



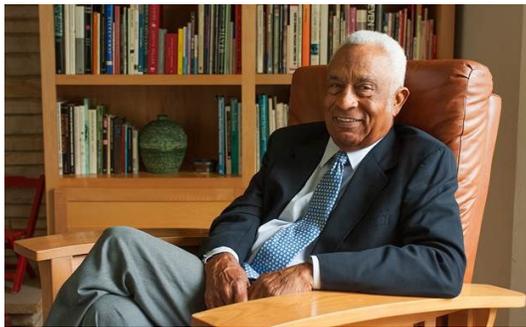
# Thurgood TODAY



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

February 2016

## TMSL's Constitutional Law Symposium Features Dr. James Sweatt



On Friday, February 19, 2016, TMSL Professor Craig Jackson and the TMSL Center for Continuing Legal Education, hosted *“The Civil Rights Agenda, The Roberts Court and the Last Three Years of Challenges: What Now? Symposium.”* Dr. James Sweatt, nephew of civil rights activist and plaintiff in the *Sweatt v. Painter U.S. Supreme Court* was the featured luncheon speaker.

The symposium consisted of three panel discussions on The Fair Housing Act of 1968, The Voting Rights Act and Affirmative Action. Symposium panelist and leading attorneys and scholars were: Attorney Antoinette Jackson, Professor Michael T. Iglesias, Attorney Goodwille Pierre, Processor Guy-Uriel Charles, Professor Christina Rivers, Professor L. Darnell Weeden, Professor Areto Imoukhuede, Professor Ronald Turner, Professor Martin Levy, Attorney Allan Van Fleet, and Professor Constance Fain. TMSL professors who served as symposium moderators were: Professor Asmara Tekle, Professor Michael, James Distinguished Professor James M. Douglas, and Professor Lupe Salinas.

The symposium kicked off to a great start with dinner & discussion at the law school on the evening of February 18th with guest panelists, TMSL faculty and staff. The dinner was hosted by the symposium chairman, TMSL Professor Craig Jackson.

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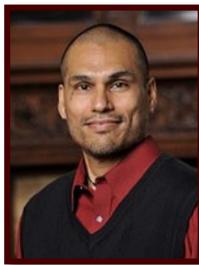


## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



**Associate Dean Cassandra Hill's** article, *The Elephant in the Law School Assessment Room: The Role of Student Responsibility and Motivating Our Students to Learn*, was recently cited by Emily Grant (a professor at Washburn University School of Law) in her Arkansas Law Review article, *The Pink Tower Meets the Ivory Tower: Adapting Montessori Teaching Methods for Law School*, 68 Ark. L. Rev. 603, 651 (2015).

**Professor SpearIt** presented "Concealed Handgun Laws: (Fire) Power to the People" at TMSL on February 3 and at South Texas College of Law on February 3, 2016. His report, Facts and Fictions about Islam in Prison, has been listed as a selected scholarly article for the course, "Mind of a Terrorist," at American Public University,



<http://apus.libguides.com/c.php?g=241426&p=1604878>, and also appears in the book, Missouri's Young Adult Black Males (2015). A commentary of his article *Civil Ritual: Making Cultural Sense of Mass Imprisonment* was recently cited in *The Costs of Easy Victory*, 57 Wm. & Mary L. Rev. (2015), <http://scholarship.law.wm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3622&context=wmlr>. References to Professor SpearIt's work also appear in *Towards an Outcrit Pedagogy of Anti-Subordination in the Classroom*, 90 Chicago Kent L. Rev. (2015), <http://scholarship.kentlaw.iit.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4075&context=cklawreview>, *Human Rights and Prison Rape*, 21st Century Social Justice 1 (2015), <http://fordham.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1004&context=swjournal>, *Richard Sherman, Rhetoric, and Racial Animus in the Rebirth of the Bogyman Myth*, 37 Hastings Comm. & Ent. L.J. 201 (2014-15), and *10 Ways to Socially Prepare Your Community for Ramadan*, <http://www.muslimamericansociety.org/blog/10-ways-to-socially-prepare-your-community-for-ramadan/>.



**Professor Asmara M. Tekle** presented her paper, *Rectifying These Mean Streets: Percent-for-Art, Street Furniture, and the New Streetscape*, to the faculty of South Texas College of Law on January 22, 2016, as part of the TMSL/STCL faculty exchange. Also, on January 8, 2016, at the annual meeting of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), Professor Tekle served as a panelist entitled "Reforming Law and Scholarship by Disciplinary Design," and discussing interdisciplinary research in the legal academy.

**Professor April Walker** recently accepted an offer to publish her latest article, *A License to Kill: The Good, The Bad, and Ugly of Hospice Care*, with the North Dakota Law Review.



**Professor L. Darnell Weeden's** article, *Good Public Policy Occurs Under Plyler When in-State College Tuition Rates Are Awarded to Undocumented Bona Fide Resident Immigrants*, 25 GEO. MASON U. CIV. RTS. L.J. 191 (2015), was recently cited by Professor Nancy Levit, Curators' and Edward D. Ellison Professor of Law, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, in the Journal of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, 28 J. Am. Acad. Matrim. Law. 321, 352 (2015). Professor Levit's Children's Interests Annotated Bibliography listed Professor Weeden's article under the topic Immigrant Children.





