



# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

JUNE 2020: SPECIAL EDITION CELEBRATING TMSL CLASS OF 2020

## *Congratulations to Thurgood Marshall School of Law Class of 2020*



Photo taken during Class of 2020 Orientation August 2017



*Resilience, Excellence, Perseverance*

YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE FROM  
THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS \* ASSISTANT DEAN PRUDENCE SMITH

EMAIL: [prudence.smith@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:prudence.smith@tmslaw.tsu.edu) \* (713) 313-1197 \* 3100 Cleburne Street, Houston, Texas 77004 \*



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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

## *Message from TMSL Alumni Board President, Robert Collier*



Fellow Alumni and Recent Graduates of the Class of 2020:

On behalf of more than 5600 of our alumni, I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to you and your families on your recent graduation from Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University.

This year marks the Thurgood Marshall School of Law's 70<sup>th</sup> commencement, and as alumni, you will be tasked to do what we all have endeavored to do, which is to protect, improve, and pass on our legacy of not only impacting the legal profession, but also impacting the communities in which we live. Our illustrious alumni include U.S. congressional members, judges, corporate executives, professors, activist, and other high achievers. Now, it is your turn to make your mark upon the world and do great things.

Certainly, it is not lost upon us that in the last couple of months COVID-19 has forced you to confront personal, financial, and health challenges in a rapidly changing world. At a time when you should be celebrating a great milestone, you are anxious about what tomorrow will bring. However, take time to celebrate your achievement and be encouraged that you are not alone. Indeed, throughout our rich history going back to 1946, the law school and each graduating class has had to face challenging times. This is your moment, embrace it, and rise to the occasion.

As you begin your next chapter, I leave you with the words of author Maltbie Babcock, "[b]e strong! We are not here to play, to dream, to drift; we have hard work to do, and loads to lift; shun not the struggle? Face it; 'tis God's gift." Be Strong!

Best wishes,

Robert N. Collier ('06)

President

Thurgood Marshall School of Law Alumni Association

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## *Message from Dean Joan R.M. Bullock*

### *Destined for Greatness*

As a class, you came in with a hurricane and left with a virus. Not just any hurricane, but with Hurricane Harvey—the most destructive storm in Houston’s history. Not just any virus, but with the coronavirus—a virus so virulent that it has put the entire world on pause. The world has also been shaken by the recent death of Third Ward native George Floyd. Police brutality and white supremacy are for the first time being viewed and discussed by domestic and international audiences through the lens of the Black Lives Matter movement.

These are signifying moments. This is the world that has taken shape since you decided to go to law school. This is the world that you are destined to change. When you graduated from high school and later from college, you listened to speeches of idealism, of dreams to fulfill, and of the bright future ahead of you. I write to you as graduates of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law of the special mantle being placed on you and the responsibility you have in carrying it out.

What is that responsibility? The world is looking for answers. Your charge is to help the world find those answers. How do you do that? By helping people ask the right questions—the hard questions—the questions that begin with “why” rather than “what.” You may have realized in your law studies that the study of law is the study of the human condition. Whether a first-year course or a third-year course, the legal issue was best understood if you had at least a glimpse into the why. Somewhere in the middle of your first year of law school you realized that it was not enough to know the black-letter law. Without the understanding of the why, the agendas and motivations of people that got them into their legal clashes, your knowledge of the law was sterile and shallow.

When you pass the bar, on your first attempt, by the way, you will begin your legal practice and you will then grow into a deeper appreciation of how important your knowledge of the why is to your success as a lawyer. This knowledge of the why is important in your understanding of your clients because your facilitation and resolution of legal problems is your facilitation and resolution of people problems. Your ability to resolve legal, i.e., people problems, require that you first identify the right issues that need to be addressed. For how can you provide the right answers if you are asking the wrong questions?

This brings me back to your responsibility, to the special mantle being placed on you as new graduates of the Law School. The world is looking for answers. How will it find the right answers if it is not asking the right questions? It cannot. It cannot without those who can help lead the discussion through the creation, interpretation, and enforcement of laws that encourage and support the asking of the right questions—the hard questions that delve into why the problems exist rather than what are the symptoms to address.

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*Message from Dean Joan R.M. Bullock, cont.*

*Destined for Greatness*

This brings me back to your responsibility, to the special mantle being placed on you as new graduates of the Law School. The world is looking for answers. How will it find the right answers if it is not asking the right questions? It cannot. It cannot without those who can help lead the discussion through the creation, interpretation, and enforcement of laws that encourage and support the asking of the right questions—the hard questions that delve into why the problems exist rather than what are the symptoms to address.

As graduates, you are leaving the Thurgood Marshall School of Law to serve as leaders in the legal profession, business, and government. You may be asking how you can be a leader when you are just starting in a profession. Leaders lead where they are planted. There is no special role or position that a leader need have. You have been well-equipped to lead the

courageous conversations that serve to advance equality, diversity, and opportunity in keeping with the values and ideals of Justice Thurgood Marshall.

I, along with each and every faculty and staff member of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, are proud of you. We congratulate you and wish you nothing but the very best. Some of you sat for the February bar and are now able to append Esq. after your name. Congratulations on joining the ranks as members of the practicing bar. To all our graduates, we look forward to having you join the long list of distinguished alumni from our historic law school.

All In in Tiger Pride,

Joan R. M. Bullock  
Dean and Professor of Law



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## *Reflections from Professor Ana Otero, Professor of the Year*



To the graduating class of 2020.

I am honored to have been selected Professor of the Year, and I am grateful for your vote of confidence.

I am deeply saddened that I was unable to offer these remarks in person at your hooding; sadder still that you could not have a proper hooding!

Your last semester in law school, generally a time for hope and celebration has been marred by this terrible crisis. Since March 20th, when Thurgood was forced to close its doors, we have had to grapple with an onslaught of challenges that have tested our mettle. As this pandemic continues to ravage the most vulnerable, we have had to lock ourselves in our homes and endure unimaginable changes to our ways of life. Perhaps, the most ironic thing of all is that during a time when we need each other most, we are forced to establish physical distancing.

