Congratulations to Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Class of 2020

Resilience, Excellence, Perseverance
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 70th 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 Babock, “[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
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.
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
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.”
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
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 a medium to help us find and create our best selves, chase our purpose, create lifelong 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
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!*

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*Resilience, Excellence, Perseverance*
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

Johnnie 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
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.A.—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  
HT: Geneva, NY  
B.S.—Baylor Univ.

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

Rickelle King  
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

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**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, con’t

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

Martha Nweke^
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^ Miss TMSL
HT: Missouri City, TX
B.A.—Sam Houston State Univ.

Rana Dorette Robinson^ Miss TMSL
HT: Houston, TX
B.A.—Univ. of Texas
Business Law/Solo Firm

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

Morgin Ward^
SBA Secretary
HT: Atlanta, GA
B.A.—Georgia State Univ.

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

Erica N.D. Young **
HT: Chicago, IL
B.A.—Univ. of Michigan
Associate—Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophet 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
A Look at Our Graduates

Cum Laude - Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree

KaieEssence Bodden*
HT: New Orleans, LA
B.S.—Texas A&M Univ.
*Student Organization President/Leader
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
Honor. 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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A Look at Our Graduates

Cum Laude—Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con’t

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

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
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

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

Wesley J. Pluviose-Philip**
HT: Albany, NY
B.S.—Xavier Univ. of LA
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

Darmeisha 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

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

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B.A.—Univ. of Texas

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

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

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^Student Organization Officer
+Law Review Editorial Board
++Mock Trial or Moot Court
A Look at Our Graduates
Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con’t

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

Tiara 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

Nikolett 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

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^Student Organization Officer  
+Law Review Editorial Board  
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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
MJUR—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.
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.

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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.

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*Student Organization President/Leader
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A Look at Our Graduates
Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree con’t

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

Charles Lewis, Jr.^  
HT: Houston, TX  
B.A.—Texas Tech Univ.  
Brooklyn D.A. Office

Jasmine Lewis^+  
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 ^  
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

Patricia Zarate Marquez  
HT: Bryan, TX  
B.A.—Baylor Univ.

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 ^+  
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^  
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
### A Look at Our Graduates

**Candidates for Juris Doctor Degree**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>HT:</th>
<th>Major Institution 1</th>
<th>Major Institution 2</th>
<th>Major Institution 3</th>
<th>Major Institution 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kendrick Mitchell</td>
<td>St. Francisville, LA</td>
<td>B.S.—Southern Univ.</td>
<td>Mergers &amp; Acquisitions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miguel Nogueras</td>
<td>San Juan, PR</td>
<td>B.A.—Texas State Univ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brenda Titilayo Odufuwa</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>B.A.—Univ. of North Texas</td>
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<td>Tobechukwu (Michael) Ofuani</td>
<td>Lagos, Nigeria</td>
<td>B.A., B.S. Univ. of Delaware</td>
<td>Rec. Exec. One Land Nation Records</td>
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<td>Giovanni Padilla</td>
<td>Fountain Valley, CA</td>
<td>B.A. Univ. of Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Ramirez</td>
<td>McAllen, TX</td>
<td>B.A.—Univ. of Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monisha Randhawa^</td>
<td>Liberal, KS</td>
<td>B.A.—Univ. of Kansas</td>
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<td>JD Advantage Higher Ed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>India Randle</td>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
<td>B.S.—Univ. of Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyra Riggins**^+</td>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>B.S.—Howard Univ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Rivera</td>
<td>McKinney, TX</td>
<td>B.S.—Tex. Woman’s Univ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victor Rivera</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>B.A.—Univ. of Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Robertson</td>
<td>Killeen, TX</td>
<td>B.S.—Univ. of Houston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebeccah Gayle Rosebush</td>
<td>Splendora, TX</td>
<td>B.A., M.S.—Sam Houston State Univ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle A. Saenz</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>B.A.—St. Mary’s Univ.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Passed State Bar
*Student Organization President/Leader
*Student Organization Officer
†Law Review Editorial Board
++Mock Trial or Moot Court
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. B.A.—Texas Tech 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*^ 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^ 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
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.

Adetinuke 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

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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 Lusiada of Angola

Richard Dwayne Horace, Jr.*
B.A.—Baylor University
J.D.—Texas Southern University

*August 2020 graduate
December 2019 Graduates

James Alaniz*+
HT: McAllen, TX

Kristopher Alvarez*+
HT: Corpus Christi, TX

Kesha L. Amos**+
HT: Houston, TX

Joana Anaya
HT: McAllen, TX

Carmen Barba+
HT: Medellin, Colombia

John Cross
HT: Houston, TX

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
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.
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*
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:

- Wesley Philip - First Place $2000
- Tinuade Familuyi - Second Place $1200
- Patrisia Marquez - Third Place $900

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!
“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
Shelisa Brunson
Abraham Chopin
Briana Head
Christen Hill
Kyra Riggins
Shuler China, III
Amber Simpson

2018-2019
Victoriano Flores
Vernita Gavin
Katelyn Logle
Katelyn Thacker
Lakai Henderson

2017-2018
Brian Ehrenberg
Maurice Rice
Marcus Esther
Dymnisha King Hawkins
Krystyna Salinas
Preston Strickland

2016-2017
Baltazar Salazar
Alyx Vasquez
Timothy Adams
Kevin Christiansen
Nekita Archie

2015-2016
Dominque Calhoun
Juliana Shaw
Stacey Wells
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
Section 2:

“The Resilient Section”

Property Prof. Colon · Contracts Prof. Okezie · Torts Prof. Pollard · Civil Procedure Prof. Otero · Criminal Law Prof. Holley
Section 3:

“The Driven Section”

Property Prof. Kleven · Contracts Prof. Wu · Torts Prof. Weeden · Civil Procedure Prof. M. James · Criminal Law Prof. Walker
Section 4:

“The Elite Section”

Property Prof. Tekle · Contracts Prof. Jackson · Torts Prof. Pollard · Civil Procedure Prof. Anga · Criminal Law Prof. Sanders
Class of 2020 through the years

We Became Friends & Family
Class of 2020 through the years

We Served Our Community Through Various Service & Volunteer Projects
Class of 2020 through the years

We Are Advocates, Competitors, and Champions
Class of 2020 through the years

We Network and Represent TMSL Well
Class of 2020 through the years

And We Clean up nicely
TMSL SALUTES YOU CLASS OF 2020!!!

Resilience, Excellence, Perseverance
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020!

USE THE BELOW CODE TO TAKE 20% OFF OF YOUR ONLINE ORDER: TMSL2020

*Coupon expires 7/4/2020

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