DEAN HOLLEY VISITS ALUMS IN SAN ANTONIO & EL PASO

TMSL Alumni Judges Breakfast Held During the
2013 Texas Judiciary Conference in San Antonio, Texas
September 4, 2013

(From left to right) – Front Row Judge Patricia Chew, Judge Donald Floyd, Judge Jan Krocker, Dean Dannye Holley, Attorney William Shaw, Judge David Farr

(From left to right) – Back Row Judge Phyllis Lister, Judge David Canales, Judge Robert Anchondo, Judge Albert Garcia, Judge Jesus Garza, Judge Ben Morales, Judge John Ellison, Attorney Eric Hernandez Not Pictured – Judge Etta Mullin, and Assistant Dean Prudence Smith

Annual El Paso Painted Dunes Desert Golf Course Golf Classic
September 6, 2013
The tournament supports Dean Holley’s Foundation for the endowment.

Special thanks to Luis & Sandy Gutierrez and Joe Spencer

Sergio Saldivar, Santiago Hernandez, Tommy Carter, Luis Gutierrez, John Mimbela, Dean Holley, Joe Vasquez, Joe Spencer
ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

ATTORNEY RICKY ANDERSON : A GREAT REPRESENTATION OF TMSL

Houston Attorney Ricky Anderson honored by the Texas Bar Foundation

Mr. Ricky Anderson with Anderson & Smith P.C. has been elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows of the foundation are selected for their outstanding professional achievements and their demonstrated commitment to the improvement of the judicial system throughout the state of Texas. Election is a mark of distinction and recognition of Mr. Anderson’s contributions to the legal system.

Selection as a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation is restricted to members of the State Bar of Texas. Each year one-third of one percent of State Bar members are invited to become Fellows. Once nominees are selected, they must be elected by the Texas Bar Foundation Board of Trustees. Membership has grown from an initial 254 Charter Fellows in 1965 to more than 7,500 Fellows throughout Texas today.

The Texas Bar Foundation is the largest charitably-funded bar foundation in the country. Founded in 1965 by lawyers determined to assist the public and improve the profession of law, the Texas Bar Foundation has maintained its mission of using financial contributions of its membership to build a strong justice system for all Texans. To date, the Texas Bar Foundation has distributed more than $15 million throughout Texas to assist nonprofit organizations with a wide range of justice-related programs and services.

Attorney Ricky Anderson served as the keynote speaker for the Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers: 23rd Annual Scholarship Dibber. Anderson shared how much he was honored to be given this opportunity, especially in Wisconsin, were he was born.
The weather was hot and so was the 3rd Annual Ricky Anderson Celebrity Golf Classic. The tournament has generated over $9,800.00 in support of TMSL student scholarship and participation in the BESLA conference; all of which is a part of the Attorney Ricky Anderson Project. A surprise visit from TSU President, Dr. John M. Rudley was an unexpected treat for our golfers.

The Sports and Entertainment Law Society and the Law School would like to thank all of the alumni and friend support, particularly the golfers and this year’s sponsors:

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ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS
PHOTOS FROM ATTORNY RICKY ANDERSON GOLF TOURNAMENT
ALUMNI NEWS

TMSL ALUM, IMRANA MANZANARES NAMED NURSE ATTORNEY AT TEXAS’ OLDEST PERSONAL INJURY LAW FIRM, ABRAHAM, WATKINS, NICHOLS, SORRELS, AGOSTO & FRIENDS

(Houston, TX) Texas lawyer Imrana Manzanares, who has been with the firm of Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Friend since 2009, was recently been named the firm’s Nurse Attorney. Abraham Watkins is pleased to announce that Mrs. Manzanares will continue her legal career as the firm’s Nurse Attorney, working on both personal injury and medical malpractice suits.

Attorney Manzanares maintains an active personal injury practice, representing individuals and families who have been seriously hurt or who have lost a loved one due to the negligent or intentional wrongful conduct of another person or business.

