



# Thurgood TODAY



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

May 2016

## Dr. Austin Lane named sole finalist for 12th president of Texas Southern

Lane to take the helm of TSU in its 89<sup>th</sup> year as a premier HBCU

His plan will focus on student recruitment, enrollment and retention at Texas Southern



**HOUSTON (May 16, 2016)** – Dr. Austin A. Lane has been named the sole finalist to become the 12<sup>th</sup> president of Texas Southern University (TSU) by its Board of Regents. Lane plans to assume leadership of Texas Southern on or about June 7, 2016, after a Board vote. He replaces Dr. John M. Rudley, who has served as president since 2008.

Derrick Mitchell, chair of Texas Southern’s Board of Regents, said that Lane “embodies the skills necessary to position the University as a destination institution for those seeking an innovative learning process through a stellar curriculum.”

“The Board of Regents engaged in a dedicated and thorough search of outstanding candidates and Dr. Lane was clearly the right man at the perfect time in Texas Southern’s existence,” Mitchell said. “We look forward to receiving the benefit of his strong and progressive leadership to move TSU to the next level in higher education.”

Dr. Lane said, “I want to extend thanks to Regent Mitchell and the entire board for giving me the opportunity to serve Texas Southern University. I believe that we are positioned to take TSU to new heights.”

Dr. Lane said recruitment and enrollment are among his top priorities. He shared a 30-, 60- and 90-day plan with the board that addressed a detailed enrollment strategy. Dr. Lane also celebrated his 45<sup>th</sup> birthday on the day he was named to the top job at Texas Southern University.

Dr. Lane was managing seven campuses in the Lone Star system, with the smallest location educating 10,000 students. His plan for TSU includes strengthening student recruitment and enrollment, and focusing on retaining students through a four-year graduation plan. Another major priority is keeping TSU strong and independent, and maintaining its stature as a premier HBCU. Dr. Lane plans to maintain his passion for student academic productivity and growth, and wants to produce graduates who will be prepared for the global workplace at the point of graduation.

Lane will bring a strong academic and personal HBCU experience to his presidency at Texas Southern, including an undergraduate degree from Langston University, the only HBCU in Oklahoma. His father- and late mother-in-law both attended Texas Southern. Larry Williams, Lane’s father-in-law, was a TSU student alongside Mickey Leland, the esteemed late Texas congressman. Williams served as best man in Leland’s wedding.

*Reprint from TSU E-News NOW*



## Dr. Austin Lane named sole finalist for 12th president of Texas Southern *Cont'd.*

Lane and his wife, Loren, have three children, ages 19, 15 and 9. They are members of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church in Houston.

Dr. Lane was appointed Executive Vice Chancellor of Lone Star College in January 2015. He was the lead administrator for Academic Affairs, Student Services, Workforce Education, Corporate College, Honors College, International Programs, Strategic Planning and Assessment, and University Centers in The Woodlands and University Park, among a host of responsibilities. He served as the third president of Lone Star College-Montgomery for six years, leading an institution that experienced the fastest growth in Texas and the nation.

A native of New Jersey, Dr. Lane graduated from Hackensack High School and attended Odessa Junior College in West Texas on a basketball scholarship. He holds a B.A. in psychology from Langston University, M.A. in human relations from The University of Oklahoma, and Ed.D. in higher education administration from The University of Alabama.

Dr. Lane has been lauded as an innovator and visionary leader, and his career in higher education is marked by a variety of successive leadership roles and professional achievements. Before joining Lone Star College-Montgomery, Dr. Lane served as vice president for student affairs at Tyler Junior College and was responsible for directing a college-wide strategic enrollment management team that posted the largest enrollment in the school's history. He developed strategies to enhance the academic and student service reputation of the college. Prior to joining Tyler, he served as the dean of students at The University of Texas at Arlington and was instrumental in planning and overseeing several student success initiatives that were designed to increase enrollment and retention.

Dr. Lane was an adjunct professor in the higher education program at Sam Houston State University and served on the Masters in Higher Education advisory board for the College of Education at SHSU and doctoral advisory board for Southern Methodist University's College of Education. He was as an adjunct professor in the College of Education at The University of Texas at Arlington, in the Behavioral and Social Sciences department at Tarrant County College-Southeast Campus and in the higher education program at Sam Houston State University. He served as an on-site reviewer for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). He has conducted extensive research on traditional-age, low-income, African-American and Hispanic students in Texas that focuses on access to higher education, affordability, need-based vs. merit-based aid, college persistence, and student success.

