



THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

MARCH—APRIL 2020

Message about Covid19 from TMSL

As everyone can imagine the Coronavirus has affected and impacted all of us in a variety of ways. TMSL is no different. During these unprecedented times TMSL has made the difficult decision to continue operations remotely. It is important that we remain calm and diligent under this new normal and that we continue to operate with integrity and excellence. Classes for students are being held at their normal times via online instruction and students are expected to attend classes regularly in accordance with TMSL's Attendance Policy.

The outbreak of the Coronavirus has made it necessary for TMSL to suspend some of our most honored traditions. For the safety of our students, their families, our faculty, and staff there will be no formal hooding ceremony held for the Spring 2020 graduates. This was a difficult but necessary decision to make. Although we will not hold the ceremony, everyone should let our graduates know how incredibly proud of them we are and try to lift their spirits as they finish up their studies and prepare to take the bar. The Coronavirus has also impacted some of our students financially. We ask that you please remember them during this time and give what you can. A donation can be made at:

<https://giving.tsu.edu/professor-constance-fain-student-emergency-fund/>

During this uncertain time it is easy to become anxious about things that we see and hear. We encourage you to take care of your mental health and to check stories you hear for facts and accuracy. TMSL will communicate any critical changes to everyone as soon as we can. We should all follow the directives issued by the county and state, stay safe, and remember that TMSL is strong and we will get through this, together!



YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE FROM
THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS * ASSISTANT DEAN PRUDENCE SMITH

EMAIL: prudence.smith@tmslaw.tsu.edu * (713) 313-1197 * 3100 Cleburne Street, Houston, Texas 77004 *



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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

2020 TMSL Alumni Board

TSU

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Thurgood Marshall School of Law

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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI BOARD



*Valerie Baston-Sutton c/o 1997
Baston Law, P.C.*



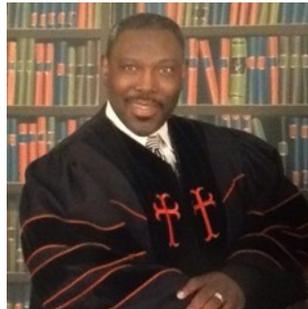
*Rodney Beard, Jr. c/o 2001
Beard & Parks PLLC*



*E. Leon Carter c/o 1986
Carter Arnett PLLC*



*Peter Clarke, Jr. c/o 1996
Clarke & Associates, Attorneys at Law*



*Hon. George Collins c/o 1980
Ret. Associate Judge, Dallas County
1st Administrative Judicial Region*



*Terry Daniels c/o 1987
Terry E. Daniels Law Office*



*TaKasha Francis c/o 2003
Director of the Dept. of Neighborhoods
City of Houston*



*Sandra Weber Fullerton c/o 1988
Sandra Weber Fullerton
Law Office*



*C. Gibson c/o 1999
Sr. V.P./General Counsel
Sunrise Energy Holdings LLC*



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MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI BOARD CON'T.



Hon. Nikita Harmon c/o 1990
State District Judge 176th District Court
Harris County



Barbara Hudson c/o 1983
Law Office of Barbara Jackson Hudson



Ron Hurdle c/o 1994
Law Office of Ronald B. Hurdle



Rodney Jones c/o 2011
Rodney Jones Law Group PC



Imrana Manzanares c/o 2006
Nurse Attorney
Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels,
Agosto, Aziz, & Stogner



Kenyon Moore c/o 2009
Interim Director for Admissions
TMSL



Melissa Osio-Martinez c/o 1999
Gault, Nye, & Quintana LLP



Johnny Papantonakis c/o 2000
Roberts Markland LLP



Hon. Derrick Reed c/o 2007
Stephens Reed & Armstrong PLLC



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MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI BOARD CON'T.



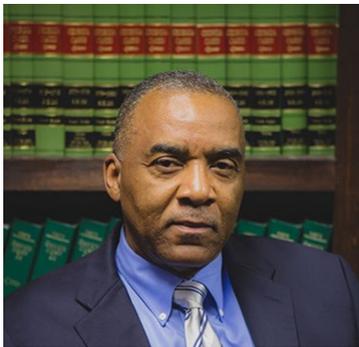
*Chiquia Roberson c/o 2007
Roberson Law Firm PLLC*



*Hon. Rick Rodriguez c/o 1999
District Attorney
Hidalgo County District Attorney's Office*



*Michael Sterling c/o 2007
Dreyer Sterling LLC*



*Graylin Ward c/o 1985
Ward Law Office*



*Hon. Kirk Willis c/o 1988
The Willis Law Group*



*Reginald Wilson, Jr. c/o 2015
Norton Rose Fulbright LLP*





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Alumni Board Retreat

February 28th -29th 2020—Houston, Texas





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

February Thurgood Thursday-Houston Edition

February's Thurgood Thursday (Houston Edition) was hosted by Alumni **Omar Vargas, George Oginni, and John Leo** on Feb. 20th at Davis Street Restaurant feat. Chef Holley. On the day of this event, several restaurants closed due to a water main problem in Harris County. A phone call to the Hon. Alice Bonner not only saved our monthly event, but also provided an exceptional venue. We give a special thanks to both Judge Bonner and Chef Holley for accommodating us on such short notice.





THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

FACULTY NEWS



Associate Dean for Experiential Learning, Professor Stephanie Ledesma was awarded the prestigious *Honorable Robert E. Keeton Award for Excellence in Teaching and Outstanding Service* by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. The NITA Awards are presented each year to outstanding program faculty to acknowledge and celebrate their dedication furthering the mission of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. Dean Ledesma was chosen for this honor because of her passion for teaching and her dedication to the NITA model. Dean Ledesma, who has grown the Experiential Learning Program at TMSL from two departments to fourteen, was described in her nomination as “*a true leader because she understands people and understands how to motivate them to do their best.*”

Professor Peter Marchetti's law review article titled *A Note to Congress—Amend Section 546(e) of the Bankruptcy Code to Harmonize the Underlying Policies of Fraudulent Conveyance Law and Protection of the Financial Markets*, 26 AM. BANKR. INST. L. REV. 1 (2018) was recently cited by Professor David Gray Carlson of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in his law review article *Mere Conduit*, 93 AM. BANKR. L.J. 475 (2019).



Adjunct Professor D'Andra Shu accepted an offer from the University of Colorado Law Review to publish her piece entitled “*Food Allergy Bullying as Disability Harassment: Holding Schools Accountable.*” It will appear as the lead piece in Volume 92, set for publication early this winter. Professor Shu examines the problem of food allergy bullying of school children and argues that food allergy should be classified as a disability under federal law, thus giving rise to a cause of action for disability-based harassment for food allergy bullying when schools do not take appropriate action. This article builds on her earlier work arguing that, in appropriate circumstances, the bully's parents should be subject to liability under state negligence law. That work will appear in Volume 103 of the Marquette Law Review, due out early this summer.

For more staff and faculty highlights visit: http://www.tsulaw.edu/faculty/2019-20_spotlights/TMSL_Spotlight_March_15_2020_Edition.pdf



THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Admitted Students Day

On February 22, 2020, the Interim Director of Admissions, **Kenyon Moore**, held a joint admitted students' day/open house in which over 75 attendees were present to hear why Thurgood Marshall School of Law is the best fit for them. The theme of the day was family oriented and building and continuing the legacy of TMSL. The students had a jam packed day of information from an array of different sources including **TMSL Dean, Joan R.M. Bullock**, the Interim Director himself, **Ken Moore**, **Reem Haikal**, Assistant Director of Academic Support, and a diverse law school alumni panel consisting of **Leslie Turnage** (federal clerk and solo practitioner) **Reginald Wilson** (large firm) **Judge Alex Salgado** (criminal court judge) and **Courtney Dickey** (higher education). Mr. Moore was assisted by a number of 1L & 2L students.





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI NEWS

Jerome Karam Makes Headlines with Newest Acquisition



Jerome Karam, class of 1990, real estate mogul, and owner of Mainland City Centre, has been relentlessly transforming the space in Mainland City Centre since acquiring it in 2015 with a partner (he has since bought out his partner to become the sole owner). The space currently includes a variety of recreational and retail options such as Palais Royal, Cinemark, DAB Fitness, and there are plans to add large entertainment and recreational attractions, like Aerodium Indoor Skydiving and a 65,000-square-foot race track with overpasses and underpasses. An exterior upgrade is also in the works that will include water fountains, splash pads, and other water elements.

Not only does Karam intend to upgrade the inside, he wants to make use of the outside and the extensive parking lot to hold events, like concerts, crawfish boils, and more. He plans to add five restaurants to an official food court with options based on feedback from Texas City residents. He is working tirelessly to change how residents view the property by redefining it and rebranding it as a lifestyle center and a destination for family entertainment.

In addition to his undertaking at Mainland, Karam's company JMK5 Cruise Ship Parking, has recently opened a 632-space surface lot for cruise passenger parking at the Falstaff Brewery building in Galveston that was converted to a storage facility and a rooftop event venue called Events @ The Tasting Room. Hotel development is in the works at this site as well. This venture is a major deal for Karam as the parking lot is the largest surface lot owned by a single private owner. As Galveston's cruise industry continues to grow dramatically, this venture will pay off handsomely for Karam.

For over twenty years, Karam has specialized in renovating and revitalizing buildings that have been affected by hurricanes and floods. With each project he changes the outlook of the place and has also generated many jobs for residents. Not only has he generated jobs and a lifestyle upgrade to the people in these areas but he has also built affordable housing. Karam is truly a pillar of the community that has generously given back to his community while making improvements.



