

YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197 December 2013 1 of 15



# FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN 🔌

Happy Holidays TMSL Family:

As we enter the holiday season, I'd like to take a moment to share my sincere appreciation for your past commitment and generosity to the Law School. We begin the holiday season with very good news. First, the July 2013 Texas Bar Exam results for the Law School were the best in the school's history. Second, the Law School recently received notice that the goal, the achievement of which many of you worked with us to accomplish, became reality – the Law School will be admitted to membership in the Association of American Law Schools in January 2014.

The Association of American Law Schools (AALS) is a non-profit educational association of approximately 180 law schools that serves as a crucial national voice to represent the best

interest of legal education. Membership signifies that a law school reflects the Association's core values and has met the rigorous requirements specified in the AALS Bylaws and Executive Committee Regulations. The purpose of the AALS is "the improvement of the legal profession through legal education." This goal is accomplished in a number of ways, including professional development programs for law professors and administrators, a complement of over 90 sections organized by faculty. Membership in the AALS enhances our faculty's opportunity to play national leadership roles in the academy. It also qualifies the law school to provide further recognition for our students by applying for membership in the Order of the Coif.

While we are proud of these achievements by our students and institution, we are focused on sustaining and enhancing this upward arc. We are required to do so during this next year because Thurgood Marshall School of Law is currently working to revamp its 2010 Strategic Plan and to prepare a Self-Study for the upcoming site visit of the American Bar Association in 2014. This site visit for fully-approved law schools, which takes place every seventh year, is organized by the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, and is required by the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools.

Our Strategic Plan will include a vision statement, overarching goals, and measures of accountability. The Self-Study will state the goals that the law school has set for itself, identify and analyze the areas of the school's strengths and weaknesses in light of those goals, and relate the present and prospective resources to the stated objectives. This process is a collective enterprise that includes key stakeholders such as faculty, students, alumni, staff, and members of our legal community.

We are now in the process of reviewing our current plan and generating specific data and feedback from law school administrative departments, faculty, and students, but the experience and wisdom of prominent members of the bar, judiciary, and alumni are an integral and crucial part of this process.

The Strategic Plan and the Self Study will be finalized towards the end of the spring semester, after meetings with stakeholder groups, surveys of faculty and staff, a faculty retreat, and the review of all the data and information prepared by Law School committees.

We appreciate your continued support and commitment to the University and Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and furthermore, wish you and your family a happy holiday!

Sincerely,

Darme Hollay



YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197 December 2013 2 of 15

### FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



**Professor Fernando Colon-Navarro**'s recent stay in October 2013 as a scholar -in-residence at the law school of the Federal University of Ouro Preto in Brazil law school included giving a talk on diversity, lecturing on comparative immigration law (U.S. and Brazil), and giving a special talk on "Issues on Immigration Law in the USA," before the International Politics Study Group at the Federal University of Minas Gerais.

On November 23, 2013, **Professor SpearIt** accepted the Policy Impact Award from the Institute for Social Policy & Understanding in Detroit, Michigan, for his report, *Facts and Fictions about Islam in Prison: Muslim Radicalization in Post-9/11 America*. On October 31, 2013,

**Professor SpearIt** published in the <u>Huffington Post</u>, *The Muslim Vote: Down by Law*, available at

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/spearit/muslims-felondisenfranchisement\_b\_4152497.html





In October 2013 at the University of Houston Law Center, **Professors Maurice Hew** and **SpearIt** gave talks at the national "B.A. to J.D. Pipeline Program: *Making Connections – A Changing World, A Changing Legal Profession*," sponsored by the Society of American Law Teachers. Professor Hew participated in a plenary discussion on Immigration Reform, the DREAM Act, and DACA. Professor SpearIt discussed the Post *Fisher* Fallout.

**Professor Katherine Vukadin's** proposal for the Affordable Care Act Implementation Symposium at John Marshall School of Law (Chicago) was accepted for publication.



### FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

December 2013

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Professor Emeka Duruigbo was invited to submit an article to the North Carolina Central University Law Review in addition to his presentation at the R.J. Reynolds Symposium at NCCU School of Law in April 2012. The article was recently published as: Emeka Duruigbo, Community Equity Participation in African Petroleum Ventures: Path to Economic Growth?, 35 N.C. CENT. L. REV. 111 (2013). The article examines the flurry of activities following new oil and gas discoveries that has led to what some commentators refer to as the "Second Scramble for Africa." While this development may be good for business interests and political leaders, it is not very clear that the average citizen in the countries hosting the petroleum operations will come out ahead. To address the issue of how to ensure that Africans benefit maximally, equitably and sustainably from the continent's natural resource riches, the article argues for the introduction of a system of community equity participation in oil and gas ventures. The article extensively examines the benefits of community equity participation, including the generation of personal and social capital, facilitation of corporate social license, and entrenchment of a closer and accountable form of governance.

YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197

3 of 15

On January 14, 2014, at 12:00 p.m. in the Dean's Conference Room, TMSL will host the TSU College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to discuss, Professional School and the Enhancement of Student Learning, facilitated by **Professor Okezie Chukumerije**. This discussion is the second of a two-part intellectual exchange with the TSU College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. The first occurred in Fall 2013 and centered on professionalism in law and in pharmacy. All law and pharmacy faculty are encouraged to attend.





On January 21, 2014, at 12:00 p.m. in the Dean's Conference Room, **Professor Thelma Harmon** will deliver her talk to the faculty, *The Ball and Chain: The Burdensome Restraint on the Supreme Court's Bright Line Rule in Vance v. Ball State University*, as part of the TMSL Quodlibet. All faculty are encouraged to attend.



### **STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS**

#### FROM THE OFFICE OF SBA PRESIDENT GAVEN NORRIS

The 1L Class of 2016 held the annual 1L Battle of the Sections for criminal law. Professor April Walker conducted this year's Battle of the Sections. Over the past decade all four sections of the 1L class come together and compete in a jeopardy style competition where they are asked criminal law questions. There are four teams of four which represent each section of the 1L class. This friendly competition styled review is held only a few weeks before the 1L's fall criminal law comprehensive examination. The winning section receives bragging rights and an additional

prize determined by the 1L class board.

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In a show of homage to their criminal law professor, Professor April Walker, section 3 wore section t-shirts which read "Keep Calm & Walker On".

Section 4 won the Battle of the Sections by waging all of their points on the very last question where they were given a hypo and were asked to give the legal answer under the common law and model penal code. Congratulation to Section 4 and best wishes to the entire Class of 2016 on their pending criminal law comprehensive exam.





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### **STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS** (continued)

On Friday November 8, 2013, the TMSL Student Bar Association held a special event honoring the veterans attending TMSL. Currently, there are 65 students and staff attending, or employed at, Thurgood Marshall who have either previously served in the United States military or are currently serving in the United States military.

The SBA Executive Board found it imperative that they make an affirmative statement showing their support of and care for our service men and women. Because TMSL was to be closed in observance of the Veterans Day holiday, the SBA purchased military flags which represent each branch of the U. S. military, and which will be permanently displayed at TMSL, and the SBA held a "Thank You" breakfast for the TMSL veterans.

The following is a brief statement on behalf of the SBA regarding honoring our veterans.

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"Each year, hundreds of thousands of men and women leave their families and deploy to far flung countries around the globe. They will watch their children grow up via Skype, miss family holidays, and sometimes, the death of loved ones. They are fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, sons and daughters, and brothers and sisters. But first and foremost, they are soldiers.

We celebrate Veterans Day to remember those who paid the ultimate price for freedom. We comfort the soldiers who came back with broken bodies and broken minds. We thank the men and women who have served and are currently serving this country, no matter their role. While as citizens we may not always agree if war is fair or right, The Student Bar Association believes we can all agree that those who heed the call to serve this country deserve our thanks."