As the firm’s Nurse Attorney, Mrs. Manzanares participates in most medical malpractice case handled by the attorneys of Abraham Watkins. Mrs. Manzanares pairs her background as a registered nurse with her legal education to provide an initial evaluation of all medical negligence cases presented to the firm. In this role, she has already reviewed more than a thousand potential medical malpractice cases.

Mrs. Manzanares will continue to work with personal injury claimants from the initial consultation all the way through trial. She will also continue to consult on all medical malpractice cases as they progress through litigation, as she is well-versed in the limitations placed on medical malpractice and their families by tort reform in Texas, and will fight for the highest possible recovery for each client in light of those reforms.

A graduate of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Mrs. Manzanares began pursuing her legal degree after working as an intensive care nurse at the Texas Medical Center. She earned her nursing degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch.

Please join the Houston law firm of Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Friend in congratulating Imrana Manzanares on her new position as an Associate Nurse Attorney. Her commitment to helping those who have been injured fully recover, both physically and financially, has made her a great fit for Abraham Watkins.
L-R: Elton Lester, deputy general counsel for housing programs at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Antoinette M. Jackson, director of the affordable housing and governmental relations sections at the law firm of Coats, Rose, Yale, Ryman & Lee; Carey Whitehead, attorney adviser for the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Community Planning and Development; Lauren Lyon-Collis, lawyer with Reno & Cavanaugh PLLC

Though Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy caused billions of dollars in damage, the disasters that can draw more federal aid are actually droughts, said Antoinette M. Jackson, director of the affordable housing and governmental relations sections at the law firm of Coats, Rose, Yale, Ryman & Lee.

They are unfortunately disasters that do not get the same kind of conversations or visibility brought to them,” Jackson said at the American Bar Association Forum on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Jackson, a member of the forum, said there have been 30 major disasters since Hurricane Sandy in 2012. “One of the concerns over the years has been the number of disasters are increasing,” she said. “Not because we have more disasters than we had in the past, but the political factors and other factors that go into the designation of a disaster, and so therefore they are on the rise.” Because of the rise in designations, federal agencies are working to ensure the response is the same for all disasters because historically they were handled in a “convoluted way,” Jackson said. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 established a system for the president to declare a disaster and activate financial and physical assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. “The Stafford Act brought together the first efforts to establish a framework,” Jackson added Carey Whitehead, attorney adviser for the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Community Planning and Development, said FEMA can now move quickly in a disaster because it has the authority to direct other agencies to act. Whitehead said the framework for disaster response has evolved significantly since Hurricane Katrina. She encouraged audience members to view key documents for National Preparedness Frameworks here. (http://www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks) “This panel is one that we wish we did not have to have,” said Elton Lester, moderator for the session and deputy general counsel for housing programs at HUD. “But as evidenced by the recent tornadoes in Oklahoma and other recent disasters, we can prepare ourselves — natural occurrences will be more forthcoming, frequent and ultimately devastating.”
Roberson King Professor of Law Deena Pollard Sacks has accepted an invitation to serve as the plenary speaker at the 75th annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations in San Antonio, Texas, on November 6, 2013.

Professor Craig Jackson discussed the latest U.S. Supreme Court cases on the PBS Channel 8 program, “Red White and Blue” on June 28, 2013, along with Professors Charles “Rocky” Rhodes of South Texas College of Law and Peter Linzer of University of Houston Law Center.

Professor Fernando Colon-Navarro has accepted an invitation to serve as a scholar in residence on U.S. and comparative immigration law at the law school of the Federal University of Ouro Preto in Brazil on October 9-13, 2013. He also accepted an invitation to give a talk in August to undergraduate students interested in attending law school as part of the Summer Law School Preparation Academy at the University of Texas San Antonio.
Associate Dean and Professor Asmara Tekle has accepted an invitation to serve as a panelist on associate deaning at the fourth biennial of the Promoting Diversity in Law School Leadership Workshop in Seattle, Washington, on October 11, 2013.

