an Alabama Jewelers Association membership:

- We are a non-profit association that promotes professionalism and high ethical standards of business practice in the jewelry trade.
- Our mission is to provide educational programs and services to improve the knowledge and skills of our members who share common goals in growing their business.
- Membership in AJA lends credibility and professionalism to your store and accentuates your image as a professional jeweler.
- Annual spring convention features leading industry experts and educators to update you and your staff while enjoying professional networking and fellowship opportunities with other retail jewelers and suppliers.
- FedEx shipping savings of up to 42% available to retail jewelry members through our special state association discount program with FedEx.

www.AlabamaJewelers.org

- <u>NEW BENEFIT</u> AJA Scholarship Program
- Annual jewelry design competition.
- Lifetime Member Award.
- Associate of the Year Award.
- Bi-Annual Newsletter.
- Annual Yearbook and Member Directory.



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Join us at our next Miami Beach
Event, now taking place in February!
The JIS February show is the perfect
time to restock and replenish your
inventory while reconnecting with
vendors and buyers alike. Timed
perfectly to bring you business
exactly what it needs—JIS February
is the perfect industry event for you.



NEW MONTH FOR 2020

FEBRUARY 9 – 11, 2020 MIAMI BEACH CONVENTION CENTER MIAMI BEACH, FL

Registration will be open soon and exhibitor inquires are welcome! JISSHOW.COM/FEBRUARY



2020 Design Competition

ntering a design contest is a great way to bring attention to your store and/or your jeweler(s).

The PR that a winner receives is invaluable. AJA membership offers many benefits, and the publicity you'll recieve as a winner far exceeds the cost of your yearly dues.

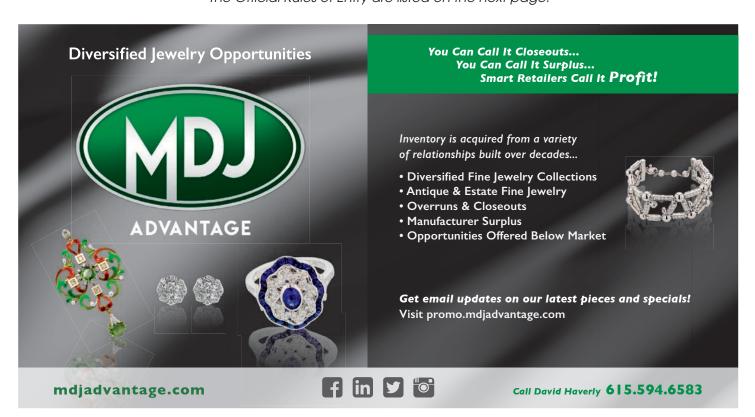
Consider an entry in every category - this not only increases your chances of winning but it also makes for a more fun and exciting competition.

For more details call the AJA Office or Nancy Dawkins at (205) 526-5710 or visit www.AlabamaJewelers.org

These are the Categories...

- o Category 1) Materials may cost up to \$1,000
- o Category 2) Materials may cost between \$1,001 to \$3,000
- o Category 3) Materials may cost over \$3,000
- o CAD/CDM: Cost of materials may vary
- o People's Choice
- o Best In Show

The Official Rules of Entry are listed on the next page.



2020 Alabama Jewelers Association Jewelry Design Competition

The Wynfrey Hotel • Birmingham, AL Sunday, April 19, 2020

ENTRY FORM

Registration Fee Is \$25.00 Per Design, Per Category - Waived For First Time Entry Jeweler May Submit One Design Per Category In The Competition

- • DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2020 •
- • Please Advise AJA About Your Entry Before Tuesday, April 14, 2020 •
- •• Must have entries at the Design Competition Desk at 8:30-8:45am on April 19, 2020••