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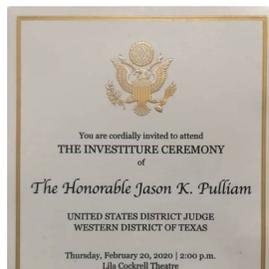
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI NEWS cont. *Investiture of Honorable Jason Pulliam*



The investiture of the **Honorable Jason K. Pulliam** took place on February 20, 2020 at the Lila Cockrell Theatre in downtown San Antonio in front of hundreds of well-wishers, including all of the Western District federal judges and nearly four dozen other judges. U.S. District Judge and TMSL alum the **Honorable Kenneth Hoyt**, class of 1972, attended as well and stated that family, faith, and a “fire in the belly” helped to shape the success of Judge Pulliam. Chief U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia presided over the ceremony. Although Judge Pulliam took office this past summer, the investiture is the formal swearing-in ceremony.

Judge Pulliam made history with his appointment as the first African American to be appointed in the U.S. District Court of the Western District of Texas. He is also the youngest member of the federal judiciary in the Western District. During the ceremony, Judge Pulliam spoke about his humble beginnings in Brooklyn and praised his mother, Katherine Pulliam, who encouraged him to “dream big despite [their] economic circumstances.” Judge Pulliam also stated that he knows what it’s like to be “the first person to face the daunting challenge of attending college without an example of success,” and that “despite my humble beginnings, I have lived and continue to live the American Dream.” **Todd Webb**, another TMSL alum, class of 2000, and a former classmate of Judge Pulliam, attended and spoke eloquently about the Judge stating that his love and commitment for the law is genuine. Also in attendance was the **Honorable Valencia Nash**, class of 1999, who presented Judge Pulliam with a special Proclamation from Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Judge Pulliam was recommended as a nominee to President Trump by U.S. Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz.





THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI NEWS cont.

Alumni in the News

Alums Bring Civil Rights Lawsuit Against Burleson County



Lewis-Piccolo (c) Long (l)

During a press conference on February 24th TMSL Alumnae U.A. Lewis-Piccolo (class of 2010) and Tara Long, (class of 2000) attorneys for Chester Jackson, announce a lawsuit on Mr. Jackson's behalf for a violation of his Civil Rights stemming from an arrest when officers used excessive force which led to Mr. Jackson being on life support after he was arrested and brought to jail. Mr. Jackson who was suffering from a mental health crisis at the time of the arrest was accused of being publicly intoxicated. Footage shows Jackson being pushed down by an officer. Lewis-Piccolo and Long have brought suit against Burleson County, the city of Caldwell and the two officers involved.

Alumnus Michael Sterling Reports on Harvey Weinstein Rape Trial



Attorney Michael T. Sterling (class of 2007) reported on the infamous Harvey Weinstein rape trial on Court TV. Weinstein was found guilty and convicted of rape in the third degree and a criminal sexual act on the first degree and sentenced to twenty-three years in jail. Sterling served as a guest commentator during a segment that aired in February 2020.





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ALUMNI NEWS cont.

TSU Golden Triangle Alumni Association Honors TMSL Alumni



On February 29, 2020 the Texas Southern University Golden Triangle Alumni Association of Beaumont Texas honored twenty-three TSU alumni, among them were TMSL alumni the **Honorable Donald Floyd** (class of) and **Attorney Michael Sterling** (class of 2007). The event, entitled *An Evening with a Million Paws*, which took place at the historic Antioch Baptist Church in Beaumont raised scholarship money for TSU and recognized alumni who have made substantial contributions to the Golden Triangle area. Sterling served as the Keynote Speaker for the sold out event. Sterling stated that it was important for him to reach back and attend the event because so many people did the same for him as a student. In his speech he spoke about what it means to be born to serve and incorporated TSU's motto Excellence in Achievement. Congratulations to Judge Donald Floyd, Michael Sterling, and all the TSU Alumni Honorees.



Jacqueline Rashawn Habersham Appointed to State Commission on Judicial Conduct as Executive Director

TMSL Alumna Jacqueline Habersham, class of 1992, has recently assumed leadership at the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct as their Executive Director. Aside from Habersham's official duties, she plans to clean up the public image of the office. The office drew negative headlines behind a public same-sex marriage case and a judge's refusal to perform the ceremony. The commission lost several commissioners and the former Executive Director behind the controversy. Habersham has worked 19 years at the commission, whose function it is to discipline judges who act unethically. As a part of her duties, she also plans to stem the high turnover rate. As the Executive Director, Habersham will manage the daily duties and powers of the commission and oversee the work of the thirteen volunteer commissioners. Good Luck Executive Director Habersham and Congratulations on your new role!