It would be too easy to let ourselves be stuck in the mire of despair, dispirited by all that is out of our control, and fearful of the uncertainty that looms on the horizon. But that is not who we are! *"We are in this together"* for the Thurgood community is more than a tired cliché. It is the spirit of resilience that embodies our students, our faculty, our administrators and staff. It is the banner that we carry in our hearts with the knowledge that we will not fail, that we will survive this, and that in the end, we will emerge stronger.

During this time, we have been devastated by disappointment, fear, loss, and grief. But these hardships allow our hearts to be opened for new opportunities for compassion, empathy, and a greater determination to succeed.

I am proud to be part of this community of warriors, willing to march into new frontiers to conquer the challenges, willing to reinvent themselves and navigate rough waters for the one collective goal.

Years from now, you will remember this experience in a different way. You will remember all that you lost, but you will also remember how you harnessed your inner strength to reach the unreachable dream. Your spirit of resilience reminds me of a quote by Oscar Wilde: *"We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."*

"May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind always be at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand."

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Class of 2020,

## *Message from 3L Class President Toni Ojomo \* \*\**

*Cum Laude  
HT: Triangle, VA  
B.S.—Virginia Tech  
Associate, Daspit Law Firm*



Amidst all the chaos that is going on in the world, I celebrate and congratulate each of you on this tremendous accomplishment. I have had the pleasure of getting to know many of you, and I say this without hesitation, that our class is destined for GREATNESS. I have seen my peers work tirelessly and selflessly in academic and professional settings, mentor and motivate one another, and share in this wonderful experience together. Above all, I have seen the essence of our motto “Protect it, Improve it and Pass it on.” in all of us.

Congratulations, WE DID IT! Those long nights, long readings and long tears were worth it. You did it for you, your family & friends and proved to anyone who has ever doubted you that you are beyond capable. You have sown an invaluable seed into your life, that no one can take from you. You’ve entered an elite realm of those educated, molded, and influenced by Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

I hope this message imparts on you a spirit of resilience. Be resilient in all your endeavors. As I sit here and reflect on my journey these past three years, I can’t help but have a heart of gratitude and smile. At the tender age of 21, I moved to Houston, Texas from Triangle, Virginia to attend the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Little did I know that this school was going to challenge me, break me, build me up; and ultimately, make me become a better person. So my dear classmates, be resilient! Be as resilient as we were through Hurricane Harvey! Be as resilient as we were through the bomb threats 2L year! Be as resilient as we’ve been through this global pandemic! Nothing in life comes easy, but hard work, dedication, sacrifice, and prayer always yield productive outcomes. Fight for the life you want to live and the legacy you want to leave behind, and don’t quit until you get it!

Additionally, in the same manner, you’ll never forget that 1L class that you believed was written in Morse Code, never forget your why. Never forget why you chose to go to law school, why you chose to go to Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and why you chose to become a lawyer. Your why should serve as your motivation as you move into your next journey of taking and passing the bar exam!

I am genuinely proud of you all and I am grateful to have the opportunity to serve as your Class President. I want to thank my Class Board, especially my Vice President, Jazmine Smith and Secretary, Malcolm Sinkfield for their steadfast efforts.

Stay hungry,

Attorney Toni Ojomo

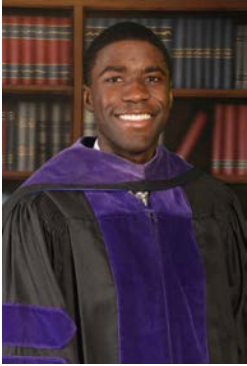
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## *Message from Nnamdi Ezenwa, Class of 2020 Valedictorian*

*Summa Cum Laude  
HT: El Paso, TX  
B.A.—Idaho State University  
Associate, Kirkland & Ellis LLP*

Dear Class of 2020,

First off, congratulations! I am so proud to be a member of this class. This has been such an incredible journey to jump start the next chapter in our lives and careers. By making it to this point, we have shown resilience and perseverance in the face of adversity. We have conquered the challenge of being a law student in the midst of several different obstacles, distractions, and speed bumps!

We have learned that becoming an attorney is so much more than endless casebook readings and exams. Becoming an attorney is also medium to help us find and create our best selves, chase our purpose, create life-long and meaningful relationships, and discover what is *truly* important to us.

Graduating law school is a tremendous accomplishment! I encourage all of my classmates to continue to set lofty goals so that when it is all said and done, we are not remembered as *just* a lawyer. Instead, we are remembered as inspiring individuals who used their vision and influence to make a positive impact in our respective communities. (Who also happened to be a lawyer.)

Although this chapter has begun and ended so swiftly, I believe that now is a perfect time to increase our pace to run faster. I encourage the class of 2020 to *keep running*. Keep running towards those dreams and ideas that no one else understands. Keep running towards what is just and right, no matter how many people are on the bandwagon. Keep running towards compassion and empathy, because there are so many people who are counting on us to lead the way. Keep running towards White House or the Forbes List. Keep running to the federal bench or towards the happy life that you have always dreamt of living. Whatever it may be, keep running towards it and keep believing that we just might shift the culture, change the narrative, and change the world. Because we can, and we will.

Meet you all at the finish line, this should be fun.

Sincerely,

Thurgood Marshall School of Law



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## *Message from Summer Cevallos, Class of 2020 Salutatorian*

*Summa Cum Laude  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—University of Houston-Downtown*

Class of 2020,

As we embark on the next chapter of our lives, our work is only beginning. Every one of us has a different purpose and a different dream, but that doesn't mean we can't all make a difference. We **ALL** have the ability, whether big or small, to change this world for the better.

I encourage us to be mindful of the power we hold and always remember what is truly important which is to advocate for the less fortunate, protect our youth, stand up against injustice and inequality, and most importantly be kind—*Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.*

As we transition from scholars to attorneys be proud, stand tall, never doubt your abilities, and always remember we are worthy and deserving.

Thurgood Marshall School of Law has given each of us the opportunity to fulfill our dreams. After all of the sacrifices we have made, and the hard work we have put in these past three years, we are finally at the finish line. We did it! *Si Se Pudo!*



*Resilience, Excellence, Perseverance*

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## A Look at Our Graduates *Summa Cum Laude-Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree*



Tinuade Familuyi^  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S., B.A.—Louisiana State Univ.