Designer Name	Store Name				
Email	Address				
City	State	Zip			
Phone Fax	Number Of Ye	ars At The Bench			
Select Your Category (<u>Based On Cost Of Materio</u>	als ONLY - <u>NOT</u> The Retail V	alue Of The Finished Item)			
1. \$1,000 & Under 2. \$1,001 1	To \$3,000 3. \$3,001	& Over			
ENTRY #1 - Total Cost Of Materials \$ Detailed Description Of Piece <i>REQUIRED</i> (If Possib	ole, Include A Sketch or Ph	oto)			
ENTRY #2 - Total Cost Of Materials \$ Detailed Description Of Piece REQUIRED (If Possib	ole, Include A Sketch or Ph	oto)			
ENTRY #3 - Total Cost Of Materials \$ Detailed Description Of Piece REQUIRED (If Possib	ole, Include A Sketch or Ph	oto)			
ENTRY #4 - CAD/CAM - Total Cost Of Materials \$_ Detailed Description Of Piece REQUIRED (If Possib		oto)			

Please Contact **Megan Sherrer-Neel** About Your Entry 3012 Airport Boulevard • Mobile, AL 36606 Call (251) 473-1706 or Email Megan@lousjewelry.com

Amouning the NEW



Alabama Jewelers Association Scholarship Program

Ask not what you can do for the Alabama Jewelers Association, but what the Alabama Jewelers Association can do for you.



The AJA is one of the strongest State Jewelry Associations in the country, and we are adding another benefit for our members.

Begining in 2020, the AJA will award two (2) scholarships annually in the amount of \$500 each, to two AJA members to put towards their continuing education in the jewelry industry.

We look forward to naming our winners during the April Convention. This convention will be held at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham, April 17-19, 2020.

The requirements as well as the scholarship application is on the adjoining page of this newsletter as well as online at www.alabamajewelers.org.



2020 Calendar of

MARCH 7-9, 2020

Atlanta Jewelry Show Atlanta, GA

APRIL 17-19, 2020

AJA Annual Convention The Wynfrey Hotel Birmingham, AL

MAY 30-JUNE 3, 2020

JIS Exchange Las Vegas, NV

MAY 31-JUNE 5, 2020

Luxury By JCK Las Vegas, NV

JUNE 2-5, 2020 JCK Las Vegas, NV JULY 18-20, 2020 *RJO*

St. Louis, MO

JULY 24-28, 2020

IJO Baltimore, MD

AUGUST 8-10, 2020

Atlanta Jewelry Show Atlanta, GA

OCTOBER 1-4, 2020

AJA Saltwater Seminar Island House Hotel Orange Beach, AL

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

JANUARY 25-27, 2020 *RJO*

Houston, TX

FEBRUARY 5-8, 2020

JCK Tucson Tucson, AZ

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2020

JIS Miami, FL

FEBRUARY 29-MARCH 3, 2020

IJO Pittsburgh, PA

Alabama Jewlers Assocation Scholarship Requirements and Application

Requirements for AJA Scholarship Applicants and Recipients:

- The AJA Scholarship applicants and recipient(s) must be at least 18 years old (or older) before the first day of the Annual Spring Convention.
- Each applicant and recipient must be currently in the jewelry industry in some form before the date of application submission and must have at least one (1) year of experience in the jewelry industry
- By accepting this Scholarship, the Recipient has agreed to attend a qualifying jewelry program (listed below)
- Application and Recipients must be a member of AJA and current with yearly dues. (Applicant may be employed by a company that is a current member of AJA).
- Application must be sent in with one (1) letter of recommendation for applicant
- Applications are due by February 28th

Upon receipt of this scholarship, recipient has 6 weeks to enroll in a course at Gemological Institute of America (GIA), New Approach Jewelry School or American Gem Society (AGS Course). Upon enrollment a scholarship check will be sent to one of the above mentioned courses.

Alabama Jewelers Association will award two (2) scholarships in the amount of \$500 each.

<u>Send Scholarship Application and Letter of Recommendation to:</u> <u>alabamajewelers@icloud.com</u> Scholarship Application

Full Legal Name:		
Employer Address:		
		Zip Code
In a few short sentences, please years you have been in the jewe	•	nce you currently have, include how many
In a few short sentences, please you will do with the scholarship in		e to receive a scholarship, including what



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