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

On January 28-30, 2016, **Professor Stephanie Ledesma** attended the Mid-Atlantic People of Color Scholarship Conference (“MAPOC”) hosted by American University, Washington D.C, and presented her current work-in-progress, "Importance of Competent Legal Counsel: Protecting Due Process Rights of Indigent Families and Dismantling Racial Disproportionality in the Child Welfare System.". This year, MAPOC’s theme focused on the rights of children as follows: “Our constitutional jurisprudence recognizes children as legal persons, but the rights children possess are ill defined. For example, children have no independent standing to assert rights against those who hurt, endanger, or undermine their emotional, physical, psychological, or spiritual well-being."



**Professor Ana Otero** presented, “Death Penalty 101: Revisiting the Modern Era of the Death Penalty on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Jurek v. Texas*”. During the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (TCADP)



Professor Otero, who also proudly serves on the board of directors for the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, will also serve as moderator during the conference for the panel discussion featuring Dr. Stephen Klineberg, Professor of Sociology at Rice University and the founder of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research.



This year, **Professor Lydia Johnson** and **Professor Stephanie Ledesma** attended the 2016 Mid-Atlantic People of Color Scholarship Conference (“MAPOC”) hosted by American University, Washington D.C, and presented their work-in-progress. Joined with Professor Johnson and Ledesma in this

picture is Catherine Smith, Professor and Associate Dean of Institutional Diversity and Inclusiveness at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Professor Smith, a former TMSL faculty member, will serve as TMSL’s Spring 2016 Scholar-in-Residence this March.



**Professor Walter Champion’s** article *A Seasick Blackjack Dealer on a Moored Riverboat Casino is not a “Seaman” Under the Jones Act* was published in the Northern Kentucky Law Review.

**Professor Deana Pollard** has created and hosts a talk show, *Meet The Professors*. *Meet The Professors* is a 30-minute unscripted talk show featuring colleagues and friends who have teamed up to share their insights on cutting-edge research affecting people’s families and daily lives. Show topics vary and include unconscious racial bias, stereotyping, bullying, gender bias, and injustice in the court systems, just to name a few. Past and future episodes may be found at the following link:



[www.MeetTheProfessors.org](http://www.MeetTheProfessors.org).

The Board of Regents of Texas Southern University recently selected one of our own, **Professor Ahunanya Anga** to serve on the Presidential Search Committee to represent the faculty.





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

On Friday, February 26, 2016, **Professor Peter Marchetti** presented a paper titled “Amending Section 546 of the Bankruptcy Code” at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Contracts (KCON XI), a conference for contracts and commercial law scholars. This year, the KCON conference will take place at St. Mary’s University School of Law in San Antonio. In his presentation, Professor Marchetti will discuss several recent cases that demonstrate how the precise parameters of Section 546 of the Bankruptcy Code are unclear. Namely, Professor argues there is a lack of clarity as to exactly what type of claims Section 546 preempts.



On February 10, 2016, TMSL hosted special guest speaker, Wahab Egbewole, Professor and Former Dean of the University of Department of Jurisprudence and International Law, University of Ilorin (Nigeria). Professor Egbewole spoke on “The Role of the Judiciary in Developing Democracies in Nigeria and Other African Countries.” His visit was facilitated by **Professor Thomas Kleven** and co-sponsored by the Institute for International and Immigration Law.





## STAFF NEWS

### *IN MEMORIAM: LORETTA SINGLETARY*



The TMSL faculty, administration, and staff express our deepest sympathy to the Singletary family in the loss of our retired staff member, Mrs. Loretta Singletary. Mrs. Singletary was employed for many years at Texas Southern University. Seven of those years were spent at Thurgood Marshall School of Law where she served as an administrative assistant. She was laid to rest on Wednesday, February 17, 2016. Please enjoy our fond memories of Mrs. Loretta Singletary, below:





## CLINIC NEWS



Congratulations to **Professor Maurice Hew, Jr.**, former TMSLAW immigration clinic students, Margaret Ozel, and Ara Cho and the Clinic for winning cross appeals pending for over 6 years before the Board of Immigration Appeals in Falls Church, Virginia. Due to their exceptional research and brief writing skills, an adverse credibility finding was overturned on appeal under the clearly erroneous standard. Clients are a mother and minor son, both from El Salvador. The mother sought withholding of removal and the son sought asylum before the Immigration Judge in York, Pennsylvania. In a 2009 decision the Immigration Judge denied the mother's withholding application finding her not credible and granted the son's application for asylum. The clients were represented at trial by the Villanova Law School Clinic for asylum, refugee, and emigrant services (Cares).

In 2009, the Thurgood Marshall School of Law's Immigration Clinic answered Villanova's call for a briefing lawyer on both cases. Mom was appealing the adverse credibility finding and the denial of her withholding claim. The Department of Homeland Security filed an appeal of the grant of asylum for the minor son.

Now that the appellate litigation is over, the 2016 Immigration clinic will engage in motion practice and form filling in an effort to obtain collateral benefits such as work authority and adjustment of status for the clients.





## OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES NEWS

### *TMSL STUDENTS SELECTED FOR TALK2TEN*

From January 18 – 25, 2016, the first National HBCU Online Job Fair sponsored by Talk2Ten was held with such firms as the AT&T and Office Depot Legal Departments, the Office of Attorney Recruitment and Management for the United States Department of Justice, the Environment and Natural Resources Division for the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Administrative Office for the U.S. Courts participating in this event. As part of this groundbreaking initiative, Thurgood Marshall School of Law was well-represented with students that signed up. In fact, we surpassed all other HBCUs by having 61 students sign up in a single day!

Additionally, three TMSL students were selected to be featured on the landing page of LexSchola. These students were Whitney Richardson (3L), Fernando Mandujano (3L), and Lakeisha Walton (1L) were selected by attorneys associated with LexSchola to be featured on LexSchola's landing page. These three TMSL students were selected by these attorneys that felt that if they were hiring, these students would be ones that they would be interested in hiring.

The next day, the Career Services Office learned that the Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) of the U.S. Department of Justice had selected ten TMSL students to communicate with as part of their participation in the Talk2Ten initiative. These students are:

Matthew Florez (3L), Jennifer Adiuku (1L), Ari Wells (1L), Marshaun Williams (1L), Bethany Allen (1L), Abraham Hernandez (1L), Sekeia Wyatt (2L), Brian Ehrenberg (1L), Renettia Foreman (1L), Isaac Liou (1L), Becky Parker (3L), and Stacey Wells (3L).



What makes this such an amazing selection is that TMSL was the only HBCU with multiple students chosen by ENRD.

Finally, TMSL had the most students chosen by Black Law. These students were Keidra McGriff (3L), Stacy Johnson (3L), and Latoya Merida (3L),

*Talk2Ten is an online event connecting legal professionals to the six law schools of America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Before the landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education, HBCU law schools were the key, and in some places the only, training ground for African-American lawyers. Since Brown, HBCU law schools remain an important part of the educational landscape, and feature some of the most diverse student bodies in the nation. HBCU law schools provide an invaluable, but underutilized, pipeline of diverse talent to the legal profession.*



## OFFICE OF ACADEMIC SUPPORT NEWS

Message from Academic Support:



On behalf of the department of Academic Support and the current students and TMSL alumni who sat for the February 2016 bar exam, please accept my most sincere thanks for your time, skill and guidance. A special thanks to Professors Colon, Otero, Tekle and Walker for your weekend workshops, your teaching, coaching, encouragement and fervent support. We are endlessly grateful to our College Business Administrator, Susan Thomas, without whose help our workshops and bar lunches would not have been possible.

To each and every bar coach, too many of you to name, thank you for answering my call for help and for being there to mentor, to check on, and to push our bar takers to prepare them to face down the Texas Bar Exam this month. Many of you balance demanding career and caseloads, others are challenged to build your law practice from scratch. Your sacrifice of time and talent are greatly appreciated.

Your concern and support may make a difference in the outcome for any one of our bar takers. Our theme for the February 2016 bar is **Want it, Work for it, Will not be Denied!**

Please rest assured that I will not hesitate to call upon you again for your support!!

Marsha Griggs  
Assistant Dean for Academic Support and Bar Readiness





## STUDENT NEWS

February 2016

# TMSL Student Bar Association



### Federal Bar Association

The Federal Bar Association has committed to volunteering with the Houston Texans YMCA. FBA is working alongside associate attorneys from a local global law firm to help local high school students prepare for the Youth and Government Texas Mock Trial Competition. They have recently placed 7th in the District Competition and have been invited to compete in Regionals. The Association welcomes the opportunity to aid the students in achieving their goals and lead them to victory. In order to better aid this program, we have applied for the FBA Community Outreach Grant so that we may help the student's with supplies, clothing, transportation, and other related costs during the competition.



### Honor Court

This past December, the Thurgood Marshall Honor Court participated in the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation annual Adopt-An-Angel program. Each year, the foundation partners with the HYLTA, local law firms, and businesses to provide holiday cheer to low-income Houston-area children through their annual gift-giving program. The program benefited six early childhood and elementary schools, as well as an additional four private charities. Honor Court members teamed up to deliver hundreds of toys to kindergartners at a local elementary school Bastian Elementary. Santa Clause was also in attendance to memorialize the occasion as the TMSL elves helped the children with gifts twice their size. "This was by far the most rewarding experience that I have had all year. Adopt an Angel embodied the true meaning of Christmas and being a lawyer; giving back and helping those who are less fortunate" said 2L Justice Laymond Wilburn.



## STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

### TMSL Student Publication Review



On January 27, 2016, Thurgood Marshall School of Law held its first **TMSL Student Publications Review**. Four 3L students presented their law review comments to a captive audience and Professor Rebecca Stewart served as a moderator. The speakers and their topics were: (1) Ms. Crystal Ibe, *“Feeding the Homeless: The Criminalization of a Humanitarian Act”*; (2) Mr. Jay Garza, *“Broken: The Social, Political, and Legal Implications of America’s Immigration Dilemma”*; (3) Ms. Kiera Welch, *“When the Mentally Ill and the Criminal Justice System Collide—The Result”*; and (4) Ms. Roben West, *“Judge Blows the Whistle on the Compensation Cap: How the NCAA’s False Claim of Amateurism is Beginning to Crumble.”* The session and student presentations were wonderful—both engaging and informative. The students’ comments are published in the *Thurgood Marshall Law Review Online Edition* and may be accessed here: <http://tmlawreview.org/edition/online-edition/>.



