



# Thurgood TODAY



YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION  
SOURCE FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197

February 2017

## In Remembrance of Professor James Bullock 1926-2017



Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) has lost a great champion, **Professor James Bullock**, who believed in the excellence of this law school and in the excellence of his students. Professor Bullock served in both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy where he travelled the world. After serving in the military, Professor Bullock moved to Houston and graduated from Texas Southern University (TSU). After working for the U.S. Postal Service, he returned to TSU to attend TMSL where he received his J.D. and became licensed with the State Bar of Texas in 1970.

### **Return to Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Professor Bullock practiced law for several years then returned to TMSL again to join the faculty. A beloved professor and mentor to many, Professor Bullock was a member of the TMSL faculty for more than 39 years. He taught contracts, oil and gas, wills and trust, intellectual property, creditors' rights and bankruptcy. His students held him in the highest regard, not only for his teaching, but also for the comical way in which he delivered his lessons. (See famous "Bullockisms" below) Colleagues at TMSL described Bullock as a professor devoted to the art and science of teaching. While on the faculty, he served as Dean of Admissions where he established criteria for law school admissions.

### **Life Post-TSU**

Professor Bullock and his wife of 39 years, Lois Bullock, founded five educational enterprises: Educational Learning and Enrichment Center, Inc., The Academy of Accelerated Learning, Inc.; Energized for Excellence Academy, Inc., Energized for STEM Academy, Inc. and Inspired for Excellence Academy, Inc. He always had a sincere interest in education that continued far beyond his tenure at TSU.



## In Remembrance of Professor James Bullock 1926-2017 *cont'd.*

### In Remembrance

Professor James Bullock was a loving husband, father, grandfather, professor and friend. He enriched the lives of so many who will remember him fondly as a caring, distinguished and loving individual. He had many nicknames including “J Bull”, the “Bull”, and “Doc.” Here are some words from TMSL faculty, staff and former students:

*My sincere condolences to the family of Professor Bullock...I knew him as a good and decent man who made learning partnership and agency law simple and fun.*

Peggy Foreman, TMSL Alumna

*The Lord has put another of his saints to sleep. He has earned his wings. Professor Bullock aka Doc influenced and transformed many lives. He was such a joy to work with. He was always kind and had a joke for you. We would go back and forth when time to submit his grades. My deepest condolences to the family, friends, students and all the lives he touched. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning. May God grant the family strength and comfort.*

Katherine McClendon, Retired TMSL Staff

*I am so saddened by Professor Bullock’s passing. He was a brilliant and gifted teacher that brought depth, passion, and hilarity to the classroom. He was so kind as well. When I asked for his help, he did not hesitate and drove 50 miles to answer questions about oil and gas leases for residents in the tiny town of Kendleton, TX. A great man. God rest his soul.*

Arva Howard, TMSL Alumna

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*Will always remember the “Bull” and great contact and friendship for over 4 decades.—Lonnie Gooden, Retired TMSL Professor*

#### “Bullockisms” – from former students on TMSL Faculty/Staff

*“Ain’t no magic to it!”*

-Virgie Mouton, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

*“Put your pencils down young people, put your pencils down!”*

-Ahunanya Anga, ’95 Professor of Law

*“CON what? TRACTS!”*

*“OFFER and what? ACCEPTANCE!”*

*“WILLS and what? TRUST!”*

-Susan Bynam, ’92 Assistant Dean for Institutional Advancement

Professor Bullock was laid to rest on February 9, 2017, at the age of 90.



*TMSL Honorees at*



*Men’s Basketball Game*



**Faculty - Professor Anna James**

-Professor Anna James received her B.A. and J.D. from Texas Southern University. TSU has been her only employer since she graduated from law school in 1969 when she joined the law faculty. Professor James has spent her life in service to the University teaching Family Law and Professional Responsibility and serving on various committees within this University. Always an avid supporter of TSU Athletics, Professor Anna James has served as the Faculty Athletics Representative since 1999.

**Staff-Trudy Green**

-You will always know what athletic season it is at TSU by the decorations on Ms. Trudy Green’s office door. Ms. Green, a graduate of Texas Southern University and alumna of the TSU Ocean of Soul, has been employed with the University for over 25 years. She currently officially serves as the law school registrar and is unofficially the law school entertainment captain. There is never a dull moment in the presence of Ms. Green, and that is why we selected Trudy as TMSL’s staff member with the most school spirit !!



**Alum- Naomi Cox Andrews**

-Naomi Cox Andrews is a two-time graduate of Texas Southern University. While in undergraduate school, Mrs. Andrews was crowned Ms. TSU, a title that she still carries today. As an active alumna, Naomi was a member of the TSU Board of Regents; the 2015 law school “Alumnus of the Year”, and presently serves as a member of the law school alumni board. Naomi Cox Andrews was and will forever be, the true essence of a TSU queen.

**Student- Marcus Esther**

-Marcus Esther is a 2L student at TSU’s Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Another two-time graduate of Texas Southern University, Mr. Esther has been an active member of the TSU student body in both undergrad and now as a law student. Marcus is very active in the TSU Young Alumni Chapter and the law school student bar association. When asked which law student has the most school spirit, it was an overwhelming vote for Mr. Marcus Esther.