His community work includes serving on the Amegy Bank Advisory Board, Montgomery County Women's Center Board of Directors, Rotary Club of The Woodlands and the Texas Diversity Council Board of Directors. He has previously served on the Montgomery County United Way Board as Campaign Chair 2011-12, The Woodlands Area Chamber of Commerce, Greater Conroe/Lake Conroe Area Chamber of Commerce,

Greater Conroe Economic Development Council, and Education for Tomorrow Alliance Board of Directors. He has been recognized as recipient of the 2015 Drum Major Award, 2014 Interfaith of The Woodlands Hometown Hero Honoree, and 2012 Pacesetter of the Year for the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

The board named Dr. Rudley as president emeritus and said he will serve as an adviser as long as Dr. Lane agrees.

### Table of Contents

Faculty Highlights	3
Staff News	5
Clinic and Institute News	6
Student Spotlight	9
Alumni Highlights	14
Upcoming Events	16
Ten Reasons to Support	19
Events Calendar	20



## 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 Jeffrey J. Minneti (a professor and director of the Academic Resource Center at Seattle University School of Law) in his Mitchell Hamline Law Review

article, *Work Drive Matters: An Assessment of the Relationship between Law Students' Work-Related Preferences and Academic Performance*, 42 Mitchell Hamline L. Rev. 150, 151, 178 (2016). In his work, Professor Minneti emphasizes, among other points, Associate Dean Hill's suggestion that "law schools should generate means to assess the extent to which students are investing themselves into their work." *Id.* at 178.

**Professor L. Darnell Weeden's**, *Introduction to the Race & Immigration Symposium*, 44 Ariz. St. L.J. 1, 2 (2012), was recently cited and quoted by Sarah Mourer, an Associate Professor of Clinical Legal Education at the University of Miami School of Law, in the Hofstra Law Review. Professor Mourer's article is entitled, *Believe It Or Not:*



*Mitigating the Negative Effects Personal Belief and Bias Have on the Criminal Justice System*, 43 Hofstra L. Rev. 1087, 1118 (2015). According to Professor Mourer's citation and reference to Professor Weeden's article, Professor Weeden contends, "An American criminal justice system that is unequal and practices racial bias violates the United States Constitution's Due Process Clause requirement for fairness and that of the Equal Protection Clause for racial equality."



**Professor Spearlt** recently published, *Sonic Jihad: Muslim Hip Hop in the Age of Mass Incarceration*, 11 Florida Intl. L. Rev. 201 (2015), [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2767194](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2767194).

An abridged version of this essay appeared in the winter volume of the Islamic Monthly Magazine, <http://theislamicmonthly.com/sonic-jihad/>.

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, he participated in a webinar sponsored by the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, entitled Integrating Experiential Learning in the Classroom, <http://shop.americanbar.org/ebus/ABAEventsCalendar/EventDetails.aspx?productId=241512880>.

Finally, Spearlt's work was cited in the book, Trauma-Informed Youth Justice in Canada: A New Framework toward a Kinder Future (Canadian Scholar's Press 2015), and he was quoted in "Muslims in Metro New York (part 3)—Muslim Minority,"

<https://globalgatesinfo.wordpress.com/2016/03/07/muslims-in-metro-new-york-part-3-muslim-minority/>.

**Professor Emeka Duruigbo** was selected as the "Faculty Member of the Year" by the African Law Student Association (ALSA). The award, which was conferred at ALSA's annual banquet held on April 15, 2016, was for Professor Duruigbo's "outstanding dedication and commitment to the Student Members of African Law Student Association & the Student Body of Thurgood Marshall School of Law." The association's president, Ms. Ola Otulana, wrote: "The people have spoken and realize that you are in our corner. I hope we have made you and the faculty proud and we hope you can continue to support the organization." Professor Duruigbo is deeply grateful to ALSA for the unexpected honor.



**Professor Ahunanya Anga's** article, *Jury Misconduct: Can Courts enforce A Social Media Free Process? We "Tweet," Not*, was cited by David W. Neubauer and Henry F. Fradella in their book *America's Courts and the Criminal Justice System*.





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*



**Professor Sally Green's** article, *Realistic Opportunity for Release Equals Rehabilitation: How the States Must Provide Meaningful Opportunity for Release*, 16 Berkeley J. Crim. Law 1 (2011), was cited by Attorney John B. Whiston in a trial brief filed in opposition to the defendants' Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss the plaintiff's claim for deprivation of constitutional rights. In the brief, Attorney Whiston relied on Professor Green's article and argued that the plaintiff "undoubtedly . . . [has] a right to a constitutionally mandated 'realistic opportunity to obtain release,' and the [d]efendants must respect that right." The citation to Professor Green's work may be found on Westlaw at 2014 WL 11352925.