Professor Spearl has been selected to receive the 2013 Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU) Policy Impact Award for the impact that his groundbreaking research on Islam and radicalization in prisons has had on improving outreach and understanding of Islam and Muslims in prison. The Policy Impact Award will be presented to Professor Spearl on November 23, 2013, in Livonia, Michigan, at ISPU’s annual dinner.

Eugene Harrington Professor of Law Lupe Salinas was conferred an honorary degree from Houston Community College Southeast College in May 2013.

The Hispanic National Bar Association 38th Annual Convention was held in Denver, September 4-8, 2013. The Hon. Lupe Salinas, Professor of Law, participated with several jurists on a judicial panel entitled “Maximizing Courtroom Success: A Judicial Perspective.” The panelists also included U.S. District Court Judges Marina G. Marmolejo of Laredo, Texas, Esther Salas of New Jersey, and Nanette Brown, of Louisiana, the first African American female federal jurist in the state; Former Texas Supreme Court Justice, David Medina, and the moderator, the Hon. Jimmie Reyna, Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, in Washington, D.C. The panelists presented their perspectives and key insights on mastering written and oral advocacy skills. Most important, the panelists addressed the principal points of what makes for a persuasive motion or brief and the do’s and don’ts of arguing before the court. One personal comment which Judge Salinas shared with the audience is that an advocate should NEVER make the mistake of prefacing a comment to the jurist by stating, “If your Honor read the motion, you would see that ……” That could be the end of counsel’s ability to convince the judge in a case where the law could go either way.
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Texas Southern University’s
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ECI HIGHLIGHTS

THE EARL CARL INSTITUTE’S

“Creating a New Vision for Legal and Social Justice”

Legislative Changes on Handling School Discipline

The Earl Carl Institute continues its advocacy on improving how school discipline is handled in Texas. The ECI Juvenile Justice Project attorney, Mani Nezami was recently quoted in an article appearing in the Texas Tribune entitled “School Officers Can No Longer Issue On-Campus Citations”:

“Many students who face Class C misdemeanor charges come from low-income households and cannot afford to pay the fines, said Mani Nezami, an attorney at the Juvenile Justice Project, a Texas Southern University program that offers free legal services for students who face such charges. Most students do not even know they are allowed to have an attorney, he added. “There are some cases where a student could be facing up to a week in jail for something they did when they were in sixth or seventh grade,” Nezami said.

The article detailed some changes to Class C Misdemeanor School Ticket cases. Specifically, among other things, the new legislation “prevents school police officers from issuing citations for misbehavior at school, excluding traffic violations. Officers can still submit complaints about students, but it will be up to a local prosecutor whether to charge the student with a Class C misdemeanor.”

“If students are charged, prosecutors can choose to make students get tutoring, do community service or undergo counseling before they get sent to court. According to the Texas Supreme Court, roughly 300,000 students each year are given citations for behavior considered a Class C misdemeanor, including disruption of class, disorderly language and in-school fighting.”

To view the entire article visit [http://www.texastribune.org/2013/08/29/class-disruption-cases-head-principals-office-not/] (http://www.texastribune.org/2013/08/29/class-disruption-cases-head-principals-office-not/)

The Earl Carl Institute’s Juvenile Justice Project (ECI JJP) represents students charged with Class C Misdemeanor crimes in adult Justice of the Peace and Municipal courts. The project does not charge for its services and there are no income eligibility requirements.

For more information about the Earl Carl Institute and the Juvenile Justice Project, please visit the ECI website at www.earlcarlinstitute.org.
STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

TMSL WELCOMES NEW STAFF Member

Andrea Russell—Sr. Administrative Assistant-Legal

Andrea Russell is a native of Houston, TX and is a certified paralegal. Her qualifications include an Associate Degree of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies and she continues her studies in Criminal Justice Administration with the University of Phoenix. Her professional resume consists of 7 years of administrative experience in the public school setting with a strong background in public communications and 7 years of experience in the legal field with a major law firm.

