

---

*The Investiture of*  
***Mr. McKen Carrington, J.D.***  
*As the Eighth Dean*  
*Of*  
*The Thurgood Marshall School of Law*



***February 17, 2006***

*4:30 in the Afternoon*

*Texas Southern University*  
*Thurgood Marshall School of Law*  
*Moot Court Auditorium*

---

## HISTORICAL PROFILE OF THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW



In 1947, the Texas State Senate of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature passed Senate bill 140 which established Texas State University for Negroes. Its name changed in 1953 to Texas Southern University. The University was granted authority to offer courses of higher learning in pharmacy, dentistry, journalism, education, arts and sciences, literature, law, medicine, and other professional courses.

The School of Law, as well as the University at large, was created as a consequence of a 1947 lawsuit brought by Heman M. Sweatt. Sweatt was refused admission to the University of Texas School of Law based on racial heritage. As a result, the legislature provided an interim and separate law school for Negroes. During its first academic year, the School of Law was housed in Austin, Texas, and subsequently transferred to the campus of Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas.

Since that time, the School of Law has become an integral part of the University campus. Prior to 1976, the School of Law was housed in the Hannah Hall multi-purpose university building. On February 14, 1976, when the School of Law moved into its new building, it was formally designated as Thurgood Marshall School of Law in honor of the distinguished United States Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall.

The strength of Texas Southern University - Thurgood Marshall School of Law, lies in its ability to attract a diverse faculty and student body. The School of Law is a local, regional, and national leader in the production of minority law graduates.

## MCKEN V. CARRINGTON



After three years of service as the interim dean, McKen V. Carrington was selected as Dean of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law by the Board of Regents on May 6, 2005. Carrington's additional law school experience includes his service as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs from 1992-95 and as Associate Dean for Administration from 1987-92.

A member of the Moot Court Board and winner of an estate planning award, Carrington received his Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School in New York. He amassed a distinguished record of service in government, corporate, and academia. As a former member of the United States Army, Carrington's government experience also includes his work as an estate tax auditor for the Internal Revenue Service.

In the corporate arena, Carrington served as an estate planner and financial consultant for American Express Corporation. Since 1991, Carrington has been a member of the law faculty where he has taught courses in: wills and trusts, estate planning, gift taxation, business planning, legal methods, federal income taxation, and real property.

Dean Carrington has served in various leadership positions and chaired several committees at the University, including the Senior Vice-President Search Committee; the School of Technology Dean Search Committee; the Director of Public Safety Search Committee; the Faculty Manual Committee; Football Coach Search Committee; and the University's Rank, Tenure & Promotion Committee. Additionally, he served as the Chair of the Faculty Senate. Under Carrington's leadership, the Faculty Senate established six task forces to address matters concerning the University's academic programs.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Universities (SACS) appointed Carrington to its evaluation team in 1998. Carrington also served as a member of the American Bar Association (ABA) accreditation site visitation team to Detroit Mercy School of Law. His knowledge and expertise was instrumental in resolving Thurgood Marshall's accreditation issues identified by the American Bar Association during a site visit.

Carrington's extensive record of publications includes law review articles, commentaries, and book reviews. Carrington, along with a committee, produced a new faculty manual for the University. Due to his commitment to helping others, he has received several awards from student and community organizations for his teaching acumen. Facilitating student meetings, he has held advisory positions in the Christian Legal Society, the law school chapters of the Houston Lawyer Association, and the Texas Young Lawyers Association. In the community, Carrington provides his legal expertise to boards including the Third Ward Redevelopment Council.

Carrington is admitted to practice law in the New York Supreme Court, Third Appellate Division; the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York; and the United States Tax Court. He is also a member of The Texas Bar, American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Houston Bar Association, and Houston Lawyers Association.

Carrington is married and has three children.

**THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY  
OF  
MR. MCKEN V. CARRINGTON**

**DEAN, THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW**

Dr. Bobby L. Wilson, Presiding  
*Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Services*

The Processional	Texas Southern University String Ensemble
The Invocation	The Reverend Dr. William A. Lawson <i>Pastor Emeritus, Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church</i>
The Welcome	The Honorable David Diaz <i>Member, Texas Southern University Board of Regents</i>
	The Honorable Calvin Botley <i>U. S. Magistrate Judge, Southern District of Texas</i>
	Mrs. Virgie Mouton <i>Assistant Dean, Student Development and Academic Support</i>
	Mr. Dipo Akin-Deko <i>President, Student Bar Association</i>
The Greetings	The Honorable Kenneth Hoyt <i>Judge, United States Southern District</i>
The Musical Selection	Mrs. Donna Davis Gregory, Soloist <i>Director of Career Services, Thurgood Marshall School of Law</i>
The Decanal Expressions	Mr. James Douglas <i>Interim Dean, Florida A&amp;M University College of Law</i>
	Mr. James Alfini <i>Dean, South Texas College of Law</i>
The Administration of Oath	The Honorable J. Paul Johnson <i>Chairman, Texas Southern University Board of Regents</i>
The Introduction of the Dean	Dr. Priscilla D. Slade <i>President, Texas Southern University</i>
The Acceptance Message	Dean McKen V. Carrington
The Recognitions	The Honorable Harry E. Johnson, Sr. <i>Member, Texas Southern University Board of Regents</i>
The Benediction	The Reverend Dr. William A. Lawson
The Recessional	Texas Southern University String Ensemble

## THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW DEANS

Ozzie Johnson	1947 – 1950
David Rice	1950- 1956
Harry Groves	1957 -1961
Kenneth Tollet	1961 – 1969
Otis King	1971 – 1980
James Douglas	1981 – 1995
John Brittain	1999 – 2002
McKen V. Carrington	May 6, 2005



## THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW OFFICERS OF INSTRUCTION

Gabriel Aitsebaomo	Assistant Professor
James Beard	Associate Professor
John Brittain	Professor
James Bullock	Associate Professor
Marguerite Butler	Associate Professor
Walter Champion	Professor
Okezie Chukwumerije	Professor
Fernando Navarro-Colon	Associate Professor
James Cotton	Associate Professor
Martha Davis	Professor
Victoria Dawson	Skills Instructor
James Douglas	Distinguished Professor
Constance Fain	Earl Carl Professor
Lonnie Gooden	Associate Professor
Sally Green	Skills Instructor
Elizabeth Hall	Visiting Assistant Professor
Thelma Harmon	Clinical Skills Instructor
Maurice Hew	Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor
Donald Hill	Professor
Dannye Holley	Professor
Crisarla Houston	Visiting Skills Instructor
Craig Jackson	Professor
Faith Joseph Jackson	Skills Instructor
Anna James	Associate Professor
Kimberly James	Skills Instructor
Lydia Johnson	Clinical Skills Instructor
Marcia Johnson	Professor
Samuel Jones	Visiting Assistant Professor
Thomas Kleven	Professor
Manuel Leal	Professor
Martin Levy	Professor
Ruben Lugo-Rigau	Professor
Eboni Nelson	Assistant Professor
Ana Otero	Associate Professor
Morris Overstreet	Professor
Anthony Palasota	Skills Instructor
Deana Pollard	Associate Professor
Elsa Ransom	Associate Professor
Docia Rudley	Professor
Lupe Salinas	Professor
Asmara Tekle	Visiting Assistant Professor
April Walker	Assistant Professor
L. Darnell Weeden	Roberson King Professor
Edieth Y. Wu	Professor

**THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW  
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

McKen V. Carrington, *Dean*

Edieth Y. Wu, *Associate Dean*

L. Darnell Weeden, *Associate Dean*

Virgie Mouton, *Assistant Dean of Student Development and Academic Support*

Edward Rene, *Assistant Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid*

Charlotte Washington, *Director of Communications*

Ijeoma Opara, *Director of Academic Support*

Anya Anga, *TMSL Registrar*

Shibu Matthews, *Director of Information Technology & Planning*

Donna Davis Gregory, *Director of Career Services*

Prudence Smith, *Director of Alumni Affairs*

Morris Overstreet, *Director of Clinical Programs*

Leonard Spearman, *Director of Government Law Center*

DeCarlous Spearman, *Interim Executive Librarian*

Edith Dean, *Office Manager*

Paul Stein, *Coordinator of Information Technology*

Kira Cross, *Project Coordinator - Annual Fund*

## BOARD OF REGENTS

Regent J. Paul Johnson, *Chair*

Regent Robert Childress  
Regent David Diaz, *Secretary*  
Regent Earnest Gibson, III  
Regent Belinda Griffin

Regent Harry Johnson, Sr.  
Regent William King  
Student Regent Cynthia Spooner  
Regent George Williams, *Vice Chair*  
Regent Gerald Wilson

## OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Priscilla D. Slade, *President*

Bobby L. Wilson, *Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs & Student Services*  
Charlene T. Evans, *Senior Vice President for University Relations and Ombudsperson*  
Quintin Wiggins, *Senior Vice President for Business and Finance*  
Gayla Thomas, *Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management and Planning*  
Kimberly Williams, *Vice President for Strategic Development*  
Nina Wilson Jones, *Vice President for Development*  
Richard Pitre, *Associate Provost for Academic Affairs & Dean of the Graduate School*  
Robert Ford, *Associate Provost for Research*  
Willie Marshall, *Associate Provost for Student Services and Dean of Students*  
Henry North, *Assistant Provost for Professional Effectiveness*  
Robert Moreland, *Assistant Provost for Athletic Enhancement*  
Abner Terrell, *Assistant Vice President for Information Technology*  
Hasan Jamil, *Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services*  
Keffus Falls, *Assistant Vice President for Human Resources and Public Safety*  
Kevin Adams, *Assistant Vice President for Alumni Affairs*  
Gayle Colston Barge, *Director of Publications*  
Elizabeth Brock, *Director of External Affairs*  
Gita Bolt, *Interim General Counsel*  
Winifred King, *Director of Communications*  
Terry Holderman, *Director of Internal Audits*

## OFFICERS OF INSTRUCTIONAL ADMINISTRATION

Richard Pitre, *Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School*  
Joseph Boyd, *Dean, Jesse H. Jones School of Business*  
James W. Ward, *Interim Dean, Tavis Smiley School of Communication*  
Irvine Epps, *Dean, College of Continuing Education*  
Jay Cummings, *Dean, College of Education*  
McKen V. Carrington, *Dean, Thurgood Marshall School of Law*  
Merline Pitre, *Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Behavior Sciences*  
Barbara Hayes, *Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences*  
Mitchell Allen, *Interim Dean, College of Science and Technology*  
Theophilus Herrington, *Interim Dean, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs*  
Obidike Kamau, *Director of Libraries*  
Norma Robinson, *University Registrar*