**Associate Dean Cassandra Hill** and **Professor Katherine Vukadin's** book, *Legal Analysis: 100 Exercises for Mastery* (2012), was cited and discussed by John Murphy (Professor, Texas A&M University School of Law) in his article, *Teaching Remedial Problem-Solving Skills to a Law School's Underperforming Students*, 16 Nev. L. J. 173 (2015). In the article, Murphy highlights the development and success of his law school's required course for the bottom quarter of the entering 2L class, called *Art of Lawyering*, and he explains how the primary source for exercises used in the course is Associate Dean Hill and Professor Vukadin's legal analysis book. Specifically, Murphy writes, "Cassandra Hill and Katherine Vukadin's *Legal Analysis: 100 Exercises for Mastery* is an excellent source of ready-made problems. . . . [I]t forms the backbone for most of the course. . . . Without this resource, the professor would find it impossible to maintain a steady flow of exercises necessary for student success." The new second edition for the book will be published in 2017.





## STAFF NEWS

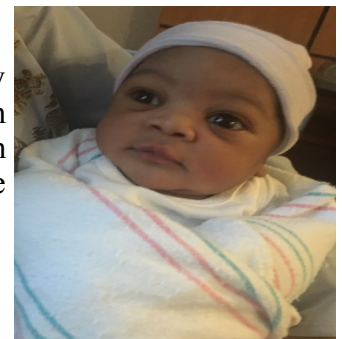
### PEARLY PENDENQUE APPOINTED TMSL'S OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR II



**Pearly Pendenque** assumed her new responsibilities as the TMSL Office Administrator II on Monday, May 2, 2016. Ms. Pendenque has worked in higher education for over 11 years where she served as Senior Administrative Assistant at Texas Southern University – Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL). In this role, Ms. Pendenque served as the senior administrative assistant for several associate deans (Tekle, Weeden and Aitsebaum) two Deans of the law school, current Dean Dannye Holley and previous Dean McKen Carrington. Ms. Pendenque is excited to take on her new role where she will supervise all of the TMSL administrative assistants and further assist the director of administration. Please join the TMSL family in congratulating Ms. Pearly Pendenque!

### Raqui Daniels Welcomes Healthy Baby Boy

**Mrs. Raqui Daniels**, Coordinator of Admissions for Texas Southern University – Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL), welcomed a healthy baby boy on Mother's Day! Delano J. Daniels, Jr. weighed 7 pounds and 18 ounces. Both mom and baby are doing well and resting. Please join the TMSL family congratulate Raqui and her husband on their newest addition to their family.





## CLINIC and INSTITUTE NEWS

### “Lunchroom Lunacy”: Investigative Report Prompted by an ECI Case ~ The Lunch Line to Prison Pipeline

**When you think of felony forgery your thoughts might turn to Al Capone or Bonnie and Clyde shooting it out with the Texas Rangers, according to ABC13 reporter Ted Oberg.**

The Earl Carl Institute’s Juvenile Justice Project Staff Attorney, Mani Nezami was interviewed by Ted Oberg on “Ted Oberg Investigates” for ABC 13 KTRK regarding incidences in which local elementary and middle school students are being charged with felony forgery. The charges arose out of situations where students were allegedly using counterfeit money for the purchase of lunch in the school’s cafeteria.



Nezami represents a 13 year old student facing prison for passing off a fake \$10 bill to Cook Middle School in the Cy Fair ISD. If convicted, the student could face two to ten years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$10,000. This childish act is punishable to the same extent as possession of five to 50 pounds of marijuana which is also a third degree felony. Nezami was quoted in saying about the case:

“The friend pulls out a \$10 bill and his friend thinks that it is real, so they get to the lunch line... he buys his lunch with it, takes his lunch and goes and eats it. After school, officials did the forgery test and realized it was a fake \$10 bill. He comes to school the next day and he gets arrested and charged with a third degree felony. He’s in seventh grade and doesn’t handle money that much. They put him in handcuffs. They put him in a police car, the whole bit.”



Due to the investigation the case was ultimately dropped. However, this student had been sent to an alternative school while the case was being investigated even though the student had never caused any problems at school and made good grades.

This trend of over-criminalizing students for behaviors that occur at school is alarming for a host of reasons but primarily because the students who are prosecuted in this manner are disproportionately African American and Hispanic youth. Many of these students qualify for lunch assistance resulting in reduced cost or free lunch. ECI’s client couldn’t be alleged to have laundered money as he put his change on his lunch books for future lunches.