Ms. Russell played a key role in the Annenberg Initiative for School Reform which involved breaking the barriers of isolation between school and community and giving parents a solid opportunity to take part in a multitude of activities. Moreover she was instrumental in developing partnerships and served as liaison between area businesses and schools providing mentoring opportunities and relevant resources for overall school success. Ms. Russell was very instrumental in improving school wide test scores by developing and implementing training classes where parents were educated on the TEA standardized testing requirements.

Employment Opportunities at Thurgood

- Network Administrator
- SR. Administrative Assistant—Legal
- Assistant Dean for Academic Support and Bar Readiness
- Assistant Dean of Institutional Advancement
- Office Administrator

To apply and for more information go to www.tsu.edu “Employment Opportunities”
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

FROM THE OFFICE OF SBA PRESIDENT GAVEN NORRIS

SBA SUPPORTS JACK YATES HIGH SCHOOL

An important value of the SBA’s ONE TMSL policy is outreach. During the first week of classes the SBA Community Outreach committee partnered with Jack Yates High School to host a supply drive for Jack Yates Students. The SBA’s Outreach Chairs, 2L’s, Nahom Tesfaselassie and Anjali Sharma, placed a three foot tall box in the law school’s lobby and for one week TMSL students place donated school supplies in the box. By the end of the week, the box was filled to the brim with school supplies, including paper, binders, notebooks, pens, pencils, and backpacks. TMSL students and faculty donated each of these items.

On the second day of school for Jack Yates students, Mr. Tesfaselassie, Ms. Sharma, and 3L Earl Latchely, carried the box from TMSL, across the street, to Jack Yates High School and presented the supplies to Jack Yates High School. The high school was extremely appreciative of the large donation by the Thurgood Marshall family and mentioned that the students at Jack Yates do need the supplies. Thank you to each member of the TMSL family who donated school supplies for Jack Yates High students. ONE TMSL!

TMSL STUDENT LEADERS HOST A LABOR DAY MIXER

Encouraging students to take a moment of relaxation and leisure, the SBA hosted a Labor Day Mixer for TMSL students Friday, August 30th, the Friday prior to Labor Day.

Under the SBA’s ONE TMSL Diversity and Inclusion guidelines, requiring that a minimum of four student organizations work together to host any social activity, the Black Law Student Association (BLSA), Hispanic Law Student Association (HLSA), Asian Pacific Law Student Association (APALSA), International Law Student Association (ILSA), Sport and Entertainment Law Society (SELS), and Women of Law at TMSL (WoL) combined efforts, planned, and hosted the Labor Day mixer. The SBA sponsored the event.

The organizations reserved the outside patio at the Celtic Garden restaurant on an evening where the weather was nice and the food was plenty. Well over 100 TMSL students attended the event, as well as, several TMSL alumni. Due to the diversity of the organizations hosting the event, the Labor Day mixer was one of the most diverse student events hosted by the SBA and student organizations in recent memory.
Saturday, September 7, 2013 was a day full of fun, unity, and giving back to the community, a perfect way to start the year. This past Saturday the Student Board Association along with leaders from the 19 law school organizations, met at the Hilton Garden Inn Galleria for leadership retreat which focused heavily on the SBA's ONE TMSL theme and included an interactive discussion of ways to improve our Law School, among other things. It was a morning of acquaintance among existing members, as well as an opportunity to meet the new faces and learn about the newly created positions on the SBA leadership team!

