



Thurgood TODAY

TSU

YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE
FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197 June 2014

Tale of Two Holleys: A Family Affair Danielle Holley-Walker Named Dean of Howard Law School



Danyne Holley

It's not often that one finds a father and daughter at the helm of law school education at two distinctive, yet prominent HBCUs, simultaneously! In fact, this could very well be an historical first. As of July 15, 2014, our country will have a "father and daughter" to serve simultaneously as "law school deans" at Howard University in Washington, DC and Texas Southern University in Houston, TX!

It's what we at TMSL truly call, A Family Affair: Law School DEAN Style!



Danielle Holley-Walker

Danielle Holley-Walker was recently named as the new law school dean at Howard University and will begin this new administrative endeavor on July 15, replacing former law school dean, Kurt Schmoke, who stepped down in July 2012 to become Howard University's general counsel. Holley-Walker brings exceptional skills to the table, having taught at the University of South Carolina School of Law since 2005, where she has also served as associate dean for academic affairs for the past 3 years.

Holley-Walker's new leadership role at Howard University School of Law uniquely follows a family tradition of leadership in law school administration. Since 2010, Holley-Walker's father, our very own Danyne Holley, has served as dean of Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) since 2010 and has also taught at TMSL since the late 1970s. We won't call this simple happenstance, but instead, double accomplishments for both Daughter Danielle and Father Danyne!

Undoubtedly, Dean Holley-Walker is proud of the influence her Dad has had on her career thus far and Dean Holley is proud of his daughter's great achievements and success.

So, go ahead—take a break in your daily routine and drop by Dean Holley's office at TMSL or send him a quick email to wish his daughter, Dean Danielle Holley-Walker much success in her new career endeavor!

Dean Danyne Holley will be glad that you did.



Earl Carl Institute Launches its First Magazine



Since its inception, the Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy (ECI) has honored its commitment to research and scholarship. ECI has published various articles on education, civil/human rights, and criminal justice.

- Thurgood Marshall School of Law Innocence Project

Other highlights include:

- The Story of Professor Earl Carl
- About The ECI Founder Marcia Johnson
- Taking It To The Streets: TMSL's Street Law Program
- Indigent Defense: TMSL Innocence Project
- No BLACK Child Left Behind In Disproportionate School Disciplinary Actions
- Helping Children Today To Have a Better Future Tomorrow
- The 83rd Legislative Session: An Urban Perspective 83rd Legislature Highlights
- Working To Increase African American Wealth: The Opal Mitchell Lee Property Preservation Project

ECI's publications also include papers ranging from position papers, essays, law review articles, letters to editors, and an interdisciplinary journal. We are pleased to announce our latest publication titled ***Focus on Justice: An Urban Perspective***.

Focus on Justice: An Urban Perspective, launched in June 2014, is a vibrant publication that brings ECI's signature and core programs to life through words and pictures. It also provides in-depth updates on Institute activities over the last academic year and introduces ECI staff.

This new magazine is designed to highlight the work of the ECI on issues effecting urban and minority populations. The magazine contains various articles examining social issues having a disproportionate impact on minorities in various arenas including the criminal justice system, the juvenile justice system, and the economy.

The Magazine also highlights ECI's work on behalf of the community through its three free legal clinics:

- Opal Mitchell Lee Property Preservation Program
- ECI Juvenile Justice Disproportionate Minority Contact Project

Student development and policy advocacy activities are showcased in articles about the ECI Interdisciplinary Journal for Legal & Social Policy, the TMSL Street Law Program, the Texas Legislative Internship Program and Research/Writing/Policy Advocacy through the ECI Center for Government Law.

We hope you enjoy this inaugural publication. An e-version is available online at <http://www.tsulaw.edu/centers/ECI/publications.html>. Hard copies of the magazine are available on request by contacting ECI at 713-313-1139.



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Professor Fernando Colon-Navarro has been appointed to the SEALS International Committee.