# Thank you for your service!

Class of 2014	Class of 2015	Class of 2016 cont.
Brennae Brooks - U.S. Air Force	Shundrelle Armstrong - U.S. Army	Reginald Grant – U.S. Marines
Erica Dominguez - U.S. Air Force	Olivia A. Haigler - U.S. Army	Donald Malagon – U.S. Marines
Theressa Ford – Bradley TN Nat. G	Kemberly McDaniel - TX Army	C
Nicole Hawkins - U.S. Marine Corp.	National Guard	Fernando Mandujano
Rick Ramos - U.S. Marine Corp.	Sarah A. Miles - U.S. Navy	Harrison McPherson – U.S. Marines
Jonathan Silva - U.S. Navy	, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Ruben Ramirez – U.S. Army
Johanian Shva - U.S. Navy	Class of 2016	Ashley Ramos
Meyer Christopher - U.S. Army	Judah Broussard	Asiney Ramos
	Daniel Brow – U.S. Marines	Roderick Rodgers - U. S. Army
	Moises Flores	Susan Watts

### **STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS** (continued)

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# Joe Kelly and Andrew Wilkerson win the 2013 Helen Dawn Williams <u>Mock Trial Competition</u>



The Thurgood Marshall School of Law James M. Douglas: Board of Advocates is pleased to announce that Joe Kelly and Andrew Wilkerson won the final round of the 2013 Helen Dawn Williams Mock Trial Competition.

After four days of participating in a competition open to all second- and third-year students, Joe Kelly and Andrew Wilkerson defeated Miguel Castillo and Ahad Khan. Chris Archer, represented by Castillo and Khan, was charged with first degree murder and criminal hazing. The State, represented by Kelly and Wilkerson, was able to meet their burden of proof for a conviction.



Presiding Judge, Sean Villery-Samuel, was joined by Donale Evans and Julie Rosemary Brock-Clure as scoring judges.

Sean Villery-Samuel sits as the director of The Samuel Law Firm, PC in Beaumont, Texas. Villery-Samuel completed his juris doctor degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Evans completed his bachelor of arts with a major in finance from Prairie View A&M University. He completed his juris doctor degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Brock-Clure completed her juris doctor degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

Joe Kelly, former Section Two student, is a 3L from Houston, Texas, who completed his bachelor of arts degree at the Texas Southern University with a major in business administration. Andrew Wilkerson, former Section Three student, is a 3L from Dallas, Texas, who completed his bachelor of arts degree at Prarie View A&M University with a major in criminal justice.

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### **STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS** (continued)

#### **Mock Trial Competition**

Miguel Castillo, former Section Four student, is a 3L from Corpus Christi, Texas, who completed his bachelor of arts degree at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi with a major in business. Ahad Khan, former Section Four student, is a 3L from Charlotte, North Carolina, who completed his bachelor of arts degree at Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina with a major in history. The winning team's witnesses were Dayo Ayeni (3L) and Bianca Duenas (2L). Witnesses for Castillo and Khan were Javier Guzman (3L) and Sung Kim (3L).

In addition, the winning team's name will be placed on the newly donated Galow-Sullivan Cup. The Galow-Sullivan Cup was generously donated on behalf of the Class of 2013 by alumni and 2012 Champions John Paul Cedillo and David Ortez. The Cup is named in honor of Jerry Galow and Ed & Stephanie Sullivan who serve as founders, coaches and mentors of the Thurgood Mock Trial Advocacy Program. The new silver cup stands two feet high and sits on a beautifully hand-carved walnut base. Every past champion in the history of this prestigious tournament is honored with an engraved plaque located on the trophy's base.



Ed Sullivan is an attorney and graduate of the University of Houston Law Center. He is one of the founding partners of Oberti Sullivan, a law firm that specializes in labor and employment law in Houston, Texas. He currently serves as the Head Mock Trial Coach of the Mock Trial Advocacy Program.