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



**Professor SpearIt** presented at the 2017 Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting in San Francisco on January 4, where he spoke on a panel entitled “The Socioeconomics of Law School Pedagogy.” His work was recently cited in *Beyond PREA: An Interdisciplinary*

*Framework for Evaluating Sexual Violence in Prisons*, 64 UCLA L. Rev. 230 (2017), and was recognized at the ABA Criminal Justice Section 2016 Annual Council Meeting, [http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/criminal\\_justice/annual16\\_council\\_authcheckdam.pdf](http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/criminal_justice/annual16_council_authcheckdam.pdf). Finally, Professor SpearIt has completed a four-year fellowship at the Institute for Social Policy & Understanding, a Washington D.C. think-tank that focuses on American Muslims.

will assist the committee’s efforts to deliver long-term and short-term policy goals.



**Professor Fernando Colon** spoke on the immigration issues currently facing our country in light of President Donald Trump’s recent immigration ban. This presentation was part of a workshop, titled “Password to the Golden Door: The Daunting

Web of U.S. Immigration Law,” held during the National Bar Association Judicial Council 2017 Mid-Year Winter Conference and Meeting. At this conference, judges from across the country gather to improve the administration of justice and receive educational development. Professor Colon’s presentation on the immigration ban and its impact was part of the legal education seminars offered to attendees.



**Professor Lydia D. Johnson’s** most recent publication, *The Politics of the Bail System: What’s the Price for Freedom?*, was most recently cited in *Do Prosecutors Really Matter?: A Proposal To Ban One-Sided Bail Hearings*, 44 Hofstra L. Rev. 1161 (2016) by Sandra Guerra Thompson,

Alumnae College Professor of Law and Criminal Justice institute Director, University of Houston Law Center. In Professor Guerra’s article, she references Professor Johnson’s work in examining the perpetual inequalities in the bail system and its disproportionate effect on members of poorer communities.

In addition, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Associate **Professor Lydia D. Johnson** has accepted an appointment to serve as co-chair of the Equality in Justice transition committee for new District Attorney Kim Ogg. The committee will consist of six to eight individuals with experience in law, academia, law enforcement, and community leadership. Johnson will address diversion and related issues in criminal justice as a member of the team. Johnsons’ experience as an associate municipal court judge for the City of Houston and Director of TMSL’s Criminal Law Clinic

### *Dean James M. Douglas goes Hollywood!*

**Dean Douglas**, along with TMSL First Lady, Tanya Douglas; TSU Chairman Derrick Mitchell and his wife, TMSL Alumna Roslyn Bazzelle; and TSU President Austin Lane with TSU First Lady Loran Lane represented TSU at the 2017 NAACP Image Awards in Los Angeles, California, on Saturday February 11, 2017.





**FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS** *Cont'd.*

**TMSL Faculty Lead 2017 SE/SW POCC**

**SESWPOCC**

Southeast Southwest People of Color  
Legal Scholarship Conference

Change We Can Believe in?

Examining the Post Obama Era

March 30 - April 2

Hosted by Southern University Law  
Center, Baton Rouge, LA

**REGISTRATION OPEN!**

*The*

**Legal Scholarship** *Conference*

**Connecting engaging dialogue to innovative ideas that  
can effect change in diverse communities**

March 30th - April  
2nd 2017

President Obama built his platform on a message of inclusion. He advocated for "people-focused and concrete change" that helped every American. His campaign promises, and subsequent terms as President, were highlighted by this deep belief in an inclusive agenda. He often cited the inherent goodness of Americans and was a proponent of the "rightness" of the political system. By contrast, the political turmoil due to the perceived divisiveness in the past presidential election has left some feeling excluded in America's agenda. This year's conference is an opportunity to bring concrete issues that speak to our current political atmosphere to the forefront.



## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

### TMSL Faculty Lead 2017 SE/SW POCC

As academics, we are champions of ideas. Although there are sensitive issues facing disenfranchised communities of color and women, we support attendees in challenging thoughts and ideas from a variety of viewpoints. It is our hope that attendees leave with a sense of academic and social purpose that assists them in giving action to change in their own communities; change that they, and the communities they serve, can believe in.

This year **Professor L. Darnell Weeden** will serve as the Chair of the 2017 Southeast/Southwest People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference. **Professor Stephanie Ledesma** will assist with conference programming (development and execution) as Conference Program Chair and **Professor Lydia D. Johnson** will serve as Chair of the Works-in-Progress Committee. **Professor SpearIt** will serve as Co-Chair of the Student Competition.



(Prof. L. Darnell Weeden)

(Prof. Stephanie Ledesma)

(Prof. Lydia D. Johnson)

(Prof. SpearIt)

Go to [www.seswpocc.org](http://www.seswpocc.org) for more information on participating as a panelist, submitting a work-in-progress, participating in the student writing competition, and registering as a participant!