Andres E. Guerra  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S. Texas A&M Univ.



Ebony Harris+  
HT: Laurel, MD  
B.S.—Barry University  
*Associate, Jackson Walker LLP*



Chelsey S. Johnson  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Houston



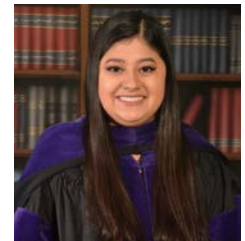
Andre C. Mackey  
HT: Elgin, TX  
B.S.—Southern Arkansas Univ.



A'rencia Mumford  
HT: Lake Charles, LA  
B.S., MBA—McNeese State Univ.



Randy Paschal  
*Mr. TMSL*  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Texas Southern Univ.  
*Sports & Entertainment Law*



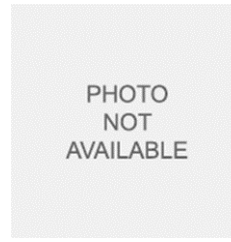
Jasmine J. Rios  
HT: Belton, TX  
B.S.—Texas A&M Univ.  
*Law Office of Vy Nguyen & Assoc.*



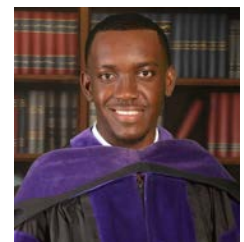
Tiara Seals  
HT: San Antonio, TX  
B.S.—Texas Southern Univ.  
M.S.—Abilene Christian Univ.  
*Associate, Jackson Walker, LLP*



Tatum Simpson+  
HT: Flint, MI  
B.A.—Hampton Univ.



Mia J. Williams-Collings  
HT: Carrollton, TX  
B.A.—University of Houston



Johnnoie A. Wright+  
HT: Black River, Jamaica  
B.A.—Univ. of South Florida  
*Wells Fargo*

\*\*Passed State Bar  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court



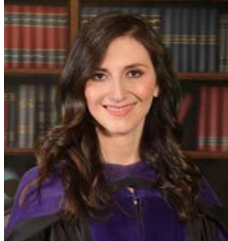
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## *A Look at Our Graduates*

### *Magna Cum Laude-Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree*



Rigien Bagekany-Jackson  
HT: Duisburg, Germany  
B.A.—Cologne Univ.  
M.A.—Univ. of St. Andrews



Scott Bernstein  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—University of Houston



Paige Bostic  
HT: Carrollton, TX  
B.S.—Prairie View A&M  
*JP Morgan Chase Compliance Assoc.*



Victoria A. Carrizales  
HT: Edinburg, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Valarie Nicole Cortez  
HT: Lubbock, TX  
B.A.—Texas Southern Univ.  
*Compliance and Sports Law*



Morgan Foster<sup>^</sup>  
HT: Geneva, NY  
B.S.—Baylor Univ.



Crescentia Guobadia (Matoyah)  
HT: Bamenda, Cameroon  
B.A.—Salisbury Univ.



Rickelle King<sup>^</sup>  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Stephen F. Austin State Univ.



Emily Lechuga  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Texas A&M Univ.



Tyra Renee Lovelace  
HT: Madison, FL  
B.S.—Florida A&M Univ.  
*Pursuing LLM in Corporate Law*

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
**\*Student Organization President/Leader**  
**^Student Organization Officer**  
**+Law Review Editorial Board**  
**++Mock Trial or Moot Court**



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Jennifer Elena Mendoza  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—St. Edwards Univ.



Martha Nweke<sup>^</sup>  
HT: Colorado Springs, CO  
B.A.—Univ. of Arizona  
*Associate—Stinson LLP (corporate-finance)*



Amanda Okoli  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.B.A.—Baylor Univ.



Alexis Chisom Okonkwo<sup>^</sup>  
*Miss TMSL*  
HT: Missouri City, TX  
B.A.—Sam Houston State Univ.



Rana Dorette Robinson<sup>^</sup>  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas  
*Business Law/Solo Firm*



Alexandria C. Scott, Esq.<sup>^\*\*</sup>  
HT: Dallas, TX  
B.S.—Prairie View A&M Univ.  
*Personal Injury/Solo Practice*



Morgin Ward<sup>^</sup>  
*SBA Secretary*  
HT: Atlanta, GA  
B.A.—Georgia State Univ.



Kiana Witcher  
HT: Omaha, NE  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Erica N.D. Young <sup>\*^</sup>  
HT: Chicago, IL  
B.A.—Univ. of Michigan  
*Associate—Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP*



Adrian Zuniga  
HT: Pharr, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Texas

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
**\*Student Organization President/Leader**  
**^Student Organization Officer**  
**+Law Review Editorial Board**  
**++Mock Trial or Moot Court**



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**KaieEssence Bodden\***  
HT: New Orleans, LA  
B.S.—Texas A&M Univ.  
*Greenberg Traurig, LLP*



**Chelsea D. Bosley^**  
SBA Treasurer  
HT: Plaquemine, LA  
B.A.—Dillard Univ.



**Shalisa Jennifer Brunson \*^+**  
SBA Historian  
HT: Philadelphia, PA  
B.B.A.—Temple Univ.  
M.B.A.—Strayer Univ.  
MLK Fellow at Philadelphia Legal Assist.



**Destiny Ceasar^**  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Sam Houston State Univ.



**Lizeth Chapa**  
HT: McAllen, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Texas  
*Valdez & Monarrez Attorneys at Law*



**Re'Necia Coda**  
HT: Honolulu, HI  
B.A.-George Mason Univ  
*Hon. Christopher Lopez*



**Deja Cutno**  
HT: LaPlace, LA  
B.A.—Louisiana State University



**Joshua De La Cerda**  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Houston



**Juana Eburi Losoha**  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Houston  
M.B.A.—Texas Southern University



**Tabitha Elder \*\* \***  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—St. Edward's University



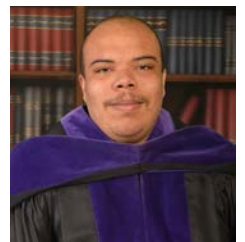
**Christen Y. Hill +**  
SBA Sergeant-at-Arms  
HT: Memphis, TN  
B.A.—Univ. of Tenn.