Law Review in conjunction with LatCrit. In addition, on May 21, 2014, Professor SpearIt presented “Evolving Standards of Domination: A Case for Killing Doctrine and Reinterpreting Cruel and Unusual” at the Developing Ideas Conference at the University of Kentucky School of Law.

Distinguished Professor of Law James Douglas has been appointed to the SEALS Prospective Law Teachers Workshop.



Dean Dannye Holley was quoted in the June 2, 2014 issue of Texas Lawyer section entitled “Texas Law School Deans React to Scalia’s Ideas.”



Professor Cassandra Hill has been appointed to serve on the ABA site team for Santa Clara University School of Law. The team is chaired by Dean Nell Newton of Notre Dame Law School, and the site visit will occur on March 15-18, 2015. Professor Hill will fill the team’s clinician/skills position.

Professor Michael James’ article on comparative privacy law entitled *A Comparative Analysis of the Right to Privacy in the United States, Canada and Europe* was published in the Connecticut Journal of International Law.



Professor SpearIt has accepted a solicitation to contribute an article to a special symposium entitled “Critical Justice: Legal Frontiers in Theory, Society, and Praxis,” which will be published by *Chicago-Kent*





EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM



As an accomplished faculty member with the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, Director of Experiential Learning and Assistant Professor Stephanie Smith Ledesma, MA, JD, CWLS served as a member of a panel of distinguished, noted, national faculty for three

national trial skills training programs: Baker Botts Deposition Skills Program -held in Houston, Texas; the National Institute of Trial Advocacy National Public Service Trial Advocacy Skills Program for Attorney representing parties in Child Welfare Proceedings, hosted at Hofstra Law School in Hempstead, New York; and the Baker McKenzie Regional Trial Advocacy Skills training- held in Boulder, Colorado. The latter Baker McKenzie Regional Trial Advocacy Skills program was recognized by the Association of CLE Administrations for the 2014 ACLEA’s Best Awards - Award of Outstanding Achievement. The concepts employed by the program and the faculty members who taught the program are considered the best new teaching methods by the Continuing Legal Education industry. Professor Ledesma looks forward to implementing some of the same award winning teaching techniques and tools into TMSL’s Trial Simulation program in the Spring, 2015.

My name is **Demetrius Heath**. I'm a soon to be graduate of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. My time at Fe y Justicia has been a great experience. My day usually starts by looking at a case that I have been assigned. I check to see what the issue is and communicate with the client to see what are their



goals and expectations. Next, we build a consensus and proceed forward in seeking a remedy with the employer.

On a monthly basis, this organization stands before workers within this great city. They listen to the narratives of wage theft, working conditions and a variety of other issues. These narratives have presented a common theme. Hearing the stories of injustice drives you to work towards a solution on their behalf. The Fe y Justicia Worker Center is doing an important work within the city. They give a voice to the voiceless, even more hope to the hopeful, and educate workers on their rights. It's vitally important that workers who are an integral part of this great city, know about their rights. Theodore Roosevelt once said “No man is above the law and no man is below it.” That's the key to Fe Y Justicia rally cry. It's fundamental to the organization and the goal of what they are trying to achieve.

It's very humbling that I'm able to play a small part in this organization. *What motivates me is the simple idea that if it were my mother or father, sister or brother, how would I want them treated? That same level of respect that we want for the people in our lives, must be shown to others.* Because the people we help, the workers we talk to, are mothers, fathers, sisters, brother, sons and daughters.

This organization plays a bigger role in the context of history. The struggle for workers’ rights has been a storyline for the past two centuries. Each generation, there was a person or a group who stood up for workers and fought for their rights. From Samuel Gompers to Cesar Chavez, this organization has its place in history.

An American president said in so many words that when it's our time in history to act, we are only given a paragraph from the bigger picture. We must make that paragraph meaningful. What better way than to be an advocate of people who are doing the right thing? They only wish to continue to reach for the American dream.



OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

The Office of Career Services (“OCS”) assist and counsels law students toward their legal careers. It is strongly encouraged that all rising 2L and 3L students obtain summer employment. Even during this time of economic downfall, TMSL students have enjoyed many opportunities, both paid and unpaid, in summer legal employment. Below is a Snapshot of where some of our TMSL students are working this summer:

Reginald Wilson, 3L – Fulbright & Jaworski and CoatsRose

Olivia Haigler, 3L – U.S. Army JAG Program and U.S. Attorney’s Office

Alexia McWhinney – Fulbright & Jaworski and Shell

Chigozie Ezirike – Homeland Security Office of Citizenship and Immigration Services, DC

Mikeyia Dawkins, 2L – Harris County D.A.’s Office

Terrence Jewett, 2L – 125th Civil District Court

Dionne Moore, 2L – Harris County D.A.’s Office, Family Crimes Department

Ashley Bridges, 2L – Judge Benson, Dallas Civil Court

Aryele Maye, 2L – Mexican American Legal Defense Education Fund

Pamela Moreno, 2L – Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Houston – Galveston Crime Victims Program





ALUMNI NEWS

Thurgood Graduates on the Move

TMSL Alums Dominate Houston Top 50 Black Attorneys List



Living Legends

Judge Zinetta A. Burney
Anthony W. Hall, Jr.
Representative Senfronia Thompson

Community Heroes

Judge Hilary H. Green
Ronald C. Green

Super Trailblazer

Renee Byas

Super Attorneys

Tyrone C. Moncriste

Top Attorneys

Cedric D. Campbell
Tameika Carter
Wilvin J. Carter
Myron G. Davis
TaKasha L. Francis
Katrina Patrick Horton
L. Renée Lowe
Kevin A. Murray
James Q. Pope
Troy J. Pradia
Maja Scott
Robert L. Session, II
Dr. J. Thomas Smith



ALUMNI NEWS *(Cont'd.)*

Thurgood Graduates on the Move

TMSL Alum, Robert Collier Receives “Trailblazers Under 40” Award

Robert Collier will be honored with the Trailblazers Under 40 award during the National Bar Association’s 89th Annual Convention on July 26, 2014 in Atlanta, GA. The Trailblazers Under 40 Awards honors legal trailblazers who have achieved prominence



and distinction in their fields of endeavor — be it the practice of law, academia, business, civic and charitable affairs, the judiciary, or politics — and who have demonstrated a strong commitment to advancing the goals and mission of the National Bar Association.

Robert received his bachelor’s degree from Jackson State University and his Juris Doctorate from Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 2006. He currently serves as corporate counsel for PreCash, Inc. in Houston, Texas.

TMSL Alum, Dr. Royal P. Walker Appointed to President Obama’s National Council on Disability

Dr. Royal P. Walker, Jr., executive director of The University of Southern Mississippi Institute for Disability Studies, was appointed by President Barack Obama to the National Council on Disability (NCD), an independent federal agency that recommends disability policy to the Administration, Congress and other federal agencies.

Walker is one of three new members appointed to the agency and will serve a four year term with the NCD which includes a team of 15 Presidential appointees.



Dr. Walker stated that he was “honored to be appointed to the NCD, allowing me to particularly represent people with disabilities living in rural America,” he has served since 2008 as executive director of the Institute for

Disability Studies – Mississippi’s University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.

As IDS executive and associate director, Walker served on the Governor’s Interagency Coordinating Council for Children with Special Needs, the Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities, the American Task Force for the Homeless, and Chaired the Mississippi March of Dimes. He joined the IDS staff as associate director and instructor in 1992.

Walker is a past president of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Jackson State University and his Juris Doctor degree from Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University.



ALUMNI NEWS *(Cont'd.)*

Thurgood Graduates on the Move

TMSL Alum, Bridgette L. Williams selected as Assistant District Attorney of Jefferson County Texas

Assistant District Attorney **Bridgette L. Williams** took her oath of office before Judge John Stevens of Jefferson County's Criminal District Court. Stevens swore Williams in as District Attorney Cory Crenshaw's newest prosecutor



Monday, June 2. According to a press release, Williams beat out at least 70 other attorneys for the job.