### TMSL Mock Trial Team Wins 1<sup>st</sup> Place



The TMSL Mock Trial team won 1<sup>st</sup> place to TAMU and UH law schools in the Rocky Mountain Regional of the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition sponsored by the National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA). The winning team consisted of Davis Somoye, Kevin Christiansen, Sasha Missick, and Juliana Shaw. This dynamic team was coached by TMSL alum Leticia Quinones.

### 3L Mike Warner

TMSL 3L Mike Warner served as a panelist on the University of Las Vegas Law School conference on gaming law.





## STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

### *Thurgood Marshall Law Review*



It is with a very distinct honor that I have the privilege to announce the new members of the Law Review Editorial Board for the 2016-2017 Academic Year:

**Sekeia Wyatt:**

**Nekketta Archie:**

**Caitlin Hodge:**

**Kelechi Onwumere:**

**Divya Raj:**

**Melissa Richard:**

**Robert Brown II:**

**Editor-In-Chief**

**Executive Editor**

**Lead Articles Editor**

**Managing Editor**

**Digital Content Editor**

**Research Editor**

**Business Editor**

In addition, I would like to announce those members of the Law Review chosen for publication in the next online volume:

Nekketta Archie, *Red Light, Green Light: The evil yet Ever-Existing Intersection of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking and the Foster Care System*

Amy Greenbaum, *The Death Penalty: Mentally Ill Men Are Executed; Mentally Ill Women Are Committed*

Mya Johnson, *The Lack of Trust in A Trust Relationship: Indian Affairs and The Federal Government*

Divya Raj, *Open Carry: A Movement for Safety or The Continuance of a Violent Era?*

Leah D. Pinkard, *You Can't Squeeze Water from a Stone, But Soon, We May Have to Try: A Scratch at The Surface of Texas Groundwater Law and How Antiquated Common Law Could Leave Us All High and Dry*, 41 T. MARSHALL L. REV. ONLINE 138 (2016)

The Law Review has also created an issue set for the articles in Issue 1 and Issue 2. Please congratulate these students as they have proven their ability to become experts in legal writing, research, and citation.

Matthew W. Bourda  
Editor-in-Chief  
Thurgood Marshall Law Review



ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS  
ALUMNI ON THE MOVE

*TMSL Alums in Texas Elections*



**EDWARD POLLARD**  
 ★★★★★ for ★★★★★  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
 DISTRICT 137  
 THE CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRAT  
 www.pollardfortexas.com

Edward Pollard– State Representative  
District 137



Randy Bates – Texas State Representative  
District 139



Keryl Douglas– Justice of the Peace  
Precinct 7, Place 1

VOTE  
**JOY**  
 DAWSON ★ THOMAS  
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
 NO NONSENSE POLITICS

Joy Dawson Thomas– State  
Representative  
District 126



Elijah Lewis– Justice of the Peace  
Precinct 7, Place 1



JUAN PALACIOS JR.  
**Sonny Palacios**  
 FOR U.S. CONGRESS 2016  
 (THE OFFICE OF TEXAS)

Sonny Palacios– U.S. Congress  
District 15



**VICTORIA NEAVE**  
 for District 107  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

Victoria Neave– State Representative  
District 107

**MORRIS OVERSTREET**  
 "IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO BE IN FAVOR OF JUSTICE FOR SOME PEOPLE AND NOT BE IN FAVOR OF JUSTICE FOR ALL PEOPLE."  
 M. L. KING JR.  
 HARRIS COUNTY DESERVES THE BEST  
 For Harris County District Attorney

Morris Overstreet – Harris County  
District Attorney



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

***TMSL Alums in Texas Elections***



Shari Bihms– Justice of the Peace  
Precinct 1, Place 1



The Honorable Hilary Green– Justice  
of the Peace Precinct 7, Place 1



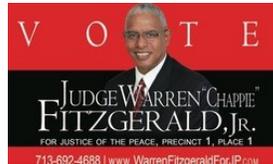
Cheryl Elliott Thornton–  
Justice of the Peace Precinct 7, Place 1



Brian Middleton – County Court at  
Law #5 (Fort Bend County)



George Powell – 351<sup>st</sup> Judicial District



The Honorable Warren Fitzgerald,  
Jr.– Justice of the Peace Precinct 1,  
Place 1

**BERNIE  
ALDAPE III**  
for  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 144



Bernie Aldape III– State Representative  
District 144



**Elect  
Javan PATTON**  
10th Judicial Circuit Seat 4  
*Passion* ★★ ★ *Equality* ★★ ★ *Integrity* ★★ ★ *Progress*

Javan Patton– Judge  
10th Judicial Circuit Seat 4



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

### *TMSL Alums in Texas Elections*



Rabeea Collier– Judge  
11th Civil District



Terrence Holmes—Jefferson  
County Court at Law No. 2

Vote! FAIR • FORMED • FOCUSED •

JUDGE  
**H**NIKITA “NIKI”  
HARMON

Candidate for 176th Harris County District Court  
www.harmon4judge.com • harmon4judge@aol.com  
713.641.1375 P.O. Box 14329 • Houston, Texas 77221

Political Ad Filed by Nikita Harmon for Judge, Thelma Harmon, Treasurer.  
In compliance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act.