**Jasmine Knight \*^**  
HT: Detroit, MI  
B.A.—Michigan State Univ.  
*Dept. of Navy General Counsel*



**Arturo Lima \*\***  
HT: San Juan, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



**Joshua McKenzie**  
HT: Dallas, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Mary Hardin-Baylor

\*\*Passed State Bar  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court



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Priscilla Mendoza  
HT: EL Paso, TX  
B.A.—Our Lady of the  
Lake Univ.



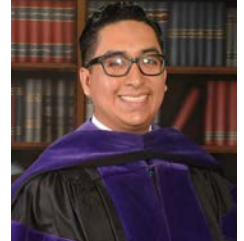
Maurelle Moore  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Prairie View  
A&M Univ.



Alejandra Munoz Torres  
HT: Rio Bravo, Mexico  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas  
*Private Law Firm*



Terry Peden, Jr.  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Hampton Univ.

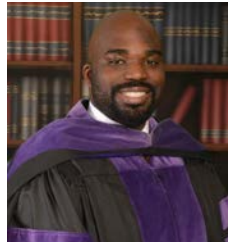


Pedro Perez-Navejar  
HT: San Antonio, TX  
B.A.—Our Lady of the  
Lake Univ.

*Thomas J. Henry Injury Attys*



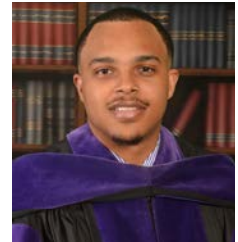
Davisha Pharms  
HT: Galveston, TX  
B.S.—Tex. South. Univ.



Wesley J. Pluviose-Philip\*^  
HT: Albany, NY  
B.S.—Xavier Univ. of LA  
*Law Clerk for Hon. Brian  
C. Wimes, U.S. Dist. Judge for  
East. & West. Dist. of MO;  
Assoc. at Stinson LLP*



Rezzin Pullum  
HT: Hampton, VA  
B.S.—Univ. of Houston



Daryl Sherman II  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Amber Simpson\*+  
HT: Macomb, IL  
B.A.—Univ. of Oklahoma  
M.B.A.—Univ. of Phoenix



Darneisha Slay  
HT: Killeen, TX  
B.A.— St. Mary's Univ.  
*Law Off. of Brett H. Pritchard*



Christiana Valadez  
HT: Fort Stockton, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Jelicia Walker\*^  
HT: Fort Wayne, IN  
B.S.—Indiana Univ.  
*The Lewis Law Group, PLLC*



Ambria Wilmore  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Texas State Univ.

*\*\*Passed State Bar  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court*



# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Photo Credit: Candid Campus Photography, Inc.

## *A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree*



Ashley Ade-Jagun  
HT: Dallas, TX  
B.A.— Stephen F. Austin Univ.



Anica Alfaro  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Erin-Audrey Allen  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Sam Houston State Univ.



Brittney Archie  
HT: Baytown, TX  
B.A. Univ. of Houston



Brittney Olatokunbo Asaju  
HT: Rome, NY  
B.S.—Rochester Inst. of Technology



Ifeanyichukwu Ashibyogwu  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Sam Houston State University



Amna Aziz  
HT: Long Island, NY  
B.S.—Univ. of Houston



Monique Bailey  
HT: New Orleans, LA  
B.A.—Xavier Univ. of LA  
*Earl Carl Institute*



Nicole F. Bancroft  
HT: San Antonio, TX  
B.B.A—Texas Tech Univ.  
*The Branch Law Firm*



Justin Barlow  
HT: Toronto, ON  
B.A.—Univ. of Tex.



Hazel E. Batiste  
HT: Beaumont, TX  
B.A.— Tex. Christian Univ.  
M.A.—Tex. Southern Univ.



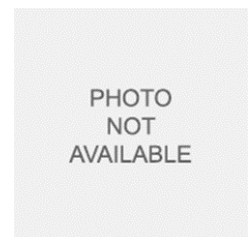
Derrick Baylor  
HT: Augusta, GA  
B.A.— Tex. South. Univ.  
M.A.—Baruch College



Kayla A. Berrios ^  
HT: Lincoln Park, NJ  
B.A.—Rider University  
*Ahmuty, Demers, & McManus*



Jemario Bibbs  
*SBA President*  
HT: Cordova, TN  
B.A.—Univ. of Mem.



Nolan-Joseph Boudreaux  
HT: San Jose, CA  
B.A.—Tex. Woman's Univ.

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court

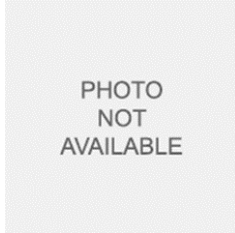


# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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## A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con't



Richard Briggs  
HT: San Diego, CA  
B.S.—Dixie State Univ.



Tiarra Brooks-Chatman  
HT: Texarkana, TX  
B.A.,—Tex. South. Univ.  
M.A.,—Tex. South. Univ.  
*Solo Practice-family/criminal*



Zari Brown^  
HT: Nacogdoches, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Charity Bruce  
HT: Jackson, MS  
B.A.—Toougaloo Coll.