Oberg, through his investigation of these incidences did not find a single white student who was being prosecuted in the Cy Fair ISD. This over-criminalization of African American and Hispanic students was illustrated through the review of Cy Fair ISD’s police reports in which ABC13 found five students were listed as Black, three students investigated were listed as Hispanic and the remaining reports did not list the students race or reported the race as “E”.





## CLINIC and INSTITUTE NEWS

The long-term impact of criminalizing students can be devastating. For instance, a charge of forgery is a 3rd degree felony in Texas. If found guilty, students can be sentenced to significant jail time or probation. Regardless, a felony arrest or conviction has to be reported for the rest of a person's lifetime. Juveniles can have their records expunged but it is not automatic and there are steps that must be taken in order to achieve that result.

The link to the investigative report can be found here: <http://abc13.com/news/lunchroom-lunacy-isd-cops-investigate-fake-money/1314203>



**EARL CARL INSTITUTE  
JUVENILE JUSTICE PROJECT**

***About the Juvenile Justice Project:*** The Earl Carl Institute's Juvenile Justice Project (JJP) addresses the issue of disproportionate minority contact, through a holistic approach, by providing legal representation to children who are in multiple systems including the criminal justice system, disparate educational systems, the mental health system and foster care system. The project currently has the following three components: (1) representation (2) training for community organizations and attorneys involved in these systems, as well as policy advocacy through education for lawmakers, and (3) participation in impact litigation.

The project provides information to the legislators, schools, and the larger community about the long term effects on students that stem from criminalizing ordinary school misconduct.

The project is supervised by a licensed attorney who oversees all aspects of the cases with the assistance of Thurgood Marshall School of Law students. It offers TMSL students the opportunity to serve as student attorneys, who conduct client interviews, develop case strategies, conduct investigations, gather evidence, prepare pleadings and represent individual juveniles. This project has no income qualifications. The project was awarded an Equal Justice Works Fellow to oversee the representation through August 2016.





## CLINIC and INSTITUTE NEWS *Cont'd.*

### Criminal Law Clinic News



Criminal Law clinic students, **Shane Sanders** and **Chris Godine** secured a “NOT GUILTY” verdict from a 6 person jury in CCL#14. The client was charged with a Class A misdemeanor and faced punishment up to 1 year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

The client had a prior felony conviction for tampering with a government document. Shane and Chris argued that the police overreacted AND abused their authority.

This victory is shared by ALL OF US. The clinic especially thanks the Mock Trial Coaches- Valerie Jewett, Leticia Quinones and Dyan Owens. In addition, Professor Marcia Johnson for allowing the clinic students to practice Voir Dire with her Professional Responsibility class. The jurors spoke to the students afterwards and asked for their “business”.

### Criminal Law Clinic Participates in Job Fair



Criminal Law Clinic participated in 2nd Chance Job Fair hosted by City Council Member Dwight Boykins on May 9, 2016 at George R. Brown Convention Center.

**Professor Lydia D. Johnson** and TMSL Alum, Dyan Owens provided information to citizens on whether they were eligible to get their criminal history expunged.

### IIIL Director Duruigbo & Students Attend AIPN Summit



Professor Duruigbo (center) with AIPN TMSL student chapter executives: L-R Paola Ardila, Denisse Miller and Dana Nazarova

The Institute for International and Immigration Law (IIIL) and the AIPN Student chapter at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law participated in the 2016 International Petroleum Summit hosted by the Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN) in The Woodlands, TX on May 9-12, 2016. The summit attracted participants and speakers from across the world, including James A Baker III, 61<sup>st</sup> United States Secretary of State, who delivered a keynote speech on May 10. Participation in the summit enhances IIIL’s energy law and practice focus and positions the institute to attract potential collaborators for programs under IIIL’s International Energy Project. AIPN is the preeminent global organization for oil and gas professionals, including engineers, geologists, economists, lawyers and commercial experts. Professor Duruigbo is a member of AIPN’s Educational Advisory Board.





## STUDENT NEWS

### CONGRATULATIONS TO TMSL 2016 GRADUATES

Texas Southern University – Thurgood Marshall School of Law held its annual Hooding Ceremony on Friday, May 13, 2016 at the HP&E building on the campus of Texas Southern University. Family and friends celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of the TMSL Class of 2016. **SBA President and former TSU Student Regent, Dominique Calhoun** delivered the invocation. **Assistant Dean, Virgie L. Mouton** acknowledged our special guests and further recognized the TMSL Alumnus of the Year, **Dr. James M. Douglas**. **Dean Dannye Holley**, 2016 Valedictorian, **Monica Lopez** and **Professor Anya Anga** gave reflections, identifying the uniqueness of the Class of 2016 and further challenging the class to continued success. The Hooding address was presented by TMSL alum, the **Honorable Leslie King, Associate Justice, District 1 Mississippi Supreme Court** who delivered an inspiring speech to the Class of 2016.