Stephanie Sullivan is an attorney and graduate of the University of Houston Law Center. She currently serves as an Adjunct Instructor at Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, where she coaches with her husband Ed.

John Paul Cedillo is an attorney and graduate of the Class of 2013 who currently lives and practices law in Dallas, Texas. David Ortez is an attorney and graduate of the Class of 2013 who currently lives in Houston, Texas where he is pursuing an LL.M. degree in Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Law at the University of Houston Law Center. Cedillo and Ortez hold an impressive 9 and 1 winning record as mock trial partners during their law school career.

Helen Dawn Williams (1968-1993), a young, aspiring law student, died during her 3L year at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. The annual competition was named, by her classmates, in her honor.



### **TMSL EXTERNSHIP NEWS**

### Moot Court Student Highlights



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David Espinoza, 3L and Anthony Hynes, 2L are members of the American Bar Association Moot Court Team. Mr. Espinoza and Mr. Hynes advanced to the quarter-final rounds of this national competition wherein only 8 teams were chosen from all of the law schools in the U.S. Mr. Hynes and Mr. Espinoza also presented a Moot Court Demo to middle school students from Ambassadors Preparatory Academy, as hosted by Professor Craig Jackson. During the demonstration students from the Academy served as co-counsel to both Mr. Hynes and Mr. Espinoza and they also served as Judicial Officers.



Carolyn Ng, 2L and Jonathan Viray, (not pictured) are also members of the American Bar Association Moot Court Team. Ms. Ng and Mr. Viray also advanced to the quarter-final rounds of this national competition wherein only 8 teams were chosen from all of the law schools in the U.S. Two of the eight teams chosen were from TMSL.



## **OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES** *Thurgood Hosts the SEC & the USAO*

#### Securities & Exchange Commission—November 9, 2013

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Thurgood Marshall School of Law's Career Services Office (CSO), Office of External Affairs, The Earl Carl Institute and the Experiential Learning Department joined the Jessie H. Jones School of Business (JHJSB) to host the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Houston Initiative Project. Representatives from the SEC Fort Worth Regional Office and Enforcement met with Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) Dean Dannye Holley and key Administrators at TMSL. This endeavor was spearheaded by Associate Dean Faith Joseph Jackson of Thurgood Marshall School of Law along with Dean Ronald A. Johnson of JHJSB.

The joint collaboration with the SEC was the first of its kind and will lay the framework for other joint projects to assist both schools in their efforts to expose students to new practice areas. SEC Representatives attended breakfast with Dean Holley, students and staff. SEC Representatives toured TMSL, ECI, and JHJSB. The tours were led by students, Jana Mims, Georgeanne Wallace, Phillip Yates, Jacques Leeds and Jonathon Everhart. During the TMSL Earl Carl Institute visit, they were shown a film presented by the Institute focusing on the institute's mission and on-going projects.



<u>Pictured</u>: Mr. David Woodcock and Dean Dannye Holley (left to right)

During the luncheon, the SEC conducted an Information Session providing an overview of its internship program. The forum concluded with a Question and Answer session. Several TMSL students were afforded the opportunity to interview in small groups with representatives of the SEC for their upcoming 2014 Spring and Summer internships.



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### **OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES** Continued...

#### Securities and Exchange Commission Representatives in attendance were:

TODAY

Mr. David Woodcock, Regional Director, Forth Worth Regional Office (FWRO)

Ms. Akita Adkins, Staff Attorney, Enforcement Division, Fort Worth Regional Office

Ms. Lisa Wren, Paralegal Specialist, Enforcement Division, Fort Worth Regional Office

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Mr. Will Fergus, Attorney Examiner, Fort Worth Regional Office, Regulation Division, Investment Adviser Section

Mr. Frank Goodrich, Staff Attorney, Enforcement Division, Fort Worth Regional Office

Mr. Anthony McNeal, Exam Manager, Regulation Division, Fort Worth Regional Office

#### United States Attorney's Office (USAO) Employer Visit—November 13, 2013

The Career Services Office and the Experiential Learning Department facilitated a meeting on November 13, 2013 at 10:30am with two key administrators from the United States Attorney's Office (USAO), Southern District of Texas, Houston Region, Mr. Mitch Neurock and Mr. Michael Wright. The meeting involved discussions surrounding a continued collaboration with Thurgood Marshall School of Law by various programs and Internship opportunities for students.