Questions??? Send them to [cmjames@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:cmjames@tmslaw.tsu.edu)



## EARL CARL INSTITUTE NEWS



### ECI Educates Lawmakers During TSU Day at the Capitol



The Earl Carl Institute staff participated in the university-wide TSU Day at the Capitol in Austin, Texas on Tuesday, January 24, 2017. As part of the day’s activities, ECI staff members visited the offices of many Texas legislators to provide education on the institute’s legislative recommendations in the policy areas of criminal justice, death penalty, juvenile justice, foreclosure defense/property preservation and foster care/CPS reform. ECI’s legislative recommendations were crafted based on student and staff research and writing conducted after interim charges were published, as well as, the valuable feedback provided by community members, related professionals, elected officials, government stakeholders and community activists during meetings and community forums hosted over the last two years. These recommendations include facts and statistics that explain the need for policy changes. For more information or to request research assistance, please contact ECI at [earlcarlinstitute@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:earlcarlinstitute@tmslaw.tsu.edu) or 713-313-1139.

### ECI Executive Director Appointed to Black Administrators in Child Welfare National Board



ECI Executive Director, Sarah R. Guidry was recently appointed to serve on the board of directors for the Black Administrators in Child Welfare (BACW). BACW is an advocacy, membership, research, training and technical assistance organization founded in 1971 and incorporated in 1975 in New York to respond to the need for culturally appropriate services to the overrepresented African American children and families, and to provide a support network for individuals serving as executives managing child welfare and other



human service agencies. Governed by a 24 member Board of Directors with its day-to-day operations managed by an Executive Director, BACW is the only child welfare organization that has been involved nationally in work that addresses child welfare policy, practice, and research on behalf of African American children specifically but all children in foster care. BACW is committed to strengthening and supporting programs designed to promote the healthy development of children, youth and families. We support communities that are serving all children with special attention given to those with a demonstrated interest in helping children of color. Please join the ECI family in congratulating Executive Director Guidry who has been doing child welfare work for over 25 years.



## EARL CARL INSTITUTE NEWS *Cont'd.*

### ECI to Host Symposium on Landmark Case 50th Anniversary Commemoration of *In Re Gault*

On March 2, 2017 from 10:00am-4:15pm, please join the Earl Carl Institute at Thurgood Marshall School of Law and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View University for The Commemoration Of the 50th Anniversary of *In Re Gault* which set a precedent for juvenile justice. Earn 6.0 hours/2.75 hours of CLE credit. **Program topics:** *A Historical Perspective of Juvenile Justice: Significance of In Re Gault & Its Progeny; Best Practices in Certification Hearings; Ethics in Juvenile Proceedings; Why Treat Children Differently: The Appropriate Age of Juvenile Jurisdiction, The Adolescent Brain, and The Philosophy of Juvenile Court vs. Adult Court; Where Do We Go From Here? Issues for the Future: Changes in Sentencing & PREA, Trauma Informed Representation, & Restorative Justice.* The event will be held in the McCoy Auditorium at the Barbara Jordan Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs. To register, please visit: <https://gault50th.eventbrite.com>.



*In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1 (1967), is a landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision that held that juveniles accused of crimes in a delinquency proceeding must be afforded many of the same due process rights as adults including the right to counsel . The ruling also provided other due process rights, including the right to adequate notice of charges, the right to confront an accuser, and the right against self-incrimination.







## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM NEWS

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW



### TMSL'S FIRST STUDENT NITA PROGRAM (National Institute of Trial Advocacy) CLIENT INTERVIEWING



Thurgood Marshall School of Law Assistant Professor Stephanie Ledesma lauded for co-developing a client interviewing, national curriculum for law schools that has met the American Bar Association's definition of experiential simulation, and has since been adopted by several schools across the country, taking experiential learning to even greater heights. On January 21-22, 2017, from 8am to 5pm, a small sampling of Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) students embraced a weekend opportunity to transform from student to practitioner, as part of a two-day, learning-by-doing, client interviewing curriculum co-developed by Thurgood Marshall School of Law Director of Experiential Learning Programs and Assistant Professor of Law Stephanie M. Ledesma. With the aid and resources provided by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), Professor Ledesma has designed a programmatic, hands-on learning approach to client interviewing, contributing significantly to law students' overall understanding of the real-time environment. Dynamic instructional support for the two-day experiential learning simulation was provided by TMSL Associate Professor for the Clinical Legal Studies Program Lydia D. Johnson; Attorney at Law and Associate Director of the Center for Criminal Justice at the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy, Inc. Anthony Haughton; and TMSL Alum Anthony Hynes. Special Thanks to TMSL Former Dean and Professor Danyne Holley and TMSL Dean and Distinguished Professor James M. Douglas for seeing the value of this course.

## EXTERNSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



**Cynthia Castanon**, is a 3L currently serving as an extern with the **Honorable Judge Caroline Baker**, 295th Judicial District, Civil.

Judge Baker has served the citizens of Harris County as a judge for over 17 years.

Furthermore, Judge Baker also spends time mentoring aspiring lawyers through internships in the court and judging mock trials and mock hearings for students from all the Houston law schools.

In Ms. Castanon's time working with the Judge Baker, she has had the opportunity to get practical training that you would not get in the classroom such as seeing how the courtroom operates. Although the justice system is a unified system, every courtroom operates differently and this is valuable experience to all future attorneys in that we get exposed to different courtroom requirements. There is also valuable experience in watching other attorneys advocate on behalf of their clients. Ms. Castanon states that this externship has definitely challenged her legal research abilities and has taught her the importance of concise briefing, shepardizing and citing cases correctly. Finally, Ms. Castanon states that she is truly enjoying her time working with the Judge, because above all Judge Baker is genuine and truly cares about teaching and guiding new lawyers.