Judge King emphasized to the class the importance of building their professional reputation now and the need to remember its importance throughout their legal careers.





## STUDENT NEWS

### ~THE CLASS OF 2016 HONOR GRADUATES~

#### SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Monica Lopez

***VALEDICTORIAN***

Belinda Ertel

***SALUTATORIAN***

Roben West

***SALUTATORIAN***

Felton, Taylor

Okpiabhele, Ekata

Hasting-Smith, Pilar

Pinkard, Leah

#### MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Calhoun, Dominique

Rivera, Ismael

Herron, Nicole

Stagg, Sedrick

Meredith, Treshaun

Tamayo, Newton

Nazarova, Dana

Tatum, Dontrey

Parker, Rebecca

Wallace, Belashia

Potvin-Green, Brittany

#### CUM LAUDE

Abila, Jubaile

Garza, Jay

Malagon, Donald

Ayinde, Akeem

Goolsby, Christine

Merida, Latoya

Barrera, Alexandria

Greenbaum, Amy

Olayiwola, Omoniya

Broussard, Judah

Halliburton, Brittani

Powell, Jasmyn

Caltabiano, Anna

Hamilton-Paul, Cornell

Richardson, Whitney

Caudill, June

Hernandez, Ricardo

Robbins, Paul

Charlton, Cecilia

Jaramillo, Roberto

Shah, Pritesh

Cogbill, Zarinah

John, Conrad

Shaw, Juliana

Compton, Laurin

Johnson, Stacy

Swords, Kevin

De Luna, Daniel

Kane, Jeffery

Ugues, Evette

DeHart, Ashley

Leyba, Marvin

Welch, Kiera

Gbassinga, Aude

Loethen, Glenn

Wells, Stacey



## ~THE 2016 GRADUATES~

Names on this program do not constitute the official list of graduates.  
Graduation is subject to completion of all requirements

Abila, Jubaile	Foster, Shalonda	McCline, Lakia'	Ravin, Jeron
Ayinde, Akeem	Fuentes, Alejandro	McCoy, Sonja	Rendon, Wallace
Barrera, Alexandria	Garcia, Alfredo	McGriff, Keidra	Rice, Jarvis
Berain, Ana	Garner, Roderick	McPherson, William	Richardson, Whitney
Betancourt, Damaris	Garza, Jay	Mendez, Albert	Rivera, Ismael
Bourda, Matthew	Gault, Pearl	Mendoza, Victoria	Rivera, Reyna
Bridges, Ashley	Gbassinga, Aude	Meredith, Treshaun	Robbins, Paul
Broussard, Judah	Glascoe, Teresa	Merida, Latoya	Robinson, Kristin
Brown, Anthony	Godine, Christopher	Miller, Jason	Rodgers, Roderick
Brown, Ernest	Goolsby, Christine	Miranda, Kristi	Rodriguez, Jose
Brown, Woodrow	Greenbaum, Amy	Miri, Ghizal	Russo, Elpatrick
Calhoun, Dominique	Halliburton, Brittani	Missick, Sasha	Salinas, Jacob
Caltabiano, Anna	Hamilton-Paul, Cornell	Moore, Dionne	Sanders, Shane
Caudill, June	Hasting-Smith, Pilar	Moreno, Pamela	Santiago, Synthia
Charlton, Cecilia	Hernandez, Ricardo	Nash, Aisha	Shah, Pritesh
Chicas, Jessica	Herrera, Eunice	Nazarova, Dana	Shaw, Juliana
Clark, Phillip	Herron, Nicole	Nguyen, Mike	Sims, Trenton
Cogbill, Zarinah	Hinojosa, Kriselda	Nickleberry, Brittney	Soleja, Sahrish
Compton, Laurin	Hoffeld, Jayne	Nolan, Mariah	Stagg, Sedrick
Cooks, Jasmine	Hurtado, Michelle	Okpiabhele, Ekata	Swords, Kevin
Corbett, Chloe	Ibe, Crystal	Olayiwola, Omoniyi	Tamayo, Newton
Cornejo, Anthony	Isaac, Eboni	Omwirhiren, Cyril	Tatum, Dontrey
Cuellar, Alfonzo	Jaramillo, Roberto	Orellana, Heidy	Thomas, Sokoiya
Curtis, Evan	Jewett, Terrance	Otulana, Olasumbo	Thompson, Erica
Dandridge, Kimbrelly	John, Conrad	Parker, Rebecca	Thompson, Jana
Davis, Katrina	Johnson, Stacy	Payter, Phillip	Tizeno, Ashley
De Luna, Daniel	Kane, Jeffery	Perez, Jonathan	Toledo, Dulce
DeHart, Ashley	Khalil, Amenah	Phillips, Kyle	Tostado, Paola
Durojaiye, Eric	Lara, Kaitlin	Pinkard, Leah	Ugues, Evette
Duru, Aдаugo	Leyba, Marvin	Pitts, Cedric	Uribe, Elizabeth
Dvizac, Aljosa	Limon, Thomas	Polendo, Claudia	Vaughn, Daniel
Egharevba, Natasha	Loethen, Glenn	Porter, Courtney	Villalpando, Gustavo
Eiland, Roosevelt	Loetzerich, Derek	Potvin-Green, Brittany	Wallace, Belashia
Ertel, Belinda	Lopez, Monica	Powell, Jasmyn	Watts, Chelsey
Favela-Sanchez, Claudia	Malagon, Donald	Quijano, Roberto	Watts, Susan
Felton, Taylor	Mandujano, Fernando	Ramirez, Brittany	Welch, Kiera
Flores, Moises	Marionneaux, Todd	Ramirez, Juan	Wells, Stacey
Florez, Matthew	Martinez, Natasha	Ramos, Ashley	West, Roben