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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

TSU DONOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

On February 27, 2020, TSU held its Annual Donor Appreciation Luncheon to celebrate and give thanks to the donors who help keep many programs and initiatives alive at Texas Southern University. It was an afternoon of fellowship and encouragement as donors and alumni came back to TSU to show their love and support for the school that they feel has contributed greatly to their success. Donors were interviewed by the TSU's own radio station KTSU and they spoke of the importance of giving back to the school. One donor stated that she gives and encourages others to give back because the donations fuel the next generation. Attorney **Shelton Sparks**, a TMSL alum (class of 1984) and lifetime alumni member, encouraged and challenged his classmates to donate to the university during his interview with KTSU. He also stated that the donations help students graduate and helps them prepare a solid foundation that will transform their lives and their children's lives. **Interim President Ken Huewitt** also expressed his appreciation for the donors and praised their generosity in giving. At the donor luncheon, **3L Randy Paschal**, a scholarship recipient, was also recognized and gave remarks demonstrating his appreciation and gratitude to the donors for the scholarship he received. Donors help contribute to programs that reduce the financial burdens that can threaten students' ability to succeed academically and they help TSU to fulfill the motto of "Excellence in Achievement." The popular annual luncheon was attended by many alumni who are invested in the continued excellence of TSU and its students.





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

ECI NEWS

JAZZ FOR JUSTICE

The Earl Carl Institute's Governing Board hosted *Jazz for Justice* on February 27, 2020 from 6:00pm-8:00pm. The *Jazz for Justice* event was the board's inaugural silent auction and fundraising reception to support the work of the Institute. The event was hosted in the heart of Houston's Third Ward community at Club 3710, a new business venture of Dr. Lockett Johnson. With attendees representing many sectors of the community, the event was a success and raised more than \$7,000. This event is scheduled to be an annual event hosted by ECI's Governing Board. We hope to see you next year!





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

ECI NEWS

JAZZ FOR JUSTICE CON'T





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

STUDENT NEWS

TMSL STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS

State Bar of Texas Diversity in the Profession Bar Scholarship

This scholarship is given to graduating students at Texas law schools through the Texas Bar Foundation for bar prep. The Foundation raised over \$20,000 that was split among the recipients. There were over 50 applicants and 20 were chosen. TMSL had nine winners, the most of any law school! Thank you to alum **Helen Turner**, a member of the Diversity in the Profession Committee for advocating on behalf of our students. The winners are:



KaieEssence Bodden



Summer Cevallos



Re'Necia Coda



Ebony Harris



Rickelle King



Priscilla Mendoza



Jasmine Rios



Tiara Seal



Tatum Simpson



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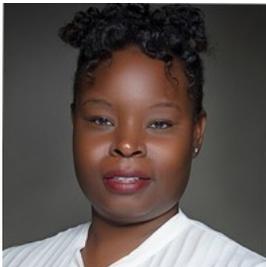
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

STUDENT NEWS

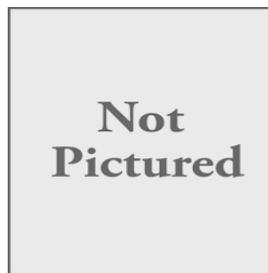
TMSL STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS CON'T

2019-2020 Association of Corporate Counsel Scholarship

TMSL had seven recipients of the scholarship, the most from any school in Texas. The winners each receive a \$5000 scholarship and are 1Ls , 2Ls and 3Ls. Congratulations to :



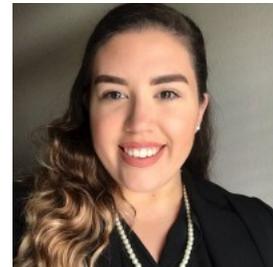
Shalisa Brunson (3L)



Lydia Dohvoma (1L)



Charles Graham (1L)



Stephanie Gutierrez (2L)



Miroslava Mendiola (1L)



A'renica Mumford (3L)



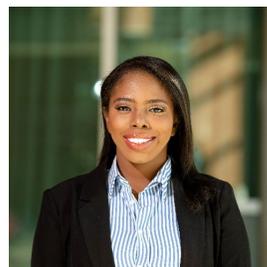
Wesley Okereke (2L)

Association of Women Attorneys Foundation 2020 Scholarship

The Association of Women Attorneys through its Foundation awards scholarships to 2 female scholars every year from each law school in Texas (a 2L student and a 3L student) who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence and an aptitude for leadership and philanthropy. The 2L student receives \$2500 and the 3L student receives \$3500. The 2020 Association of Women Attorneys Scholarship Recipients for TMSL are:



Shaquita Jones (2L)



Rana Robinson (3L)



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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

STUDENT NEWS

TYLA National Trial Competition



From l-r Victor-Savoy Burton (2L), Christen Hill (3L), Kyra Riggins (3L), and Abraham Chopin (3L).

TYLA held their National Trial Competition from February 20th-23rd and TMSL was represented by two student teams. The teams were comprised of **Christen Hill, Victor Savoy Burton, Kyra Riggins, and Abraham Chopin**. The two teams competed in a region comprised of Baylor University, University of Texas, South Texas College of Law, University of Houston, and Louisiana State University. The teams spent the weekend being judged by members of the American College of Trial Lawyers and members from the American Board of Trial Advocates. Team Riggins-Chopin finished as Regional Semi-Finalists while team Hill-Burton are Regional Finalists! The hard work and preparation of the teams were evident as they were complimented on their professionalism, presentation skills, and mastery of the Federal Rules of Evidence. The team was coached by none other than TMSL alum **Tim Adams** (class of 2017) who sings the praises of these competitors. We are #TMSLproud of all of the competitors and congratulate you all for this accomplishment!