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TODAY

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February 2017 10 of 25

**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM NEWS *Cont'd.***

# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

presents

## CRIMINAL LAW SHOWCASE

**MARCH 9, 2017**

5-6 p.m., RM 105 & 106

**WANTED: Trial Lawyers in Training.**

*Want to try Criminal Law Cases, NOW?*

*Interested in being a Student Attorney with the Innocence Project?*

**Come meet the Criminal Law Clinic and The Innocence Project.**



**THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW**



Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Innocence Project

# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

presents

## A NIGHT OF EXTERNSHIPS

**CIVIL ★ CRIMINAL ★ JUDICIAL ★ LEGISLATIVE**

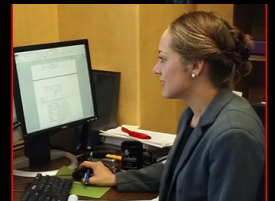
**MARCH 9, 2017**

6 - 9 p.m., RM 105 & 106

**Registration Q and A;**

**Immediate Placement Opportunities with Federal Judges; State Judges; ACLU; District Attorney's Office; Public Defender Offices; Private Law Firms and more.**

For more information contact Professor Stephanie Ledesma at email [stephanie@ledesma-law.com](mailto:stephanie@ledesma-law.com)  
or phone 713-313-1105



**THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW**



## STAFF NEWS

### *In Memoriam*

#### *Mr. Xavier C. Lemond- (brother of Dean Virgie Mouton)*



Dean of Academic Affairs, **Virgie Mouton**, lost her brother, **Mr. Xavier C. Lemond**, on January 20, 2017. Mr. Lemond was known for his service and commitment to others. He has served in the United States Armed Forces, as a teacher at Booker T. Washington High School, and on the University of Houston Board of Regents. After twenty years of service, Mr. Lemond separated from Conoco, Inc. as an Oil and Gas Attorney. Subsequent to his 2001 appointment as an Assistant County Attorney in the Harris County Attorney's Office, Mr. Lemond retired in 2009 as the Director of the Harris County Social Services Department. His liveliness and spirited personality will be remembered by those who loved him bes

#### *Wilda Dorcas Serrant—(sister of Pearly Pendenque)*

Office Administrator, **Pearly Pendenque**, lost her sister, **Wilda Dorcas Serrant**, on January 22, 2017. Mr. Serrant was an educator for thirty years serving as a teacher and principal. After four years of fighting, including two years of remission, the cancer resurfaced and Ms. Serrant's epic battle ended peacefully surrounded by her family.





## STUDENT NEWS

### *TMSL Students in 2017 TLIP Class*



The Texas Legislative Internship Program (“TLIP”) is a life changing experience for many students. TLIP was first started in 1990. The program is sponsored by County Commissioner Rodney Ellis and administered by the Mickey Leland Center on World Hunger and Peace at Texas Southern University. Other key players who assure that the TLIP program continues its record of success are TMSL Dean and Distinguished Professor James M. Douglas, Leonard Spearman and Tina Tran.

Since its inception, TLIP has provided over 500 undergraduate and graduate students attending

Texas colleges and universities with the opportunity to serve as interns in the Texas Legislature, various state agencies, and local government. In addition, this year marks the first time a legislative placement in the government affairs division of a national firm was assigned to a student. Many of these students go on to have successful public service careers. Students enrolled in TLIP get a stipend for their participation, which is privately funded by those who understand and appreciate the importance of the program. TLIPers can also receive up to fifteen academic credit hours for their participation in the program. Below is a list of the current students participating in the program with their respective legislative assignment.

- Brandy Douglas**—Senator Royce West
- Camille Foster**—Senator Borris Miles
- Uriel “Alex” Guajardo**—Senator Sylvia Garcia
- LaTreshia Hamilton**—Senator John Whitmire
- Tamoria Jones**—Representative Harold V. Dutton Jr.
- Brian King**—Representative Senfronia Thompson
- Taren Marsaw**—McCall Parkhurst and Horton LLP
- Dondarius Mayhew**—Texas Criminal Justice Reform Coalition
- Laymond Wilburn**—Speaker of the House, Joseph Straus, III





## STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

### *TMSL Continues Making History in Moot Court and Mock Trial*

## **TMSL Duo Advances to National Moot Court Competition**



(reprint from TSU E-News)

Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) students **Olympia Oliver** and **Ashley Rose** were named first runner-up in the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition at the National Black Law Students Association, Southwest Regional Convention in New Orleans, LA. The team is coached by TMSL alum **Anthony Hynes**.

Oliver and Rose argued before judges, professors and other prominent practitioners from the New Orleans area. TMSL students attended workshops, luncheons, and networking events during the three day convention that included law experts, academicians, and sitting jurists.

The TMSL team's victory allows them to advance to the national competition, which takes place in Houston, March 7-12, 2017 at the Westin Galleria. We look forward to an outstanding performance in March and wish the team the best of luck at the national tournament!