The Honorable Nikita “Niki” Harmon– Judge  
176th District Court

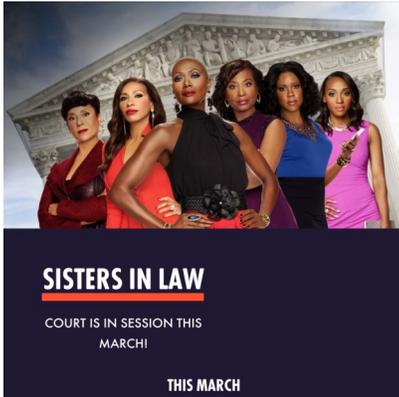




## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

### ALUMNI ON THE MOVE

#### TMSL Alums Staring in WE Network Show “Sisters in Law”



TMSL Alumni **Juanita Jackson**, TMSL class of 1997, Harris County Public Defenders’ Office; **Vivian King**, TMSL class of 1992, board certified criminal law attorney; and **Monique Sparks**, TMSL Class of 2006, Sparks Law Firm are starring in the WE network reality show “Sisters in Law” slated to premier in March.

#### Investiture of TMSL Alum Morris Onyewuchi

**Morris Onyewuchi**, TMSL class of 2002, presently works for the Department of Homeland Security in Atlanta, GA where he practices criminal and immigration law. Onyewuchi was recently appointed as an Immigration Court Judge. His Investiture will be held on Friday, March 11, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the Great Hall at the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. Please join the TMSL Family in congratulating The Honorable Morris Onyewuchi.

#### TMSL Alum Keith Franklin Named Board President



**Attorney Keith Franklin**, TMSL class of 2013 was elected as President of the Laredo area Community foundation Board. This board was formed in 2005 to serve South Texas non-profit organizations. To date, they have given almost \$12 million to assist local charities and scholarship programs in the Larado and South Texas areas.

Attorney Franklin is an associate with Person, Whitworth, Borchers & Morales where he focuses primarily on oil & gas and real estate law.



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

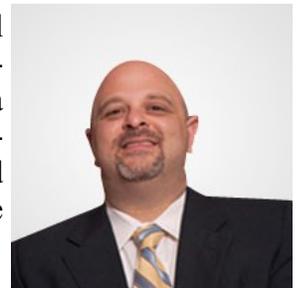
### TMSL Alum Samuel Louis Helps Clients Comply with New FDA Regulations



**Attorney Samuel Louis**, TMSL class of 1989 and Partner, Strasburger and Price, LLP has dedicated most of his legal career prosecuting healthcare fraud. Presently, Attorney Louis' practice focuses on the defense of healthcare fraud and compliance investigations. Louis published an article entitled *Recent Developments in Food and Drug Law*, 2016 Edition Leading Lawyers on dealing with the increased enforcement, keeping up-to-date with FDA requirements, and developing compliance practices helping clients understand and comply with new food and drug safety regulations. In the article, Louis discussed the recent passing of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and its affect on stakeholders and he further discusses the passing of the Drug Supply Chain Security Act.

### TMSL Alum Ryan Bormaster: A Pinnacle Professional

**Attorney Ryan Bormaster**, TMSL class of 2000 was recognized by Continental Who's Who as a Pinnacle Professional in the area of legal services. Attorney Bormaster is shareholder and managing attorney of R.B. Bormaster and Associates, P.C., a Houston based firm specializing in personal injury, trial law, real estate law, and consumer law. Bormaster was recognized by Super Lawyers in 2014 and he was selected as a Rising Star by Houston Magazine in 2003. In addition, attorney Bormaster is the author of two legal guides on DUI and automobile accidents.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

THE STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION PRESENTS



THURGOOD MARSHALL  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
Est. 1947