Students who are selected to intern with the USAO are matched in their desired practice areas such as HumanTrafficking, Anti-trust/Violent Crimes, Narcotics, Public Corruption, Fraud, Healthcare, Asset Forfeiture, Financial Litigation, and many more. Thus far, two students, Mrs. Jana Mims – Class of 2014 and Ms. Ashley Vance – Class of 2014, have been selected for externships. Professor Stephanie Ledesma, Director of the Experiential Learning Department and the Career Services Office often work in partnership to assist students in securing Summer, Spring and Fall internships/externships.



### **ALUMNI NEWS**

TMSL Alums Secure Dismissal for CultureMap, LLC and

### Reporter Claire St. Amant from SLAPP Suit

TMSL alum and Greenberg Traurig trial lawyer Victor D. Vital, with TMSL alum and associate Christopher L. Harbin providing critical assistance, secured a dismissal of defamation allegations against online media company, CultureMap, LLC, and its Dallas managing editor, Claire St. Amant. The Greenberg Traurig team used the Texas's Citizen Participation Act to obtain the dismissal. The Citizen's Participation Act provides for the expedited dismissal of meritless "strategic lawsuits against public participation" ("SLAPP suits") aimed at limiting certain valuable rights like the constitutional right to free speech.

The lawsuit, filed by Dr. Richard and Leanne Malouf, alleged that CultureMap, LLC and Claire St. Amant were liable for defamation arising from their reporting of the Maloufs' lawsuit against prominent media entities and personalities. Dr. Malouf was a partial owner of All Smiles Dental Care and has been accused of Medicaid fraud in connection with his practice. Other respected media companies, such as AOL and WFAA, are named as co-defendants in the suit arising from their news coverage and news-gathering activities focused on the Maloufs.

"I was glad to defend CultureMap, LLC and Claire St. Amant and to protect their constitutional rights to free speech and press," said Vital. "We are pleased to have played a part in making sure the citizens of Dallas have access to information, freely distributed by the press."



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TODAY

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Christopher L. Harbin



Victor D. Vital

YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197 December 2013 12 of 15

ALUMNI NEWS (continued) Record Numbers Showed Up In Support of TMSL Newly Admitted Attorneys

TSU

Thurgood TODAY

555



### NEWS FROM THE EARL CARL INSTITUTE

ECI PUBLISHES THIRD ISSUE OF ONLINE INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL

The Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy Inc. is proud to announce the publication of the November issue of the ECI Interdisciplinary Journal for Legal and Social Policy. This issue, a complement to the Institute's *No Child Left Behind: 10 Years in Review* symposium held in February, is devoted to interdisciplinary scholarship on a wide range of topics related to education policy and the reauthorization of NCLB. We encourage you to view journal contents online at <u>www.ecipublications.org</u>.

#### NOVEMBER 2013 ISSUE ARTICLES

From Colonization to R.E.S.P.E.C.T.: How Policy Fails Children and Educators of Color

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Christopher B. Knaus and Rachelle Rogers-Ard

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How (and Why) NCLB Failed to Close the Achievement Gap: Evidence from North Carolina, 1998-2004

Roslyn A. Mickelson, Jason Giersch, Elizabeth Stearns and Stephanie Moller

**Education Reform and the Political Safeguards of Federalism** 

Elizabeth Jansma Sharma

Getting To Excellence: What Every Educator Should Know About Consequences of Beliefs, Attitudes, and Paradigms for the Reconstruction of an Academically Unacceptable Middle School- The External Environment

James A. Johnson, Jay Cummings, Margaret Stroud, Gatsy Moye' -Lavergne, and Wilbert J. Andrews Jr.