## **TMSL Trial Teams Advance to The Top Eight**



TMSL's 2L team, **Maurice Rice II** and **Marcus Esther**, along with the 3L team, **Alya Vasquez** and **Timothy Adams** competed in the Texas Young Lawyers National Trial Competition earlier this month. Out of 20 teams from around the entire state of Texas and Tulane in Louisiana, both teams advanced to the top eight. Baylor and South Texas were the only other schools with two teams competing in the quarterfinal round. Our 2L team lost in the quarterfinals; however, our 3L team advanced to the final round, losing by eight points to Baylor. These students performed spectacularly and all those that crossed their path praised their professionalism and great advocacy skills.



## STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

### *2nd Annual Law Review Student Presentations*

As part of the Faculty Series, the law school hosted its second annual Thurgood Marshall Law Review Student Publications Presentations event on Wednesday, January 25, 2017. Four Thurgood Marshall Law Review students shared their latest research and articles to a standing-room only crowd of faculty, students, and guests. The student presenters were:



**Mya Johnson, Articles Editor**

**The Lack of Trust  
in a Trust Relationship:  
Indian Affairs  
and The Federal Government**



**Nekketta Archie, Executive Editor**

**Red Light, Green Light:  
The Evil Yet Ever-Existing Intersection of  
Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking  
and the Foster Care System**



**Ebony Young, Articles Editor**

**Marked for life:  
The Inevitable incarceration  
of the Black male  
and the Invisible Punishments**



**Robert Brown II, Business Editor**

**Scare Decisis: The Impact of the  
Supreme Court on an  
Ever Changing American Society**



## STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*



### Henry Keculah Published in TYLA Newsletter

TMSL 1L **Henry Keculah** wrote a time management article for the Texas Young Lawyers Association newsletter. Henry's article emphasizes the importance of discipline and ways to minimize distractions. Henry completed his undergrad degree at the University of Texas, worked with Teach for America and runs his own academic consulting business. To read his article visit: <http://www.tyla.org/tyla/index.cfm/news1/enews/january-2017/law-students/>



### Iesha Smith Receives AWA Scholarship

TMSL 2L **Iesha Smith** was awarded a \$2500 scholarship and will be honored at the Association of Women Attorneys A Premier Women in Law Luncheon on March 1, 2017. Iesha, currently in the top 15% of her class, and a mother of five, has shown a strong commitment to the legal profession and the ability to overcome difficult obstacles. Also, her work as a court appointed Special Ad Litem Candidate for Child Advocates reflects her leadership and philanthropic potential. These attributes and qualities are a few of the many talents that deems Iesha a deserving student of the scholarship. TMSL please congratulate Iesha on her award.



### Reginal D. Harris Receives HIPLA Scholarship

TMSL 2L **Reginal D. Harris** was selected by Houston Intellectual Property Law Association and the Nancy F. Atlas IP Inn of Court as an awardee of the 2016-17 IP Student Scholarship of \$4500. Reginal is a United States veteran and prior to law school obtained his Doctorate of Pharmacy. He currently serves as a Barbri Bar Review Representative; the Honor Court—Court Coordinator; Intellectual Property Law Society—Secretary; LexisNexis Legal Research Representative; and Secretary of the Veterans Law Students Association. Reginal will be honored at HIPLA's Annual Federal Judges Dinner on Thursday, March 2, 2017 at the Four Seasons Hotel in downtown Houston.

*"Since 2002, when I started professional Intellectual Property Law, I have been impressed with the caliber of students I meet at Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL). Reginal Harris is one such student that I met as a current Advisor for the TMSL Law Society. As a faculty member representing TMSL with Houston Intellectual Property Law Association and the Nancy F. Atlas IP Inn of Court, I was not surprised by our committee's selection of Reginal to receive this scholarship. He is always is a present, active, engaged and eager to learn. This honor for him is well deserved. Intellectual Property thriving area of law that many of our law students, especially those with technical undergraduate majors, regularly underestimate. There are resources for its study, and there are jobs awaiting those willing to become IP attorneys. Come see us and engage the TMSL IP Law Society, for more information." - Attorney Bert Jennings III*



## STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

### *TMSL Students Elected to the Southwest Regional Board of the National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA)*

TMSL second year students, **Khanay Turner** and **Latoya Rascoe**, were elected to serve as the 2017 - 2018 Regional Chair and Secretary of the Southwest Black Law Students Association (SWBLSA). SWBLSA elections were held in January at the Inaugural Regional Convention. Previously, both Turner and Rascoe served on the inaugural 2016-2017 executive board of SWBLSA as the Attorney General and Director of Communication, respectively.



**Induction of 2017-2018 SWBLSA Executive Board:**  
(Left to Right) Khanay Turner , Chair; Johnny King, Attorney General; Latoya Rascoe, Secretary; Tonika Brown, Director of Community Service

**Khanay Turner**, the elected Chair, ran on a platform that would ensure law students activism within the black community. “My agenda as Regional Chair will focus on building a bridge, and closing the gap between the African-American community and the legal and political community. By closing the gap and getting back involved in the community I have three avenues in which I plan on achieving my agenda and goals: community forums and town hall meetings; legislative and political advocacy; and community clinics” said Turner. The theme for the 2017-2018 term is S.O.A.R: Supplying Opportunities to the members of SWBLSA, while Achieving Rewards for the black community. Turner is the first TMSL student to serve as chair of the SWBLSA.