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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

STUDENT NEWS CONT'D

STUDENT TRAILBLAZER

Bryce Carpenter, Youngest NBPA Agent and Ahead of the Game



Bryce Carpenter is one of TMSL's newest and youngest trailblazers. At just 22 years old and a member of our 2L class, he is the CEO and founder of Proactive Sports Agency. Bryce is currently the youngest certified NBPA agent and has no plans of slowing down. His love of sports led him to majoring in Sports Management at Southeastern Louisiana University where he received his undergraduate degree. He decided to pursue his JD at TMSL after turning down a scholarship from Illinois Senator James F. Clayborne, Jr. to go to Southern Illinois University of Carbondale Law School (their loss is our gain). Although obtaining a law degree is not required to become an agent, it will undoubtedly help him to become a well rounded agent who can handle the business and legal aspects of running an agency.

Although very humble, Carpenter has already achieved so much and is very impressive and personable which will no doubt contribute to his success as an agent. Bryce informally got his start in the business by helping a good friend of his who was a talented basketball player going through the NBA recruiting process. Together they brainstormed ideas to expand his social media presence which can translate into marketing deals and endorsements. He even helped his friend by reaching out to different coaches.

Family is also important to him and he credits his mother with keeping him focused and devising an education plan (which included graduating from high school early) for him that he stuck with. His mom's plan has paid off as he states that his success is "all because of my mom," and it's evident that he wants to make her proud. He also credits Joseph Clayborne, CEO of Agility Sports Agency, and son of Senator James Clayborne, with helping him get meaningful experience in the business. At Agility, Bryce received first hand knowledge on the marketing and business side of sports by serving as their Marketing Coordinator for all of the agency's clients.

Proactive is a full scale sports agency that handles pre-draft contracts, marketing, and public relations. When asked about forming his agency, Bryce said that he was excited about the business and teaching it to young players. While some people tried to discourage him because of his age and even made disparaging remarks, Bryce just used it as fuel and motivation. His age may even give him an edge as it allows him to build rapport with players and earn their trust. As the saying goes, age is just a number, and it doesn't determine knowledge. Next up for Bryce and Proactive: Balancing law school and being an agent with a draft pick this summer.



PROACTIVE SPORTS
AGENCY



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STUDENT NEWS CONT'D

Student Spotlight



Jemario Bibbs, a third year student at TMSL, is our Student Spotlight. Not only does he serve as the law school's SBA President, he is heavily involved in the community. Jemario has participated in numerous activities in and around Houston. Recently, he and a group of Thurgood students volunteered to repair homes on MLK day of service and he was active in the Street Law Program administered by the Earl Carl Institute. The Street Law Program teaches at risk youth about the development, history, and impact of laws that may affect them every day.

Mr. Bibbs hails from Memphis, TN and he credits his upbringing as the reason he is so passionate about advocacy. He says that his life experiences made him want to be a role model for others. Jemario, who is one of five children and the second to oldest child, grew up admiring his mother's work ethic. He says although her education was limited, she did everything she could to support him and his siblings, often holding down multiple jobs. Her sacrifices and the example she set was not in vain. Jemario became the first in his family to graduate high school and he went on to attend the University of Memphis. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Communications and Political Science and it was there that he discovered that he had developed a hunger to fight for those who felt that he or she did not have a voice. Following his epiphany, Bibbs made the decision to move to Houston and enroll at Thurgood.

As a law student Jemario has still faced adversity. Following his move he had many personal struggles that threatened to derail him but he persevered. He experienced three deaths of family members, a divorce, and Hurricane Harvey. While supporting a family, he lost his home, belongings, and could not work. His faith in God is what has helped him through his struggles. He is confident that he has found his place as a leader. During his time at TMSL Jemario has served in a number of leadership capacities such as an Ambassador, Class Representative, 2L Vice President, and now the President of the Student Bar Association.

Jemario has come a long way from his time in Memphis but he hasn't lost the important lessons that he learned there. Even though he witnessed many hardships faced by his community such as poverty and crime those things taught him the importance of education and sacrifice.





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

IN MEMORIAM

Hard to say good-bye: Professor James W. Beard, Jr. '73



The TMSL community has lost a cherished and beloved member. **Professor James W. Beard, Jr.** departed this world on March 16, 2020. Professor Beard, who earned his Juris Doctor from TMSL in 1973 and his Master of Laws from University of Texas in 1976, was a dedicated member of TMSL's faculty since 1974. A resident of Missouri City, Professor Beard specialized in Family Law and Tax Law. His instruction on Tax Law at TMSL was instrumental to countless students. He was well respected and dear to his colleagues and will truly be missed.