#### **Urban Education Reform**

Case Study: North Forest Independent School District

Jay K. Aiyer, Michael O. Adams & Subria Lapps

The ECI Journal is published in an online format annually each November. The online format enables efficient use for potential authors, peer-reviewers and editors. This format also increases accessibility for readers and researchers. In fact, the journal was downloaded 3,596 times in the past year.

The Journal publishes papers primarily on issues that impact legal and social policy in the urban community. In the article selection process the Journal focuses primarily on the Institute's priority areas, which for the next five years are housing, education, family and criminal justice. The journal is peer reviewed and seeks to make available research and knowledge in the areas of legal and social policy to equip and empower educators and others nationwide with research driven articles that will contribute to their ability to meet the diverse needs of urban populations. Based on a survey of journals there is an absence of interdisciplinary journals that focus solely on legal and social policy issues that impact urban and minority communities in these issue areas. The ECI Journal for Legal & Social Policy seeks to fill that void. The Institute is seeking multi-disciplinary writers, editors and peer reviewers. To submit an article for consideration go to http://ecipublications.org/submit\_research.html.

For more information about the ECI Annual Special Issue Symposium and Journal, please contact the Earl Carl Institute at 713.313.1139 or via email at <u>earlcarlinstitute@tmslaw.tsu.edu</u>. To view the journal and submission requirements visit the journal online at www.ecipublications.org.



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### DECEMBER 2013 -Happy Holidays!!!

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December 2nd—13th Final Examinations

December 3rd Faculty Meeting Location: Dean's Conference Room Time: 12 noon

December 12th <u>Administrative Staff Meeting</u> Location: Dean's Conference Room Time: 3pm

 December 13th

 December 2013 Law Graduates Celebration Ceremony

 Location:
 Law School Moot Court Room

 Time:
 6:30 pm

 Reception Following

December 14th—Commencement

December 21—January 1st School Closed for Holiday Break

#### **JANUARY 2014**

January 2nd School Opens

January 2nd – 5th 2014 AALS Annual Conference Location: New York City

January 3rd <u>2014 AALS-TMSL Reception</u> <u>"Texas in New York</u> Location: Sheraton New York Hotel (across from the New York Hilton Midtown). Liberty Suite 3/3rd Floor 1335 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY Time: 6:30—8:00 pm RSVP: Pearly Pendenque ppendeque@tmslaw.tsu.edu or (713) 313-1076

January 6th First Day of Class

January 8th Last Day to ADD/DROP

#### **January 17th**

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law		
Papadeaux Oak Lawn—Dallas, Texas		
12:00 noon – 4:00 pm		
\$100.00; \$25.00 gov't and non-profit attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys		
4.0		
1.0		

January 20th MLK Holiday

**January 23rd** Criminal Law 101 A Hands On Interactive Course for the Practicing Criminal Defense Lawyer **TMSL Criminal Law Clinic** Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law Time: 9:00 am- 4:00 pm Cost: \$105.00 attorneys; \$30.00 gov't and non-profit attorneys; and complimentary non-attorneys MCLE: 7.0 Ethics: 2.0 Lunch Included Register online: www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration

#### January 31st

International Law: Professor Henry "Hank" Richardson		
TMSL International & Immigration Institute		
Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law		
Location:	Thurgood Marshall School of Law	
Time:	12:00 noon – 2:00 pm	
Cost:	Free	
MCLE:	2.0	
Ethics	.50	
Register online:	www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration	





### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

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Nannette Collins

Edward Rene Evelyn Beard

Mosetta Moy

McKen Carrington



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### **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 66 Protect It, Improve It, Pass It on ??

### **INSIDE THURGOOD NEWS REQUEST**

Please submit your news, events and announcements in email text or word documents to Prudence N. Smith, Assistant Dean of External Affairs by the 25th of the PRIOR month, prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu. Please be brief, but ensure that important details and information are included.