Johari Burnette ^  
HT: Brooklyn, NY  
B.B.A—Univ. of Incarnate Word



Miguel A. Cano  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Houston  
*Law Office of Domingo Garcia*



Kristan Childs\*  
J.D./M.P.A  
HT: Houston, TX  
*Joseph Dunlap Law Firm*



Shuler China, III +  
HT: Philadelphia, PA  
B.A.—Penn State Univ.  
*Phila. DA Office*



Abraham Chopin+  
HT: Huntsville, AL  
B.A.—Alabama State Univ.  
*Harris County DA Office*



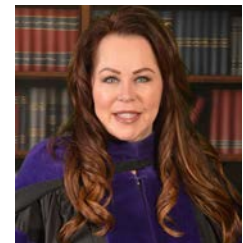
Michelle M. Clarington\*  
HT: Perry, GA  
B.S.— Savannah State Univ.  
*Georgia Legal Services Program*



Gregory D. L. Daniel\*\*  
HT: San Antonio, TX  
B..P.S.— Berklee Coll. of Music  
*Solo Practice Firm &  
Tour/Record w/Brian McKnight*



Nickolet R. Daniels\*^  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas  
*Solo Practice Env./Fam.*



Wendi R. Dodson  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S. Univ. of Houston  
*EVP & Gen. Counsel  
Bionic Emergency Serv., LLC*

\*\*Passed State Bar  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court

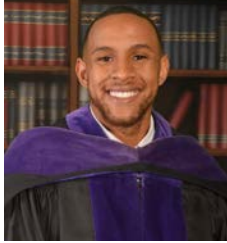


# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

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## *A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con't*



Bryce Evans  
HT: Los Angeles, TX  
B.A.—Texas State Univ.



Nnenna U. Ezeji  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Texas



Renee Flores\*  
HT: McAllen, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



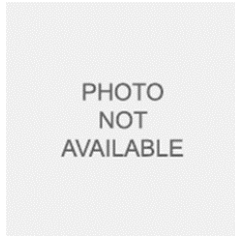
Christian Foster  
HT: Birmingham, AL  
B.A.—Texas South. Univ.



Marcos Garcia, IV  
HT: Harlingen, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas  
M.JUR—St. Mary's Univ.



Brianna Garza  
HT: Pharr, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Joshua Gaskins  
HT: Baltimore, MD  
B.A.—Univ. of Denver



Leah Gentry^  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Sam Houston  
State University



Veisha Godfrey-Phelps+  
HT: Washington, DC  
B.B.A.—Univ. of Houston



Maribell Gomez  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Sam Houston  
State University



Beatrice A. Gonzales  
HT: Jones Creek, TX  
B.A.—Tex. South. Univ.  
*Fam. Law and Crim. Def.*



Mariah Grayson^  
HT: Garland, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Houston  
*Real Estate Law*



Domonick Gregory  
HT: St. Louis, MO  
B.S.—Southeast Missouri  
State Univ.  
M.P.A.—Tex. South. Univ.  
*Doran & Cawthorne, PLLC*



Derrick Harris  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.B.A. Univ. of Texas



Dominique Hawkins\*  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A. Texas A&M Univ.

\*\*Passed State Bar  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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## *A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con't*



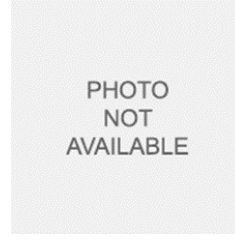
Briana Shanice Head+  
HT: Decatur, GA  
B.S.—Univ. of West GA  
*Assistant DA*



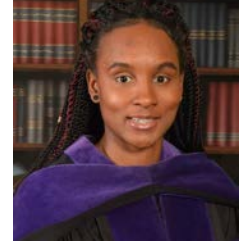
Alisha Heard  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Tex. South. Univ.



Alaina Henderson  
HT: Mt. Clemens, MI  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Pablo Hernandez  
HT: Alexandria, VA  
B.A.—Texas A&M Univ.



Capt. Kay Hill  
HT: Salem, OR  
B.S.—Univ. of Minn.  
*U.S. Marine Corps –JAG*



Kyna Hill-Dominique Rawls\*^  
HT: Fort Worth, TX  
B.S.—Devry Univ.



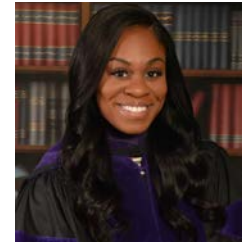
Peyton Hopkins^  
HT: Galveston, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Houston



Jaylin Jackson  
HT: Austin, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of North Tex.



Jessica B. Jefferson^  
HT: Tomball, TX  
B.A.—Stephen F. Austin  
State Univ.



Joske Jenkins  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Lynda Jetton  
HT: St. Louis, MO  
B.S.—Missouri State Univ.  
M.L.S.—Southern Ill. Univ.



Christopher Joseph  
HT: Fairfax, VA  
B.S.—Florida State Univ.



Lauren A. Kemps -Thibodeaux  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Sam Houston  
State Univ.



Nia Keys^  
HT: Lake Charles, LA  
B.S.—Univ. of Louisiana



A'Lyssah Lee^  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Sam Houston  
State Univ.

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court



# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

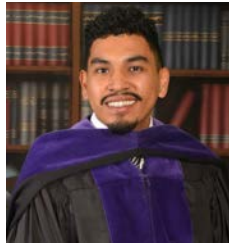
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Photo Credit: Candid Campus Photography, Inc.

## *A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con't*



Sandra Lee<sup>^</sup>  
HT: Los Angeles, CA  
B.A.—Univ. of Arizona



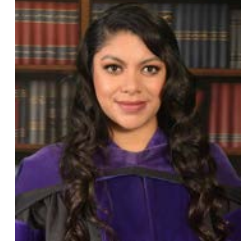
Charles Lewis, Jr.<sup>^</sup>  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Texas Tech Univ.  
*Brooklyn D.A. Office*



Jasmine Lewis<sup>^+\*</sup>  
HT: Charleston, SC  
B.S.—Walden Univ.



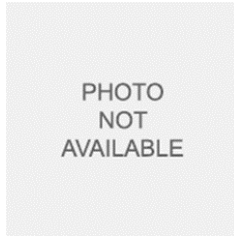
Genail Logan  
HT: Raleigh, NC  
B.S.—Bethune-  
Cookman Univ.