Not only was Professor Beard an esteemed Professor he was a servant to his community in many ways. He served as a Deacon at his church and at one point served as a member of the Hospital Licensing Advisory Council in Texas. He was a champion of TSU and TMSL and expressed this through the many articles he wrote about the school, the many years of serving in leadership roles at the school, and actively giving his time, talent, and financial resources to TMSL. His dedication to the TMSL community was unwavering and our school won't be the same without his light, grace, and dignity.

Remembered by his colleagues:

“When I arrived on the TMSL campus in 1989 as a visiting professor, Professor Beard was the chair of the TMSL Faculty Appointments Committee. Very soon after meeting Professor Beard I came to think of him as a friend and the TMSL Goodwill Ambassador because it was his habit to speak kindly of all of his colleagues at TMSL even though he knew some of us had the potential to become problematic. James Beard was an encouraging Professor who sought to help TMSL become a better place to work for employees and a better place to study and learn for our students. I came to know James as a faithful Christian family man. I wish to thank James for his outstanding compassionate service at TMSL.”

-Associate Dean & Professor, L. Darnell Weeden

“I have known James for 45 years as a colleague and a friend, he made an enormous contribution to the law school, and I shall miss him deeply.”

-Professor Thomas Kleven



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IN MEMORIAM—Professor James W. Beard, Jr. cont.

“I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Professor Beard. I had not met him personally but we spoke at various times by phone. What I learned of him was how devoted he was to his wife and family and how committed he was to the success of TMSL. He will be sorely missed. My sincere condolence to his family.”

-TMSL Dean & Professor Joan R.M. Bullock

“In his last visit to the law school, Professor Beard reflected on his life, the University, the Law School, and his contributions to these institutions over the last half century. He also reflected on the path his life had taken. He was insightful and unafraid. He will be missed. Heartfelt condolences and love to Gail and his sons.”

-Professor Danye Holley

“Thanks for taking me in when I arrived here at TMSL in 2000. You gave me such encouragement with my writings and my seminar teachings. Along with Dean Britain and Professor Don Hill, you inspired me. You will be missed. My heart hurts. Con mucho respecto para un gran profesor. YOUR TMSL FAMILY LOVES YOU!!!!”

-Professor Lupe S. Salinas





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IN MEMORIAM—Professor James W. Beard, Jr. cont.

“I am also saddened by Professor Beard’s passing and agree with everything everyone else has said about him. Professor Beard was very kind and wise. He was also very generous; he seemed to sense when you needed encouragement or advice and would give it to you, whether you asked for it or not, in a very gentle and supportive way. He also was very dedicated to TMSL. He will be greatly missed.”

-Professor Shaundra Lewis

“This loss deeply saddens our Law School. Professor Beard was a man of integrity and quiet demeanor, who held strong beliefs and convictions regarding the mission of our Law School. In all the years I knew him, he remained the same: always kind and generous, even through times of personal strife and adversity.

I had the pleasure of serving with him on several committees, and he was always a collegial hard worker and a team player. Professor Beard was an integral part of the fabric of this Law School and committed to advance its purpose. His students will remember him as a firm, disciplined, professional, and exceedingly kind professor.

Despite the gravity of the crisis we are all facing today, we must still find time to reflect on his life and pray for his family.

Professor Beard, thank you for enhancing our lives. We will miss you.”

-Professor Ana Otero





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IN MEMORIAM—Professor James W. Beard, Jr. cont.



“ECI is grateful for Professor Beard’s service on the ECI Board, especially during his years of service as the Board President during the Institute’s growing years. He was always supportive and only left the board to take care of his wife. That’s the person we will always remember. “

-Earl Carl Institute Executive Director, Sarah Guidry

I'd like to echo others' remembrances of what a wonderful colleague Professor Beard was, and to add that he was not only one of the warmest people I've ever had the pleasure to know, he was also uniquely supportive in every way imaginable, and then some.

From our first moments together on campus (when he welcomed me with prayer and condolences after I became a widow at 33) throughout the decade that followed (when he quietly checked in on my progress, both professional and personal, as my toddlers turned to teens and I made my way through the ranks), to the last conversation we shared (when he encouraged me to serve TSU, not from within--much to my surprise--but by running for public office), he was truly an inspiration, and constantly drove me to think about my life in service in ways that I hadn't even begun to think of before.

And in all of that time, he never hesitated to speak frankly and from the heart, never judged my naïveté (even the occasional chuckle at my foolhardiness was always warm-hearted), and never departed from a moment shared over a cup of coffee or tea without leaving me feeling greatly enriched and thankful to have someone in my life as unassumingly savvy and deeply humane as Professor Beard always was. Indeed, on many occasions, the wisdom he shared in just a matter of minutes made such an impact on my way of thinking that I adopted it as my own, and endeavored to share it with students, family, and friends. My kindest, most quietly brilliant colleague, you will be greatly missed.”