# STUDENT NEWS

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

### MY STORY



**Your Name:** Matthew W. Bourda  
**TMSL Graduating Class of:** Class of 2016  
**Place You Call Home:** Houston, Texas  
**Undergraduate Institution:** Tulane University  
**Your undergraduate major:** BA Political Science  
**Name of Graduate School:** n/a  
**Graduate Degree:** n/a

**What Jobs/Internships/Externships have you obtained while at TMSL?**

Intern, Baker & Associates, LLP  
 Judicial Intern, 309th Family District Court for the Honorable Sheri Dean (present)  
 Judicial Intern, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas with the Honorable Jeff Bohm  
 Judicial Intern, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas with the Honorable Kenneth M. Hoyt (twice)  
 Law Clerk, U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Texas

**What awards, scholarships, organizations, or extracurricular activities have you been involved with while attending TMSL?**

Editor-In-Chief of the Thurgood Marshall Law Review (2015-2016)  
 Thurgood Marshall School of Law Ambassador  
 The Garland Walker Inn of Court  
 Houston Area Young Bankruptcy Lawyers (HAYBL)—student member  
 Houston Young Lawyers Association (HYLA)—student member  
 CALI Award for highest grade received in Domestic Relations  
 Deans List for Fall 2015

**What community service or pro bono activities have you been involved with while attending TMSL?**

Toy Drive and Masquerade Ball program hosted by the Thurgood Marshall Law Review and Law Journal  
 Habitat For Humanity build with the Law Review in conjunction with the Houston Bar Association

**YOUR STORY: (In one or two paragraphs tell why you decided to enroll in law school and why you decided to attend TMSL. Also discuss your career plans and/or employment opportunities upon graduation law school).**

I decided to attend Thurgood Marshall because I knew this school would help me attain my dream of becoming an attorney. While I still have the bar exam to conquer, I know that my education at this institution will prepare me well. My internship opportunities have given me some of the most valuable skills to prepare me for practice in the law. The most important trait that I learned is to be humble and always remember where you came from. That no matter what position or what job you obtain, that you should appreciate those before you who made it possible. Upon graduating, I plan to start my legal career in bankruptcy and I will use the tools that Thurgood Marshall has given me to obtain that goal.



## STUDENT NEWS

### TMSL FEBRUARY BAR RESULTS IMPROVE

Please join Dean Dannye Holley, Assistant Dean Marsha Griggs and the TMSL family in congratulating all of our students and alumni on their bar exam success!

Our successful bar examinees for the Texas February 2016 exam are:

Linda Aguilera  
Ana Berain  
David Caraway  
Anthony Cornejo  
Larandol Cowart  
Jennifer Crawford  
Larry Evans  
Theressa Ford  
Cynthia Goble

Debbie Hernandez  
Ebony Isaac  
Monica Ishak  
Caroline Island  
Mathilde Kamin  
Consuelito Martinez  
Brian McDonald  
Maritza Menjivar  
Charles Miller

Rebecca Parker  
Brittany Potvin-Green  
Richard Quiroz  
Ismael Rivera  
Jose Rodriguez  
Jacob Salinas  
Anjali Sharma  
Trenton Sims  
Alzadia Spires

Kyle Strange  
Dontrey Tatum  
Nahom Tesfaselassie  
Paola Tostado  
Kelly Tram  
Celia Vasquez

### TMSL LOOKING FOR BAR COACHES

The TMSL department of Academic Support and Bar Readiness is looking for a select number of TMSL alumni to assist our bar passage efforts by serving as bar coaches to our July 2016 bar takers. Please contact Dean Griggs if you are willing to serve. The time commitment can be minimal. Ideally the coaches will reach out to their assigned advisees via email and make themselves available to offer support and encouragement. Contact Dean Marsha Griggs (713) 313-1366 or [magriggs@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:magriggs@tmslaw.tsu.edu).