7PM  
COCKTAIL HOUR 6PM

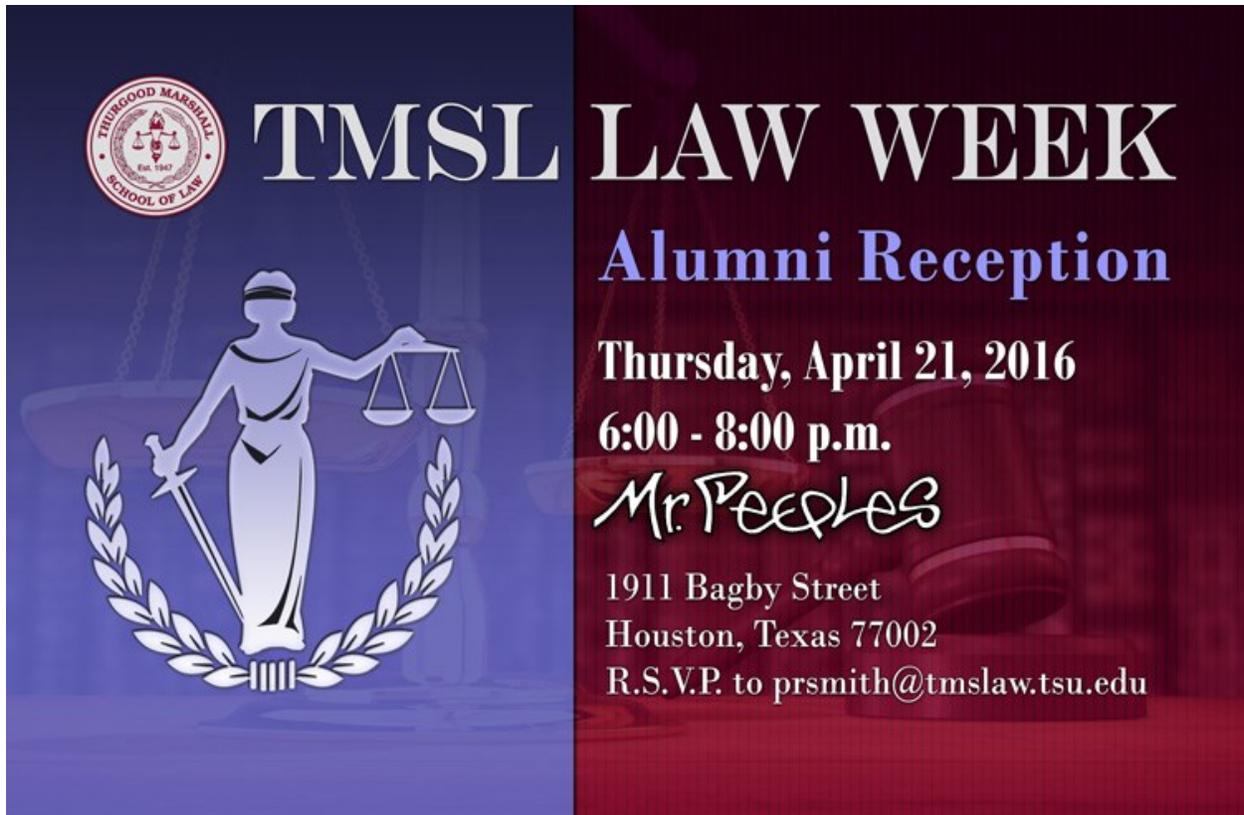
BARRISTER'S  
*Ball*

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016  
BELL TOWER ON 34TH  
901 W. 34TH, HOUSTON, TX 77019

The poster features a central circular logo for the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, which includes a scale of justice and a torch. The background is a dark, blurred image of people in formal attire, framed by a decorative gold Art Deco border. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical layout, providing all necessary event details.



## UPCOMING EVENTS *Cont'd.*

A graphic for TMSL Law Week Alumni Reception. The left side is blue and features a white silhouette of Lady Justice holding scales and a sword, surrounded by a laurel wreath. A small circular logo of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law is in the top left corner. The right side is dark red and contains white text.

**TMSL LAW WEEK**

**Alumni Reception**

**Thursday, April 21, 2016**

**6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

*Mr. Peoples*

1911 Bagby Street  
Houston, Texas 77002  
R.S.V.P. to [prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu)





## UPCOMING EVENTS *Cont'd.*



# A Night of Externships

**Who:** All 2017 Graduates

**When:** March 1, 2016- 6:00-9:00p.m.

**Where:** TMSL Room 105-106

**What:** Info. and Externship Registration



*For more information: Contact Professor Ledesma*

*X 1105; Room 236 F; or [stephanie@ledesma-law.com](mailto:stephanie@ledesma-law.com)*



## UPCOMING CLES



### Criminalized Injustices: The Consequences of an Unfair Legal System

Presented by: *Journal on Gender, Race & Justice, Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law*

**March 4, 2016**

12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Rooms 105-106  
3100 Cleburne St.  
Houston, TX 77004**

#### Topics

Justice on Trial: Racial Disparities under Color of Law: Police Brutality; Unequal Justice: Racial Disparities with the Death Penalty; and Mental Illness within the Criminal Justice System

MCLE 4.0 hrs. Ethics .50 hr.

COSTS: Attorneys-\$25.00; Free Admission for Government and Non-profit Attorneys, TSU Faculty, Staff, Students and the General Public

\*Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law is an accredited sponsor approved by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE



### Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law THE SOLO PRACTITIONER & SMALL LAW FIRM INSTITUTE OF LEGAL EXCELLENCE SPEAKER SERIES

*Sponsored by The Center for Continuing Legal Education and the Experiential Learning Department*

**March 28th**

***Family Law 101 –CLE***

**March 29th**

***A Personal Injury Practice Made Possible***

**March 30th**

***Criminal Law Basics –CLE***

**March 31st**

***The State Bar Grievance Process: What You Should Know to Protect Your License***

**April 4th**

***Legal Implications of Marketing Your Law Practice***

**April 5th**

***The 21st Century Transnational Attorney and Being a Civil Litigator: Trials Do Exist***

**April 6th**

***Views From the Bench: A Judge's Perspective***

#### Cost:

Each course cost \$25.00  
Complimentary for Students and non-attorneys

#### Course Location:

The CLE courses will be held at TMSL in room 106

#### Credit:

MCLE: 3.00~Ethics: 1.00



*Complimentary parking, food, beverages and course materials are included*

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law is an accredited sponsor approved by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE



UPCOMING CLES *Cont'd.*

April 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>  
2016 IMMIGRATION LAW &  
ECI JOURNAL SYMPOSIUM – CLE

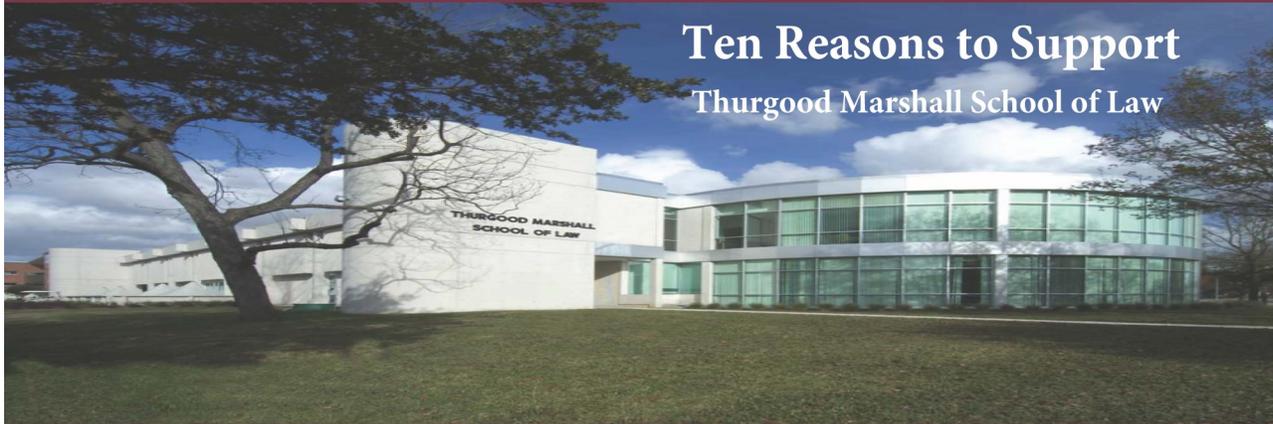
INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL & IMMIGRATION LAW  
IMMIGRATION LAW LL.M  
THE EARL CARL INSTITUTE FOR LEGAL & SOCIAL POLICY, INC.  
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Time: 8:30 am-4:00 pm (lunch 12noon- 1:00pm) each day  
Cost: \$120.<sup>00</sup> attorneys; \$60.<sup>00</sup> gov't and non-profit attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys  
MCLE: 14.0 (7.0 each day)  
Ethics 4.0 (2.0 each day)  
Register online: <http://TMSLCLE.eventbrite.com>  
*Breakfast & Lunch Provided*





WWW.TSULAW.EDU



## Ten Reasons to Support Thurgood Marshall School of Law



“From an early age, it was always my dream to attend Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL). I chose TMSL because of how welcoming it felt here; you immediately feel part of the law school family. I was captivated by how my mentors helped guide me through my first year and continued to push me through my first year and continued to push me through my last two years. Their unwavering support of me and other classmates confirmed that I made the right decision in choosing TMSL.” — Cervana Shanklin, Alum '15

### 1. Our Reputation

We are one of 15 law schools nationwide that has notably improved its reputation with lawyers and judges since 2012.

### 2. Our Advocacy Programs

In the last three years, our Mock Trial and Moot Court Teams have gained national recognition for the quality of their preparation and performance. Both teams have advanced to final rounds in national and regional competitions.

### 3. Our Valued Externships

Many of our third year students have successfully completed externships with the state supreme court, district judges, state legislators, First Lady of the United States Michelle Obama, and district and county attorney's offices.

### 4. Our National Recognition

Thurgood Marshall School of Law was admitted into the esteemed membership of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) in January 2014. The Law School received a national vote of

confidence from the AALS in its direction, faculty, academic and accountability programs and most importantly, in its ability to engage with students to produce competitive and capable lawyers.

### 5. Our Collaborations

We provide opportunities for our students to experience an array of legal practices and focus on developing excellent lawyering skills through our collaboration with the Legal Clinics and the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy, Inc. on campus.

### 6. Our Regional Impact

With only 5% of total Texas law school enrollment, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, in the last five years, has produced 43% of all the newly licensed African-American attorneys in the state of Texas who are graduates from one of the nine Texas law schools.

### 7. Our Alumni

We proudly include among our alumni leading members of the U.S. House of Representatives; federal and state trial and appellate judges; key partners in law firms; government attorneys; and sports and entertainment attorneys. Our persistence in producing a substantial number of attorneys in South Texas is highly commendable.

### 8. Our Student Accomplishments

Our students continue to win and receive recognition for their participation and performance in legal writing competitions and other scholarly activities.

### 9. Our Diversity

For more than a decade, our Law School has been firmly established as one of the nation's most diverse law schools.

### 10. Our Mission, Our Vision, Our Values

For the last seven decades, Thurgood Marshall School of Law has been heralded as an institution of opportunity and inclusion that continues to rise on its standards of equality and excellence.