-Professor Rebecca K. Stewart



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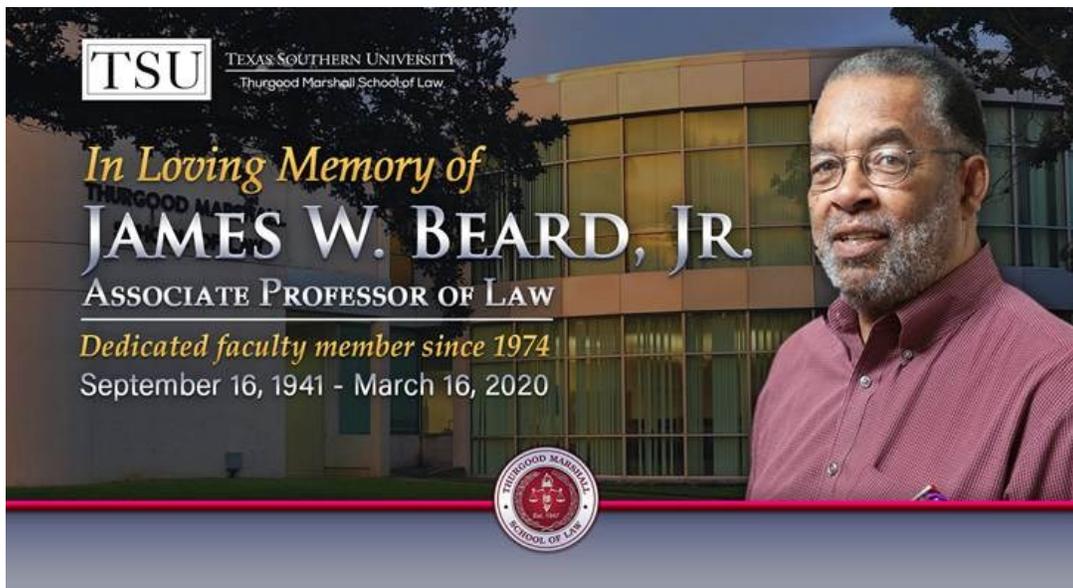
IN MEMORIAM—Professor James W. Beard, Jr. cont.

I've only been at Thurgood four years, but of all the people I've met Prof. Beard was one of the most supportive, encouraging, and positive. His gentle spirit and words of wisdom were always reassuring and his belief in our mission was uplifting. He will be sorely missed. May he rest in heaven.

-Assistant Dean Ronda L. Harrison Benjamin

Continued prayers for the Beard Family

Professor Beard is survived by his wife, Gail Beard of 43 years; son James W. Beard and daughter-in-law Samantha Beard; son **Ryan Beard** (TMSL class of 2005) and daughter-in-law Shenita Outland; three grandchildren Jayla, Nyla, and Rayna; and countless other family members and friends. Please continue to keep the Beard family in your prayers.





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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

IN MEMORIAM

TMSL Alum—Judge Roosevelt Carter II Dedicated to Service



It is with sadness that we report the transition of alum, Judge Roosevelt Carter II on March 21, 2020. Carter earned his degree from TMSL in 1997 and was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia. He began his career in private practice, going by the motto, “Helping People– Producing Justice” and transitioned into public service with roles such as Special Assistant Attorney General for the State of Georgia, defense attorney for the Municipal Court for the City of Montezuma, and special counsel for the Georgia Public Defender Counsel. He became a Municipal Court Judge in the city of Leary, Georgia in November 2015. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Moss Carter, his parents, siblings, in-laws, niece and nephew, and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

Sister of Judge Nikita Harmon and Professor Thelma Harmon— Rozella Harmon-Smith, Gone But Not Forgotten



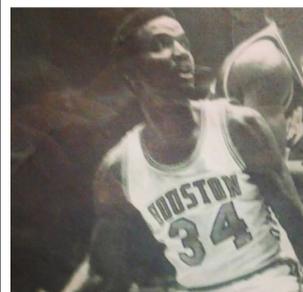
The TMSL family would like to extend our prayers and condolences to alum Honorable Nikita Harmon and Professor Thelma Harmon on the passing of their sister Rozella Harmon–Smith. Rozella made her transition on March 19, 2020 in Houston, TX at the age of 71, leaving family and friends to mourn her departure from this life. Please comfort this family during this difficult period.

Son of Ty and Jordan Stimpson— William Fitzgerald Stimpson, Gone Too Soon



Our deepest condolences go out to alum Ty Stimpson and his wife Jordan Stimpson on the unexpected loss of their son William Fitzgerald Stimpson on February 23, 2020. William was only 16 months at the time of his death but in his short time here he was a bright light to his parents and those who knew him. William was an active baby and loved spending time with his parents. He loved to read and watch sports with his dad and his favorite word was mama. Baby William Fitzgerald Stimpson will truly be missed.

Father of Adrian Rogers—RIP to a Beloved Father Larry Rogers



Please keep alum Adrian Rogers and his family in prayer as they continue to grieve the passing of Adrian’s beloved father Larry Rogers.