Together we can reach new milestones in bar outcomes!!





ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS  
IN MEMORIAM



*Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Texas Southern University  
Memorial Resolution*

*Presented*

*In Memory of The Honorable Phyllis Lister Brown*

*WHEREAS,* The Honorable Phyllis Lister Brown, a proud mother of her only daughter, enriched the lives of her family and friends who will remember her fondly as a caring, distinguished and loving individual; and

*WHEREAS,* The Honorable Phyllis Lister Brown, a member of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Class of 1986 will be fondly remembered by her law school classmates not only as an excellent student but also as one of the first members of their class to be elected to serve as member of the judiciary; and

*WHEREAS,* The Honorable Phyllis Lister Brown served Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law in multiple capacities, including her leadership and mentoring young attorneys, participation in CLE programs, and fundraising for the law school in the Dallas area; and

*WHEREAS,* We extend to The Honorable Phyllis Lister Brown’s family the University and Law School’s condolences and profound pride in being afforded this opportunity to convey our gratitude for a very good woman who made a difference for multiple communities, and who immensely enriched TSU and TMSL.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that, on behalf of the Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law family, we remember and honor The Honorable Phyllis Lister Brown for her outstanding achievements and dedicated service.

May 26, 2016

Danyce Holley  
Dean & Professor of Law





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

### TMSL Alum, The Honorable Hank Johnson Receives Honorary Doctorate



The Honorable Hank Johnson (TMSL C/O 1979) received an honorary Doctor of Laws (LL.D) degree from Clark Atlanta University on May 16, 2016. Clark Atlanta President, Ronald Johnson, former Dean of the Texas Southern University School of Business, presented Representative Hank Johnson with this honor during the university's commencement. Representative Johnson received his degree in Political Science from what was formally known as Clark College in 1979. He has served the state of Georgia since he graduated from Thurgood Marshall School of Law. He served as a defense attorney, former judge and county commissioner. However, Rep. Johnson has represented the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Georgia since 2007. Please join the TMSL Family in congratulating the Honorable Hank Johnson on this honor.

### Governor Abbott Appoints TMSL Alum James Hicks as Taylor County D.A.

James Hicks, TMSL Class of 1983, was appointed as the Taylor County District Attorney on Friday, April 29, 2016. Hicks previously served as the assistant district attorney for the Taylor County District Attorney's office and was the chief prosecutor for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District court in Taylor county. Hicks was quoted in the Abilene Reporter News stating that he "...will protect and serve the community with every pulse of my heart...(w)ith the mind of promoting justice, I will maintain the integrity of not only my office, but the people that work with me, to see that justice is served..." Hicks will serve in this role until the November 2016 general election. Please join the TMSL Family in congratulating James Hicks on this achievement!



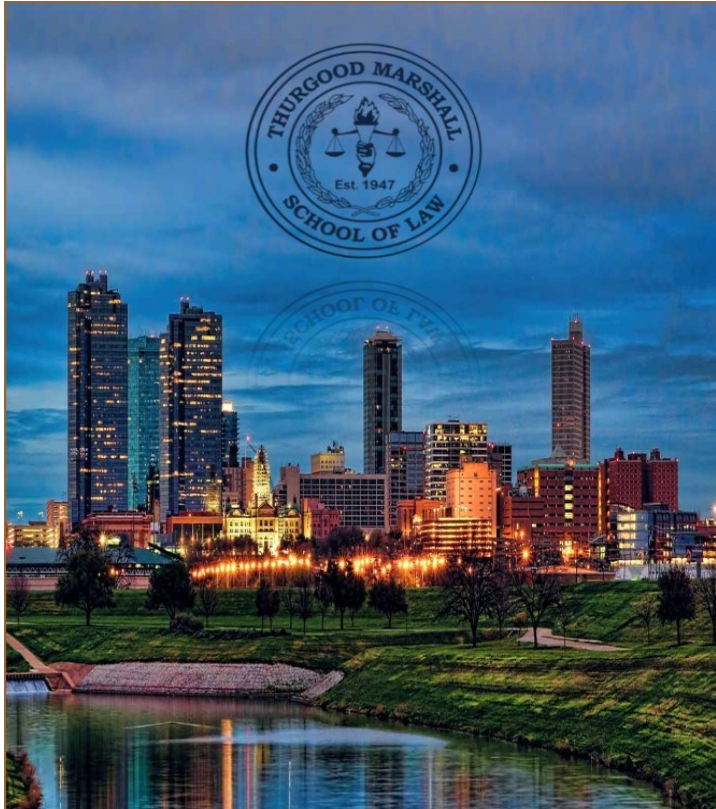
### TMSL Alum, Loranzo Fleming Receives Distinguished Service Award