Attorney Ricky Anderson Named Entertainment Attorney of the Year



The Houston Bar Association honored TMSL alum, Ricky Anderson with the award of Entertainment Attorney of the Year on June 10, 2014 at the Entertainment & Sports Law Sections' Awards Luncheon.

TMSL alum, Carol Guess, also received the HBA Entertainment & Sports Law Section's Chairman's Award.



Please join us in congratulating these two awardees.

Thurgood Graduates in the News

TMSL Alum & Professor of Law Samuel V. Jones Educates a Cook County Judge on First Amendment



Samuel Jones' constitutional rights were violated in "an oppressive Cook County courtroom," which was the title of his opinion published on May 16, 2014 in the *Chicago Tribune*. (www.chicagotribune.com) Jones was detained for 30 minutes for taking notes in the court room of Cook County

Judge Laura Sullivan on June.

On June 9, 2014, the *Chicago Tribune* published an article entitled "Judge Laura Sullivan, take note: A law professor schools a Cook County judge in the First Amendment." To view the article visit www.chicagotribune.com.

TMSL Alum, Julie Wenah Selected as an Ambassador to Nigeria

A 2012 graduate of Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law, **Julie**

Wenah is part of a trade group trying to deepen commercial ties between the United States and African markets. Wenah helped organize Pritzker's African trade missions, which features several Texas energy companies. Wenah came to the Office of General Counsel Department of Commerce last year after a White House stint working with first lady Michelle Obama.





ALUMNI NEWS *(Cont'd.)*

Thurgood Third Thursday at El Fenix in downtown Dallas, TX



Thurgood Third Thursday in June with
Judge Valencia Nash '99
Paul Blocker '99
Judge Ernie White '85
Nikayela Lockett '99
Georgeanne Walker '14
Jimmy Olivas '15
Albert Roberts '09
Vonda Bailey '14
Theo Peugh '96
Eric Durojoye '16
Idris Ashimi '13





UPCOMING EVENTS



STATE BAR OF TEXAS~TMSL ALUMNI & FRIENDS RECEPTION

June 26, 2014
5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Hilton Austin Hotel
Room 417A
500 East 4th Street
Austin, TX 78701

To RSVP please call 713.313.1197 or email anhines@tmslaw.tsu.edu

TEXAS

Thurgood Marshall School of Law NBA 89th Annual Convention Alumni & Friends Breakfast



DATE: Monday, JULY 28, 2014
LOCATION: ATLANTA MARRIOTT MARQUIS
ROOM A602
265 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE
ATLANTA, GA 30303
TIME: 7:30 AM



Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston Lawyers Association, Region V and Southern University Law Center Present

ABSOLUTLY ATLANTA
Vodka & Varsity

NBA 89TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2014
LOCATION: ATLANTA MARRIOTT MARQUIS
265 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE
ATLANTA, GA 30303
TIME: 8:00 PM – 12 MIDNIGHT





OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS 2014 SPRING EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE 2014

June 26th -27th

State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting

Location: Hilton Austin
500 East 4th St.
Austin, Texas 78701

June 26th

State Bar of Texas – TMSL Alumni & Friends

Reception

Location: Hilton Austin
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 pm

June 30th

Reception Honoring Top Rising 2L Students

Location: The Groove Restaurant
Time: 6:30 pm

JULY 2014

July 26th – August 1st

NBA 89th Annual Convention & Exhibits

Location: The Atlanta Marriott Marquis
Peachtree Center Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

For more information go to: www.nationalbar.org

July 28th

NBA 89th Annual Convention

Alumni & Friends Breakfast

Location: The Atlanta Marriott Marquis
Room A602
Peachtree Center Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Time: 7:30 am

July 29th

NBA 89th Annual Convention

Alumni & Friends Reception – Absolute-ly Atlanta!

Co-Sponsored by: Houston Lawyers' Association,

Southern Law Center & NBA Region V

Location: The Atlanta Marriott Marquis
Time: 8:00 p.m. - Midnight





JUNE BIRTHDAYS



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!



INSIDE THURGOOD NEWS REQUEST

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