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IN MEMORIAM con't



Stepmother to Judge Sonya Heath—Myrna Loy Heath, In Our Thoughts

We send our condolences to alumna Judge Sonya Heath on the passing of her stepmother Myrna Loy Heath. Myrna was a hard worker and dedicated to her family. She often spent her time gardening and watching Hallmark Channel movies. She is survived by four children, three siblings, six grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.



Mother of Pamela Pope Johnson—Mildred Pope, An Advocate for Women's Rights

Our sincerest thoughts and prayers extend to the Pope Family on the loss of Mildred Pope, a true advocate for equal rights. The president of the League of Woman Voters of Dallas extended her thanks to Mildred for her "...efforts to move the needle on racial equity in Dallas". Mildred is the mother of TMSL alumna and board member, Pamela Pope Johnson.



Mother of Lucinda Daniels—The Life and Legacy of Lucille Daniels

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the transition of Lucille Daniels, the mother of alumna and ECI Associate Director, Lucinda Daniels. Lucille Daniels was the glue to her family, extended family, and friends. She was a praying mom who placed God first in her life. She is survived by her only daughter, Lucinda Daniels, grandson Jarvis Williams and great granddaughter, Maddie, stepchildren, siblings, and many other family and friends.



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IN MEMORIAM con't

Clarita Nelson Stone—Loving Mother of Trey Stone and Sister of Norman Nelson



Our condolences are extended to the Stone and Nelson families at this difficult time. On April 8, 2020, Clarita Nelson Stone transitioned from this earthly life. Mrs. Stone, who was a devoted member of the Corpus Christi Catholic Church, dedicated her life to education. She received her B.A. Degree from Spelman College and went on to teach Spanish in the Catholic School System. Even after retirement she tutored many students in Spanish in Mobile, AL.

Mrs. Stone is survived by her children, Herbert Stone, III, Esq. and Mary Catherine Stone, M.D. of Houston, TX; her loving siblings, Edward Nelson of Houston, TX, Mary C. Smith of Mobile, AL, Juliette (David) Sullivan of Birmingham, AL, Sallie Morton of Detroit, MI, Norman Nelson, Sr. of Houston, TX, Orlando Nelson, Sr. of Mobile, AL, Tamara Nelson of Mobile, AL, and Zachary (DeWanda) Nelson of Birmingham, AL; a host of devoted nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, relatives and friends.

Father of Christopher Nave—Edward Earl Nave an Honorable Man and Legacy



Our thoughts and prayers are extended to alum Christopher Nave and his family on the passing of his father. Edward was beloved by his family and his community. He served honorably in the U.S. Army and was a Vietnam War veteran. He was an electrician by trade and retired from General Motors. Edward is survived by his wife Hazel Nave of 52 years; son, Christopher Nave; daughter, Nichelle Serf (Maurice Wheeler); seven grandchildren, Isaac (Morgan) Fulton, Jarren Serf, Ashleigh Serf, Daniel Serf Jr., Denim, Levi and Sparoah Sasser Nave; two great-grandchildren, Isaac Anderson Fulton, Alayna Serf; brothers, James Nave, Tommy

Nave; sisters, Agnes Enoch (Dec.), Mary (Frank) Sembly, Lorene Craig; mother-in-law, Doletha Lynch; sisters-in-law, Brenda (Maurice) Chevalier, Meadow Edwards, Jana Jones; special friends, Harold (Lynda) Townsend, Howard (Diana) Burt; and a host of family and friends.

Mrs. Estelle Beverly Bradley—Enthusiastic Servant Unto the Lord



It is with sadness that we report the death of Mrs. Estelle Beverly Bradley, the mother of alum Ann Bradley. Mrs. Bradley had a passion for evangelism and served as the First Lady of the 80th Street Church of God in Christ and Hollywood District in Shreveport, LA. Described as a powerhouse prayer, she devoted her life to teaching the unadulterated word of God. She leaves behind her children: Fabrienne Milhouse; Stephen Bradley, III, Meshell Bradley, Arloria Bradley Brownlee, Demetrius Bradley, LaShanda Bradley Granson, DeAundre Bradley (preceded in death) and Antoinette Bradley to celebrate her legacy, as well as two Godchildren: Dennis Carr and Breanna Bagley; 5 living siblings; 19 grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren; and one special grand pup, Cooper Jack.



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Upcoming Events and CLEs

Due to the Coronavirus epidemic all TMSL event are cancelled or postponed until further notice. This is including but not limited to:

All Thurgood Thursdays

Community Service Day

2020 Barrister's Ball

2020 Crawfish Boil

2020 Hooding (possibly postponed)

2020 CALI, Pro Bono, and Dean's List Award Ceremony

Family Law CLE

Personal Injury & Medical Malpractice CLE

Criminal -DWI CLE

Sports Law CLE

Juvenile Justice Reform & Best Practices for Attorneys: The Intersection of Policy and Practice CLE

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Please check <http://www.tsulaw.edu/> regularly for updates.



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**2020 TMSL
Homecoming/Reunion
SAVE THE DATE**

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For more information go to
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