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW  
OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Susan Bynam, Assistant Dean

3100 Cleburne Street Houston, Texas 77004 Phone: 713.313.4273 Fax: 713.313.7268



## EVENTS CALENDAR

### MARCH 2016

#### March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

TMSL Scholar-in-Residence- Associate Dean of Institutional Diversity and Inclusiveness and Professor of Law, Catherine E. Smith, University of Denver Sturm College of Law

Tentative Schedule: (1) Faculty Talk on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon (co-sponsors: Thurgood Marshall Law Review, the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Journal on Gender, Race, and Justice & OUTLaw)- “*Rights of Unmarried Children After Obergefell*”; (2) Dinner and talk with Faculty on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4-7 pm – “*From Brown to Obergefell: Moving Children from the Margins to the Center of Equal Protection Doctrine*”; (3) Class Guest Lecture (Craig Jackson’s International Law Class) on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and (4) Lunch and Q&A with Law Review and Journal members on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12 – 1 pm

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

#### March 2nd

##### 1L Skills Academy - OAS

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Time: 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

#### March 3<sup>rd</sup>

##### Thurgood Thursday – hosted by the Advocates of Justice

Location: TBD  
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

#### March 4th

[Criminalized Injustices: The Consequences of an Unfair Legal System – CLE](#)  
[Journal on Gender, Race & Justice](#)  
[Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law](#)

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Time: 12:00 noon – 4:00 pm  
Cost: \$25.00  
MCLE: 4.0  
Ethics: .50

#### March 5<sup>th</sup>

##### TMSL Community Service Day

##### TMSL Clinics, ECI, and SBA

Location: Sunnyside Park  
Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

#### March 7th – 11th

##### Mid-Term Examinations

#### March 9<sup>th</sup>

##### TMSL/Concordia Law Faculty Exchange Series

“The Judicial Role in Filling the Justice Gap” Professor Jodi Nafzger, Director of Experiential Learning and Assistant Professor, Concordia University School of Law

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

#### March 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>

##### TMSL Spring Break

#### March 23<sup>rd</sup>

SCALS Faculty Exchange – “Three Is Not A Crowd In Plea Negotiations: Evading Judicial Participation in Plea Negotiations As A Necessary Evil” Professor Prentiss White, Associate Professor, Southern University Law Center

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

#### March 23rd

##### TMSL Legal Clinic Open House

Location: Legal Clinic  
Time: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

#### March 23rd

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Collaborative Experiential Learning Open House

Location: Moot Court Room  
Time: 12:00 noon– 1:00 pm

#### March 25<sup>th</sup>

##### Good Friday (No Classes)

#### March 28<sup>th</sup> – April 6<sup>th</sup>

[The Experiential Learning Program’s Solo Practice CLE Series](#)

#### March 28th

##### Family Law –CLE

[Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law](#)

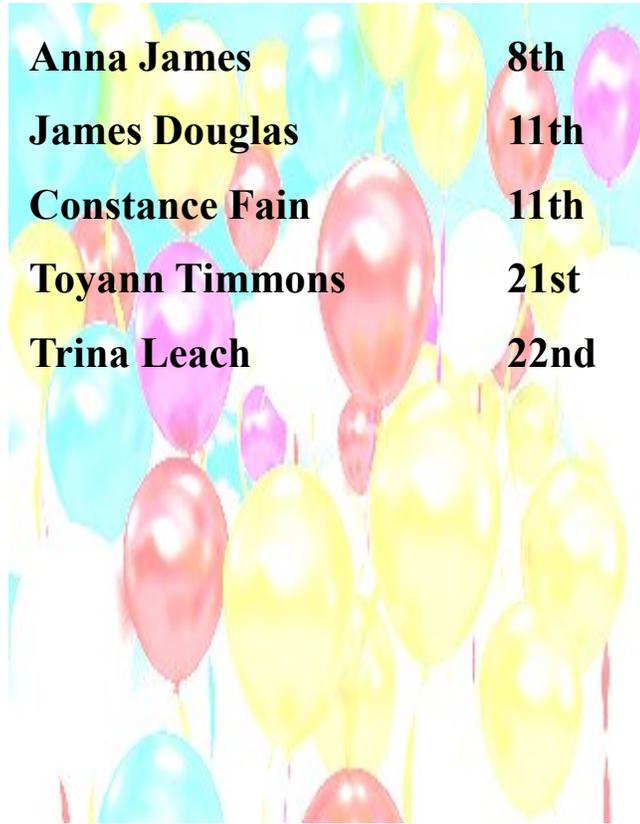
Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Time: 6:00 pm-9:00 pm  
Cost: \$25.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys  
MCLE: 3.00  
Ethics 1.00

To register on-line for ALL the law school’s CLE courses click the link below:

[Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law](#)



## February Birthdays



<b>Anna James</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>James Douglas</b>	<b>11th</b>
<b>Constance Fain</b>	<b>11th</b>
<b>Toyann Timmons</b>	<b>21st</b>
<b>Trina Leach</b>	<b>22nd</b>



### Recycle reminder

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

Let's do our part!



**THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL of LAW**

**AN EXAMPLE OF DIVERSITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

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