Lizbeth Lopez Reyes  
HT: Guadalupe, Mexico  
B.A.—Univ. of North Texas



Jessica Lowery <sup>^</sup>  
HT: Turrell, AR  
B.A.—Univ. of Arkansas



Adrian Lozano  
HT: McAllen, TX  
B.B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Ivette Macedo  
HT: Sherman, TX  
B.A.—Austin College  
*Garza & Assoc. Attys at Law*



Patrisia Zarate Marquez  
HT: Bryan, TX  
B.A.—Baylor Univ.  
*Fam. & Immigration*



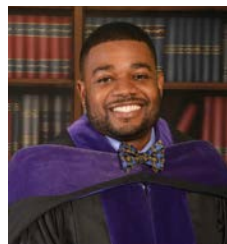
Marissa Marshall  
HT: Melbourne, FL  
B.A.—Univ. of S. Florida



Jeffery Mathews  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Tex. South. Univ.



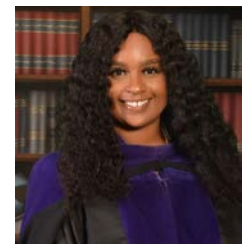
Zohra Mavani  
HT: Carrollton, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas  
*Thomas J. Henry Law Firm*



Sean McLaughlin <sup>^+\*</sup>  
HT: New Orleans, LA  
B.A.—Stephen F. Austin  
State Univ.



Eugenia Mendez  
HT: Laredo, TX  
B.A.—Our Lady of  
the Lake Univ.



Ronieshea Miller<sup>^</sup>  
HT: New Orleans, LA  
B.A.—Univ. of Houston  
M.S.—Univ. of Houston

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
**\*Student Organization President/Leader**  
**^Student Organization Officer**  
**+Law Review Editorial Board**  
**++Mock Trial or Moot Court**



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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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## *A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con't*

PHOTO  
NOT  
AVAILABLE

Kendrick Mitchell  
HT: St. Francisville, LA  
B.S.—Southern University  
*Mergers & Acquisitions*

PHOTO  
NOT  
AVAILABLE

Miguel Noguera  
HT: San Juan, PR  
B.A.—Texas State Univ.



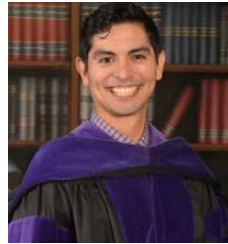
Brenda Titilayo Odufuwa  
HT: Dallas, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of North Texas

PHOTO  
NOT  
AVAILABLE

Tobechukwu (Michael) Ofuani  
HT: Lagos, Nigeria  
B.A., B.S. Univ. of Delaware  
*Rec. Exec. One Land Nation Records*



Giovanni Padilla  
HT: Fountain Valley, CA  
B.A. Univ. of Texas



Ryan Ramirez  
HT: McAllen, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Monisha Randhawa<sup>^</sup>  
HT: Liberal, KS  
B.A.—Univ. of Kansas  
*JD Advantage Higher Ed.*



India Randle  
HT: Austin, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Texas



Kyra Riggins<sup>\*^+</sup>  
HT: Indianapolis, IN  
B.S.—Howard Univ.



Michelle Rivera  
HT: McKinney, TX  
B.S.—Tex. Woman's Univ.



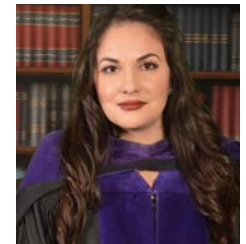
Victor Rivera  
HT: Chicago, IL  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Andrew Robertson  
HT: Killeen, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Houston



Rebecca Gayle Rosebush  
HT: Splendora, TX  
B.A., M.S.—Sam Houston  
State Univ.



Danielle A. Saenz  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—St. Mary's Univ.

*Thomas J. Henry Law Firm*

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
**\*Student Organization President/Leader**  
**^Student Organization Officer**  
**+Law Review Editorial Board**  
**++Mock Trial or Moot Court**



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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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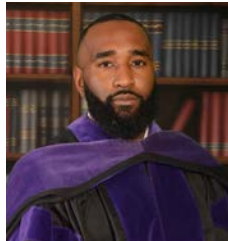
## *A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con't*



Tayler L. Salter  
HT: Arlington, TX  
B.A.—Tuskegee Univ.  
*T.J. Davis Law Firm*



Dominique Sandoval  
HT: San Antonio, TX  
B.A.—Schreiner Univ.



Baron Sauls  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S. Houston Bapt. Univ.



Alexandra Schooley  
HT: Flower Mound, TX  
B.A.—Texas Tech Univ.



Sasha Seyvani  
HT: Austin, TX  
B.A.—Texas Tech Univ.



Kahlil Shanks  
HT: New Orleans, LA  
B.S.—Xavier Univ. of Louis.



Jeremy Sims  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Sam Houston State Univ.



Malcolm Sinkfield\*<sup>^</sup>  
*3L Class Vice Pres.*  
HT: Atlanta, GA  
B.A.—Morehouse Coll.  
*Harris Cty D.A. Office*



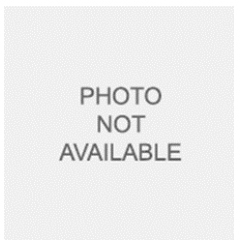
Connor Smith+  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Tex. A&M Univ.



Jazmine A. Smith<sup>^</sup>  
*3L Class Secretary*  
HT: Indianapolis, IN  
B.A.—Cumberland Univ.



Jeremy Smith  
HT: Clarksville, TN  
B.A.—Texas State Univ.



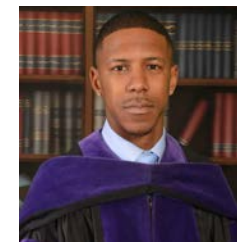
Steven Smith  
HT: Chicago, IL  
B.A.—Univ. of Ill.



Stephanie Sneed  
HT: College Park, GA  
B.A.—Tenn. State Univ.



Alexis Cheyenne St. John  
HT: Killeen, TX  
B.A.—Univ. of Texas



Girraud Stephens  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—St. Lamar Univ.

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court



# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

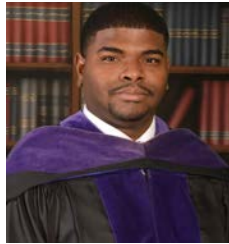
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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## A Look at Our Graduates Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con't



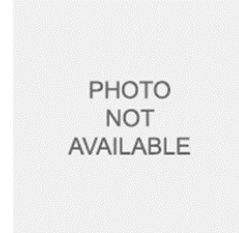
Anthony Stewart, Jr.  
HT: Boston, MA  
B.A.—Morehouse Coll.