Loranzo Fleming, TMSL Class of 2000, was the recipient of the *Distinguished Service Award* at the 2016 Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon for the Atlanta Bar Association on May 24, 2016. Fleming, an attorney at the United States Attorney's Office – Greater Atlanta Area, received this honor for his remarkable accomplishments as a member of the Equal Justice in Law Enforcement committee.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### State Bar of Texas TMSL Alumni & Friends Reception

**Thursday, June 16, 2016**  
**Omni Fort Worth**  
**Texas I Room**  
**1300 Houston Street**  
**Fort Worth, TX 76102**  
**5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.**

Please R.S.V.P. [prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu)

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

*"Meet Me in St. Louis"*

**Alumni & Friends Reception**

Date: TBA  
Time: TBA

**NBA 91st Annual Convention**  
**TMSL Alumni & Friends Breakfast**

Wednesday, July 20, 2016  
7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

**Marriott St. Louis Grand**  
**800 Washington Ave.**  
**St. Louis, MO 63101**

Save the Date







UPCOMING EVENTS *Cont'd.*

**ReMember  
the Times**

**October 17-22, 2016**

**TSU**  
**TEXAS SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY**  
**Homecoming  
2016**

Visit [www.tsu.edu](http://www.tsu.edu) for  
Upcoming Calendar  
and Information

*And please do not forget to  
update your information in  
our database: Name, Address,  
Phone Number and Email. Also  
remember to share your news  
and information with us about  
achievements, accomplishments  
and engagements.*

**Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
*in conjunction with Texas Southern University Homecoming*



The classes that will participate are  
1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, and 2006, 2011



**THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW**

3100 Cleburne Street, Houston, Texas 77004

**SAVE THE DATE**





## We Are ECI

*Creating a new vision for legal & social justice*

*Because truth matters: Freeing the Innocent*

*Helping Children Today to Have a Better Future Tomorrow*

*Taking it to the streets: TMSL Street Law Program*

**Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Legal  
& Social Policy: The Bridge**

*Increasing wealth through homeownership*

**Advocacy through academic and grassroots efforts**

*Creating opportunities to promote policy changes*

**Student Development**

**Reducing disproportionality & disparity**

*Serving the community*

*Educational programming*

**LEGENDS AND LEADERS**

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**The Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy, Inc.**

**[www.earlcarlinstitute.org](http://www.earlcarlinstitute.org)**

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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

**On-line Registration for ALL TMSL CLEs:** Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law

### June 2016

**June 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>**

**State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting**

Location: Omni Fort Worth  
1300 Houston Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

**June 16<sup>th</sup>**

**State Bar of Texas - Alumni Reception**

Location: Omni Fort Worth  
Texas I Room  
1300 Houston Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102  
Time: 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**June 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Bar Workshops- OAS**

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law

### July 2016

**July 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**NBA 91st Annual Convention & Exhibits**

Location: Marriott St. Louis Grand  
800 Washington Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63101

For more information go to: [www.nationalbar.org](http://www.nationalbar.org)

**July**

**NBA 91st Annual Convention**

**Reception**

**Co-Sponsored by: TMSL, Southern Law Center, Houston Lawyers' Association & Region V**

Location: Marriott St. Louis Grand  
800 Washington Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63101  
Time: TBD

**July 20<sup>th</sup>**

**NBA 91st Annual Convention**

**Alumni & Friends Breakfast**

Location: Marriott St. Louis Grand  
800 Washington Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63101  
Time: 7:00 a.m.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Law School Recruitment Fair- Washington, D.C.**

Location: Omni Shoreham Hotel  
2500 Calvert Street  
Washington, DC 20008  
Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**July 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>**

**TX Bar Exam**





## May Birthdays



<b>Rita Johnson</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>DeCarlous Spearman</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Peter Marchetti</b>	<b>18th</b>
<b>Lucinda Daniels</b>	<b>31st</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”*