**Induction into Inaugural Class of SWBLSA Hall of Fame:** (Left to Right) Khanay Turner of TMSL, Board Member of the Year; and Traci Gibson of U of H, 2016-2017 SWBLSA Chair.

Previously TMSL was located in the Rocky Mountain Region of NBLSA. In 2016, in response to the need for a more viable, geographic NBLSA structure that could effectively implement BLSA Founder, Mr. Algernon Johnson “AJ” Cooper’s vision, the Rocky Mountain region was redistributed, with Texas & Oklahoma joining Arkansas & Louisiana to form the Southwest region of the National Black Law Students Association.

In addition to the election, Turner was also inducted into the Inaugural Class of the SWBLSA Hall of Fame as Board Member of the Year for her achievements inside and outside of the organization. Turner served as a front line service contact for members, was a force behind community the voter registration drive, and provided technological advancement for the board, just to name a few of her achievements. TMSL family and friends join us in congratulating our students on their new positions.





## STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.* STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

### *Kevin Christiansen*



TMSL Graduating Class: 2017  
Home: Katy, Texas  
Undergraduate Institution: Brigham Young University  
Undergraduate Degree: Psychology

#### Jobs/Internships/Externships

Law Clerk at The Adams Law Firm  
Student attorney at TMSL Family Law Clinic  
Law Clerk at the Office of Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service  
Law Clerk at Holmes, Diggs & Eames  
Law Clerk at The Christiansen Law Firm

#### Extracurricular Activities

Best Advocate Award Recipient, Rocky Mountain BLSA Mock Trial Competition, 2016  
Champion of the Catherine Haley Shaw Mock Trial Competition, 2015  
Champion of Rocky Mountain Regional BLSA Mock Trial Competition, 2016  
Champion of Southwest Regional BLSA Mock Trial Competition, 2017  
Second Place Team in National BLSA Mock Trial Competition, 2016

#### Community Service

Served two year church service mission in Stockholm, Sweden  
Active volunteer in youth Sunday school programs with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

#### My Story

I grew up just outside of Houston, in Katy, Texas. My father is an attorney who started his own law practice when I was fairly young, so I grew up going with him to court and hearing about some of the complex legal issues he dealt with in his daily work. I became fascinated by the inherent competition that existed in litigation, and I decided to go to Law School. I chose Thurgood Marshall School of Law because of its fantastic mock trial program and for the many experiential learning opportunities available that would help mold me into a powerful advocate for my clients' rights.

After graduation, I plan on becoming a law professor and incorporating research-based pedagogical principles to provide high quality legal education and help law students develop critical lawyering skills in preparation for practice. I also will be starting a jury consulting firm under the name of *Judicial Innovations*, which will focus on enabling attorneys to make data-based jury selection decisions by using technology to collect and analyze data during the voir dire process.



# ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

## *Dallas Alumni & Friends Celebrate Faith Johnson, Dallas County D.A.*





## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.* ALUMNI ON THE MOVE

### *Ogg adds Ruben Perez as Chief of the Special Crimes Bureau*



**Ruben Perez, TMSL class of 1980**, has been selected to join the leadership team of Harris County District Attorney, Kim Ogg as Chief of the Special Crimes Bureau. Perez previously worked in the Harris County District Attorney's Office, rising to the rank of Chief prosecutor. After eleven years, Perez became a federal prosecutor for the U. S. Southern District of Texas. There, he prosecuted the major sex-trafficking case that took down a notorious Houston brothel and prosecuted the five persons responsible for committing a hate crime at the home of an African-American family in Katy, TX. Perez has held positions on the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force and served as Chief Federal Prosecutor for the Human Trafficking Civil Rights Unit. Some of his other notable awards include being a three time winner of the Directors Award from the U.S. Department of Justice. TMSL friends and family please help us congratulate Ruben Perez on his accomplishments and new position as Chief of the Special Crimes Bureau.

### *Ogg adds Glen Austin as Chairperson of Hiring Committee*



**Glen Austin, TMSL class of 2014**, has been selected as Chairperson of Harris County District Attorney, Kim Ogg's Transition Team Committee on Hiring Practices and Diversity in the Harris County District Attorney's Office. This Committee will focus on hiring practices as well as promotions.

"As an alum of Thurgood Marshall School of Law, I have a deep appreciation of my institution's contributions to diversity in the legal field and am eager to see that continue." - Glen Austin

Glen looks forward to working with TMSL Dean James M. Douglas, Professor Stephanie Ledesma & Assistant Dean Nikki Smith.



### *James Lacey receives LLM*

**James Lacey, class of 2008**, completed his Master of Laws in Environmental Law at Golden Gate University School of Law in San Francisco, December 2016. Lacey currently practices environmental law in Austin, Texas.



## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.* ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



### *Dandridge Shares Her View in Forbes Under 30*

**Kimbrey Dandridge**, TMSL class of 2016, wrote a guest post for Forbes Magazine. The post entitled “7 Tips for Millennials Entering the Real World”, was published in the Under 30 section of the magazine. Dandridge provided helpful tips on dressing for success; planning and setting goals; overall personal wellness and living life to the fullest. Dandridge, 26, and currently a business attorney at Butler Snow LLP in Memphis, Tennessee, is an example of how these tips can lead to a smooth transition into the real world.

### *McMillan Works to Protect Artists of Color*



**James E. McMillan**, TMSL class of 1997, is the subject of an article written in the Huffington Post entitled, “How One Black Lawyer is Changing the Music Industry by Fighting For Artist Rights”. McMillan, an experienced entertainment lawyer of over nineteen years, uses the history of his musician grandparents as motivation for artist advocacy. McMillan strives “to steer artists in the right direction to avoid legal pitfalls and navigate their careers successfully.” McMillan launched “Gotham City Esq”, a website to increase the awareness of best business practices amongst artists, managers and lawyers. McMillan has also joined the ShortsHD’s #WatchInColor campaign. Their goal is to “celebrate the diversity of American filmmaking talent and create new opportunities for filmmakers from all minority groups.” McMillan, a pillar of the community has proven to be a gladiator amongst men in the fight for artist rights.





## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

### IN MEMORIAM



**Solomon Morrow, class of 2013**, passed away on February 13, 2017. Solomon was a native of south-side Chicago and earned his Bachelor of Arts at Iowa State University. He studied abroad, earned two Master’s degrees and taught in Baltimore, Maryland before attending Law School. Following law school, Solomon opened his own practice focusing on litigating disputes in the areas of labor and employment law, civil litigation and business litigation. Solomon was known as a proactive and client-focused attorney. Solomon leaves behind six month old triplet boys. TMSL family we ask that you keep his sons in your prayers.



**Jesse Funchess, class of 1971**, departed this world on January 24, 2017. During his life he was a solo practitioner and family man. Jesse leaves behind a wife, ten children and a host of extended family.

Not Pictured

**Robert Beckles, class of 1976**, passed February 2017. Beckles, a Dallas area alum was a solo practitioner. His practice areas included Criminal, Insurance, International, Real Estate, Wills-Trusts-Probate, Entertainment, Immigration, School Law, Social Security Law. Robert leaves behind a wife and adult children.



**Ricco Delgado, class of 2015**, passed on February 25, 2017. Ricco, the son of the State District Judge Rudy Delgado, graduated from James “Nikki” Rowe High School in McAllen, TX. He earned a bachelor’s degree from St. Edward’s University in Austin and in 2015 graduated *magna cum laude* from TMSL. After passing the bar exam, Ricco Delgado returned to Hidalgo County and took a job with the District Attorney’s Office. “He was a smart kid. A bright kid,” said District Attorney Ricardo Rodriguez. “He did great work as a prosecutor.” He will be truly missed by his parents, family and friends.



**Professor James Bullock, class of 1970**, laid to rest on February 9, 2017, at the age of 90. *See cover story*



UPCOMING CLE's

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *In re Gault* Conference

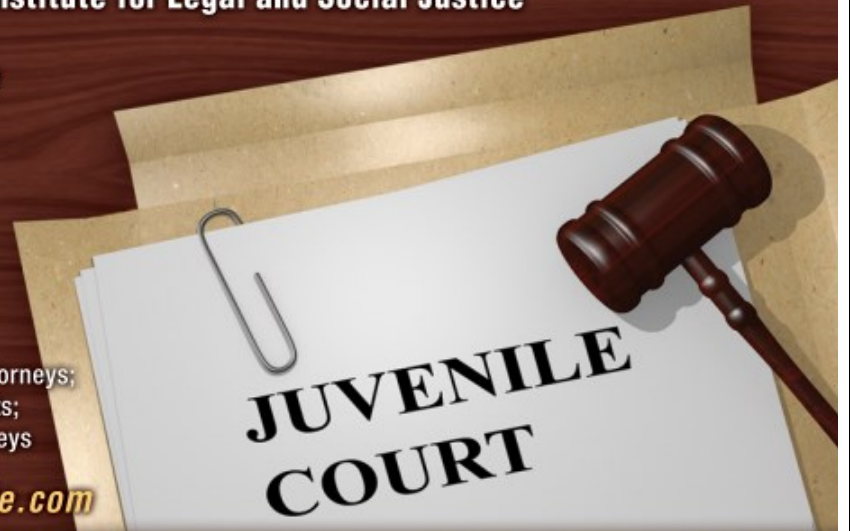
Co-sponsored by: The Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Justice  
PVAMU  
Thurgood Marshall School of Law

## March 2, 2017

10:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

MCLE: 5.75  
Ethics: 2.75  
Cost: \$100.00 attorneys;  
\$25.00 government and non-profit attorneys;  
\$25.00 attendees requiring CEU credits;  
\$10.00 students and other non-attorneys

Register online at: [www.tmslcle.com](http://www.tmslcle.com)



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW  
3100 Cleburne Street, Houston, Texas 77004





Thurgood  
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FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197

February 2017

23 of 25

# Port City (TX) Chapter of the Links Incorporated



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service  
Port City (TX) Chapter

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Health, Education Science Fair and Carnival

Saturday, March 4, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

### SUNNYSIDE PARK

3502 BELLFORT · HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051

Join us at 10:00 a.m. for South Central Sportz  Baseball Teams Parade & Opening Ceremony

ALL FREE - Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Rock Climbing Wall, Carnival Rides,  
Mobile Engineering Museum, Hands-on Science Experiments, Face Painting,  
Prizes and Games, Food, Health screening, and Blood Pressure Checks.