Matthew Stubbs  
HT: Tennessee  
B.S.—Middle Tenn. State Univ.



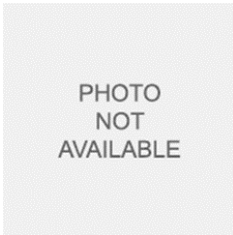
Andrea Swanson  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S. Grambling State Univ.



Antoinette Taylor  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Houston



Crystal Di'or Taylor  
HT: League City, TX  
B.A.—Tex. South. Univ.



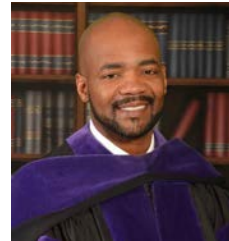
Samuel Terry  
HT: Tulsa, OK  
B.A.—Texas South. Univ.



Adetunke S. Thomas  
HT: Lagos, Nigeria  
B.S.—Univ. of North Tex.  
*Phila. DA Office*



Seve Thomas  
HT: Winston-Salem, NC  
B.A.—Aurora Univ.



Shawn Ticer  
HT: Peoria, IL  
B.S.—Springfield Coll.



Erika Veal  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Stephen F. Austin State Univ.



Ambrosia Voss  
HT: Greenville, MS  
B.A.—Texas A&M Univ.



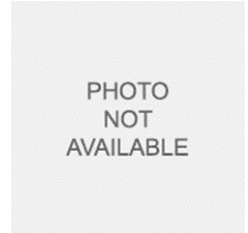
Natasha Walker  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.S.—Univ. of Phoenix



Brian West  
HT: Kingwood, TX  
B.A.—Stephen F. Austin State Univ.



Terrance White  
HT: Midland, TX  
B.A.—Texas Tech Univ.  
M.B.A.—Texas South. Univ.



Epimenio Ysass, Jr.  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Texas A&M Univ.

**\*\*Passed State Bar**  
\*Student Organization President/Leader  
^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review  
++Mock Trial or Moot Court



# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

## *Master of Laws*

*Juan Carlos Alvarenga*

*J.D.—Universidad Salvadoreña Alberto Masferrer*

*Emile Aide Edokpayi*

*B.S.—University of Benin*

*M.A.—Morgan State University*

*J.D.—Texas Southern University*

*Xenophobe Ella Fedison*

*B.A.—Northwestern State University*

*J.D.—Southern University*

*Venkateswara Reddy Kasu*

*L.L.B.—Osmania University*

*M.A.—Osmania University*

*Janet Leao Peres*

*B.A.—University Lusitana of Angola*

*Richard Dwayne Horace, Jr.\**

*B.A.—Baylor University*

*J.D.—Texas Southern University*

\*August 2020 graduate





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

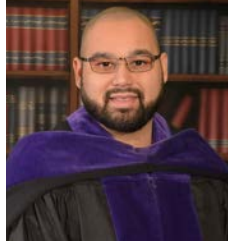
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Photo Credit: Candid Campus Photography, Inc.

## December 2019 Graduates



James Alaniz\*+  
HT: McAllen, TX



Kristopher Alvarez\*+  
HT: Corpus Christi, TX



Kesha L. Amos\*+  
HT: Houston, TX  
*Law Office of  
Kesha L. Amos, PLLC*



Joana Anaya  
HT: McAllen, TX



Carmen Barba+  
HT: Medellin, Colombia



John Cross



Lance Bobby Dike+  
HT: Houston, TX



Contessa Duncan-Henderson  
HT: Tulsa, OK



Mark Escamilla  
HT: Houston, TX



Paola Garcia\*  
HT: Monterrey, Mexico



Jackeline Gonzalez  
HT: Pasadena, TX



Leidy Guilamo Severino\*\*+  
HT: La Romana, DR



BreeAnn Hammond  
HT: Detroit, MI



Fabian Lee  
HT: Houston, TX



Arturo Lima\*+  
HT: San Juan, TX

\*Cum Laude  
\*\*Magna Cum Laude  
\*\*\*Summa Cum Laude  
+Passed State Bar  
++Organization Officer

*Undergraduate schools were not available at the time of printing for Dec. 2019 graduates*



# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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## December 2019 Graduates con't



Marcel Medley  
HT: Rustin, LA

B.A.— Louisiana Tech Univ.  
*Int'l Business Law*



Jennifer Sandoval  
HT: Houston, TX



Khoryan Strange  
HT: Dallas, TX



Mwokozi Taylor  
HT: Los Angeles, CA



Paulette Tostado  
HT: Brownsville, TX



Bernardo Villareal Aguirre\*\*\*+  
HT: Deer Park, TX

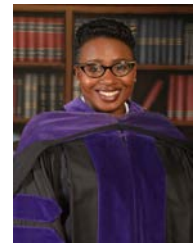
B.A.— Univ. of Houston  
*Legal Fellow, Office of Gen. Couns.  
Lone Star College*



Christopher Velasquez\*  
HT: Coral Springs, FL



Keyona White  
HT: Dallas, TX



Jessica Wilson\*  
HT: Danville, VA

### Not pictured:

Ashkan Attar\*\* + · Jose Chapa, III · Kimberly Hinojosa+ · Dwight Jones ·  
Kennedy Jones, Jr.\* , *SBA Vice President* · Gabriel Okoye\* · Rachel Perez\*\*+

### Master of Law:

Zaine Kasem · Jan Otero-Martinez

\*Cum Laude  
\*\*Magna Cum Laude  
\*\*\*Summa Cum Laude  
+Passed State Bar  
++Organization Officer

*Undergraduate schools were not available at the time of printing for Dec. 2019 graduates*





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

## *STUDENT NEWS*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLASS OF 2020 FEBRUARY BAR PASSERS!**

James Alaniz\*

Kristopher Alvarez\*

Kesha Amos\*

Ashkan Attar\*

Carmen Barba\*

Gregory Daniel (ND)

Lance Bobby Dike\* (NM)

Tabitha Elder

Leidy Guilamo\* (NY)