After a lunch full of laughs and good conversation, the real fun began! Students participated in a team building activity called "Wheels for the World". The student leaders formed teams and engaged in creative fun activities that ultimately lead to the unified goal of giving back to the community. Every team worked together to build bicycles that would be given to low income children. Along with building the bicycles, students worked on cards to convey an encouraging message to the children. The SBA coordinated with the Salvation Army to bring the children to the facility where the retreat was being held and each child received a bike built by all of the TMSL student organization leaders. The highlight of the evening was seeing the beautiful smiles of the children upon receiving the bicycles. It is always interesting to see how even the slightest of kind gestures can create an everlasting memory in the mind of a child. “It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.”

Many of the student leaders have asked that this activity be an annual tradition at TMSL. Another successful event for TMSL!
Why did you decide to attend law school?
I spent several years professionally advocating for children with disabilities. I had always hoped to return to school one more time. When the timing was right, I chose a career that would allow me expand my ability to advocate – from children to adults or companies and organizations.

As you thought about your educational and professional development, what interested you about working for judges?
You will find some of the most brilliant legal minds in the judiciary. I wanted to be around that. I also wanted to be around interns from other schools in order to see how my skills measured compared. Another reason was to refine my reading and writing abilities. In addition, the thought of being a judicial clerk after graduation interested me, and I thought this would be good way to expose myself to the life of a law clerk. Last, I wanted to make meaningful connections with the judges, clerks, and other interns. Connections that would benefit me personally and professionally.

What judges have you had an opportunity to work for? Tell us a little bit about those experiences?
My first summer, I interned for the Honorable Stephen Wm. Smith, who is a U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division. During my time in chambers, I became familiar with how the court handles a variety of pre-trial motions, and I was also able to get some research and writing experience. I learned a lot about the practice of law from our lunch conversations with the Judge. In addition, I got to observe other district judges in action, watch experienced attorneys in court, and observe each stage of a trial.

My second summer, I spent time as an intern for the Honorable Edith Jones, former Chief Judge of the 5th Circuit. This was an amazing experience for me. I got to directly get assignments and feedback from one of the most respected and admired judges on the Circuit level. Going to observe oral arguments in New Orleans was a unique opportunity for a law student. I also benefitted from working alongside outstanding judicial clerks. Interning for Judge Jones took my research and writing skills to another level.

Currently, I am an extern with the Honorable Judge Kenneth Hoyt, a U.S. District Judge and Thurgood alum, who sits in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas. I just recently started, but I know that this experience will be of great benefit to me. It will be my first time working for a district judge. Most litigation work takes place at this level, and I am fortunate to be learning from an experienced judge who is a role model and inspiration to many.

What skills have you taken away from your time as a judicial intern?
Far improved research and writing skills, which are very valuable to employers.
OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

Ruben Gandia: My Experience as a Federal Judicial Clerk

Tell us a little bit about the importance of networking in your job search?
Networking cannot be emphasized enough, especially if you can connect with judges and successful alums. Somebody once told me, "nobody says no to a federal judge." I do not know if that is entirely true, but I believe it is to a large degree. If you can get a recommendation from a judge, this will automatically set you apart from other applicants. Many alums are also willing to help. They know people that know people. In a tough job market, who you know may unfortunately be more valuable than what your resume says. Judicial internships are a great way to network because they easily put you in contact with judges, other students, attorneys, and current clerks. One of those persons may eventually play a major role in you getting an interview or job offer. And, if the traditional networking way does not fit your personality, find an alternative way to do it. It can be just as, or even more effective than "working the room" at some event.

What are your plans upon graduation?
After I graduate and take the bar, I will be one of the term clerks for the Honorable Jorge Solis, who sits in the U.S. Northern District of Texas, Dallas division. I feel blessed to have this opportunity and I am really looking forward to it. Having a judicial clerkship on your resume will tell employers that your legal skills have already been refined and developed outside the law school environment. A clerkship will also make you attractive to employers because law firms think that hiring former clerks adds to the prestige of their firm. In addition, clerkships can result in signing bonuses and higher starting salaries.