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### Special Guests

- Mayor Sylvester Turner
  - Houston City Council Member Dwight Boykins
  - TSU President Austin Lane
  - Paula Harris, Schlumberger
  - Dr. James Douglas, Dean of TMSL
  - Congressman Al Green
  - State Senator Borris Miles
  - De Andre Sam, A-Rocket Moving and Storage
  - Cecil Cooper, Former Mgr. Houston Astros
  - Wanda Adams, HISD School Board President
  - Sherry Williams, KHOU News Team
  - May Walker, Harris County Constable Precinct 7
  - Houston City Council Member, Larry Green
  - Twila Carter, Exec. Director Astros Foundation
  - State Representative Shawn Thierry
  - Former Astros Player Kevin Bass
  - Fmr. Astronaut Robert Satcher, MD PhD
  - City Council Member Amanda Edwards
- (Partial lists at the time of printing)*

### Booth Participants

- METRO
- Schlumberger "I Want to Be An Engineer" Mobile Museum
- Family Health and Wellness Center
- Dr. Stacey Jones
- Nightlight Pediatric Urgent Care
- Energized for Excellence Academy Band & Drill Team
- NASA
- Ensemble Theater Young Performers
- Landry's Downtown Aquarium
- Design Dental Group
- The University Museum TSU
- The Earl Carl Institute
- East Bethel Cowboys Youth Football/Cheer
- Voter Registration
- Summer Camps and more..

### Sponsors

- Council Member Dwight Boykins
- DeAndre Sam, A-Rocket Moving and Storage
- Schlumberger
- Texas Southern University
- Thurgood Marshall School of Law
- WorleyParsons
- Houston Astros
- Harris County Constable Office Precinct 7
- Pinnacle Pediatric Dentistry
- Design Dental Group
- Johnson Funeral Home
- Houston Industrial Solutions
- U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee
- Paradise Funeral Home and Cemeteries
- Garfield Johnson, III, MD - Texas ENT Specialists, Inc.
- Legacy Community Health Santa Clara Clinic
- Irving Logan, Sr - Houston Industrial Solutions





## EVENTS CALENDAR

On-line Registration for ALL TMSL CLEs: [Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law](http://www.tsu.edu)

### MARCH 2017

#### **March 1st**

##### **Faculty Development**

Location: Deans Conference Room  
Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

#### **March 2nd**

##### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of In Re Gault –CLE**

**Prairie View University**  
**The Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy, Inc.**

##### **Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: Texas Southern University, BJ-ML School of Public Affairs  
Time: 10:00 am-4:15 pm  
Cost: \$100.00 attorneys; \$50.00 gov't and non-profit attorneys; \$25.00 attendees requiring CEU credits; \$10.00 students and other non-attorneys  
MCLE: 6.0  
Ethics 2.75  
Register online: <https://gault50th.eventbrite.com>

#### **March 4<sup>th</sup>**

##### **TMSL Community Service Day**

Location: Sunnyside Park  
3502 Bellfort  
Houston, TX 77051  
Time: 10:00 am – 1:30 pm

#### **March 6th – 10th**

##### **Mid-Term Examinations**

#### **March 8th**

##### **Faculty Development**

Location: Deans Conference Room  
Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

#### **March 9th**

##### **A Criminal Law Showcase**

Location: TMSL Rm 105 & 106  
Time: 5 pm—6 pm

#### **March 9th**

##### **A Night of Externship**

Location: TMSL Rm 105 & 106  
Time: 6 pm—7 pm

#### **March 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>**

##### **TMSL Spring Break**

#### **March 27th**

##### **Family Law 101–CLE**

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: Rm 105 & 106  
Time: 6:00 pm– 9pm  
Cost: \$25.00 attorneys, gov't and non-profit attorneys; attendees requiring CEU credits;  
MCLE: 3.0  
Ethics 1.0

#### **March 28th**

##### **Personal Injury–CLE**

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: Rm 105 & 106  
Time: 6:00 pm– 9pm  
Cost: \$25.00 attorneys, gov't and non-profit attorneys; attendees requiring CEU credits;  
MCLE: 3.0  
Ethics 1.0

#### **March 29th**

##### **Criminal Law Basics –CLE**

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: Rm 105 & 106  
Time: 6:00 pm– 9pm  
Cost: \$25.00 attorneys, gov't and non-profit attorneys; attendees requiring CEU credits;  
MCLE: 3.0  
Ethics 1.0





## February Birthdays

<b>Anna James</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>James M. Douglas</b>	<b>11th</b>
<b>Constance Fain</b>	<b>11th</b>
<b>Elizabeth “Wynell” Wall</b>	<b>17th</b>
<b>Toyann Timmons</b>	<b>21st</b>
<b>Trina Leach</b>	<b>22nd</b>
<b>Victoria McCoy</b>	<b>26th</b>



### Recycle reminder

Go Green! Let’s remember to recycle our used bottles! The recycle bins are located in two areas of the law school and emptied every morning!

Let’s do our part!



**THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL of LAW**

**AN EXAMPLE OF DIVERSITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

*“Protect It, Improve It, Pass It on”*