Kimberly Hinojosa\*

Arturo Lima

Toni Ojomo (DC)

Rachel Perez\*

Alexandria Scott

Bernardo Villareal Aguirre\*

Jessica Wilson\*



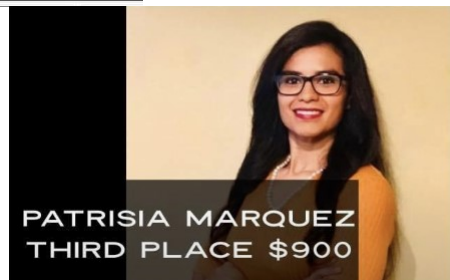
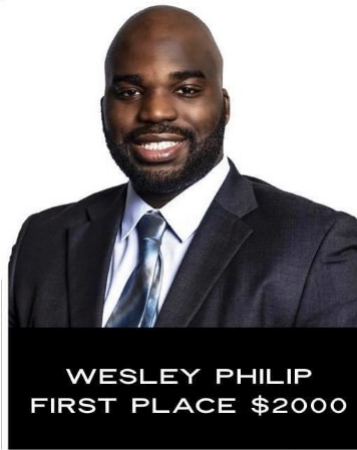
# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

## *STUDENT NEWS*

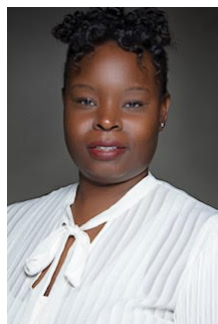
### OMAR O. VARGAS BAR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Omar O. Vargas Bar Scholarship was established by alum **Omar Vargas** (class of 2010) to help graduating 3Ls offset some of their bar expenses. Each year several alums donate to this scholarship and this year's donors included; Assistant Dean Ronda Harrison Benjamin, B.J. Kemp, N. Lucy Chukwurah, Liz Uribe, SK Alexander, Rick Barrera, and Omar Vargas. This year, three of our graduating students who are sitting for the July 2020 Bar received scholarships totaling over \$4,000! Congratulations to:



### HBA Section Scholarship Winners

Various sections of the HBA offer scholarships to students who show promise in each section's area of law. This spring the Probate, Trust, and Estates Section awarded \$1000 to **3L Shalisa Brunson** and the ADR section awarded \$1000 to **2L Marquetta Johnson**, Congratulations ladies, keep up the great work!





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## STUDENT NEWS

"The Order of Barristers is a national honorary organization whose purpose is the encouragement of oral advocacy and brief writing skills through effective law school oral advocacy programs. In 1973, Martindale-Hubbell Inc. acknowledged the distinction of being selected to membership in the Order by agreeing to list it among the scholastic distinctions included in a lawyer's biographical sketch."

*The students listed below are the gold standard in excellence in advocacy and true servant-leaders.*

### THE ORDER OF BARRISTERS-TMSL CHAPTER

#### 2019-2020

Shalisa Brunson  
Abraham Chopin  
Briana Head  
Christen Hill  
Kyra Riggins  
Shuler China, III  
Amber Simpson

#### 2018-2019

Victoriano Flores  
Vernetra Gavin  
Katelyn Logie  
Katelyn Thacker  
Lakai Henderson

#### 2017-2018

Brian Ehrenberg  
Maurice Rice  
Marcus Esther  
Dyamnisha King Hawkins  
Krystyna Salinas  
Preston Strickland

#### 2016-2017

Baltazar Salazar  
Alya Vasquez  
Timothy Adams  
Kevin Christiansen  
Nekketa Archie

#### 2015-2016

Dominique Calhoun  
Juliana Shaw  
Stacey Wells



### THE EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
Thurgood Marshall School of Law



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## *Section 1*

*“The Section that Gets it Done”*

*Property Prof. Festa · Contracts Dean Douglas · Torts Prof. Fain · Civil Procedure Prof. Vukadin · Criminal Law Prof. Lewis*





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TO DAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

## *Section 2:*

### *“The Resilient Section”*

*Property Prof. Colon · Contracts Prof. Okezie · Torts Prof. Pollard · Civil Procedure Prof. Otero · Criminal Law Prof. Holley*





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TO DAY

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## Section 3:

### *“The Driven Section”*

*Property Prof. Kleven · Contracts Prof. Wu · Torts Prof. Weeden · Civil Procedure Prof. M. James · Criminal Law Prof. Walker*





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## Section 4:

### "The Elite Section"

Property Prof. Tekle · Contracts Prof. Jackson · Torts Prof. Pollard · Civil Procedure Prof. Anga · Criminal Law Prof. Sanders





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

*Class of 2020 through the years*

*We Became Friends & Family*







# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

*Class of 2020 through the years*

*We Served Our Community Through Various Service & Volunteer Projects*



**Core Values” define who we are**

- Integrity
- Learning
- Cooperation
- Fairness





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

*Class of 2020 through the years*

*We Are Advocates, Competitors, and Champions*





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

*Class of 2020 through the years*

*We Network and Represent TMSL Well*





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

*Class of 2020 through the years  
And We Clean up nicely*





# THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

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**TMSL SALUTES YOU CLASS OF 2020!!!**



*Resilience, Excellence, Perseverance*



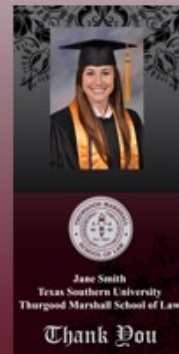
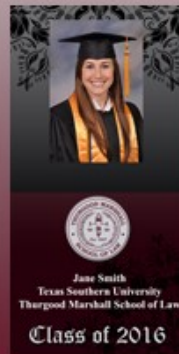
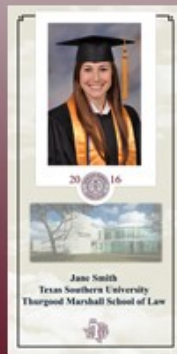
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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
CLASS OF 2020!

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# THURGOOD ALUMNI

PROTECT IT  
IMPROVE IT  
PASS IT ON

**TSU**

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Thurgood Marshall School of Law

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