TMSL LAW STUDENTS INTERN AT THE DALLAS PUBLIC DEFENDER’S OFFICE

(Pictured: L-R Front Row, Paul Blocker, Irekka Clark, Back Row, Georgeann Wallen, Judge Valencia Nash, and unidentified TMSL student)
UPCOMING EVENTS—Attorney Ricky Anderson, Law School Awardee

Texas Southern University

2013 President's Gala

Friday, October 18, 2013
Reception 6:00 p.m. – Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Westin Galleria Hotel
5060 West Alabama
Houston, Texas 77002

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www.tsu.edu

Save the Date
You are Cordially Invited
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
proudly presents the
2013 Legal Legends Luncheon
Honoring TMSL Graduates from 1950-1969

Friday, October 18, 2013
TMSL Lobby
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

TMSL faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends welcome

RSVP by October 11, 2013
Prudence Smith - Assistant Dean of External Affairs
prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu  (713) 313-1142
September 18th
Purge of all unpaid course selections

September 18th
Satellite Counseling
Office of Career Services

September 18th-21st
Congressional Black Caucus
Location: Washington Convention Center
        Washington, DC
Time: 10:00am — 4:00pm

September 21st
D.C. Area TMSL & TSU Alumni Breakfast w/ Special Guest
Location: Grand Hyatt Washington—Penn Quarter A
        1000 H Street NW
        Washington, DC 20001
Time: 11:00a.m
RSVP: Office of External Affairs

OCTOBER

October 1st
Beyond OCI Program
Office of Career Services

October 2nd
Student Leaders’ Meeting— SBA
Location: TMSL
Time: 5-6pm

October 3rd
SBA Board Meeting
Location: TMSL
Time: 6pm

October 3rd & 4th
Law School Graduate Fair—Tennessee State University
Location: Tennessee State University
Time: 9:00 am — 3 pm each day

October 7th—11th
Mid-Term Examinations

October 10th
Asset Forfeiture—CLE
Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Time: 4:00pm—6:00pm
Cost: $50.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys
MCLE: 2.0
Ethics: .50
Register and pay online: www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration

September 28th (Saturday)
Law School Recruitment Fair—MIAMI
Location: Hyatt Regency Miami
        400 SE Second Avenue
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

HOME COMING REUNION 2013

EVENTS

Thursday, October 17, 2013
TMSL Annual Reunion Kick-Off Reception
5:30 pm—7:30 pm
Hotel ZaZa (11th floor Penthouse)
5701 Main St. Houston, Texas
Co-sponsored by: Ricky Anderson, Melvin Houston & TMSL

Family Law Best Practices—CLE
1:00 pm—4:00 pm
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Cost: $45.00 attorneys, complimentary non-attorneys & reunion classes
MCLE: 3.0  Ethics .50
Register & pay online at www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration

Friday, October 18, 2013
TMSL Alumni Board Annual Meeting
9:00 am—12:30 pm
Dean’s Conference Room

Welcome Back Reunion Classes
Legal Legends Luncheon
Celebrating TMSL Classes of 1950-1969
12:30 pm—2:00 pm
TMSL Lobby

Advanced Trial Practices—CLE
8:00 am—12:00 noon
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Cost: $45.00 attorneys, complimentary non-attorneys & reunion classes
MCLE: 4.0  Ethics 1.0
Register & pay online at www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration

Saturday, October 19, 2013
TMSL Annual Tailgate—Cookout & Cocktails
11:00 am—7:00 pm
TSU Pavillions

Law School Afterglow
7:00 pm—12 midnight
OUR Legends Cigar Bar
5312 Almeda Rd., Houston, TX 77004
Sponsored by: TMSL Alumni Board
INSIDE THURGOOD NEWS REQUEST

Please submit your news, events and announcements in email text or word documents to Prudence 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.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Jo Alridge 1st
- Virgie Mouton 4th
- Deola Shoyombo 10th
- James Beard 16th
- Itunu Sofidiya 18th
- Craig Jackson 21st
- Prudence Smith 23rd

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS