



# Thurgood TODAY



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

January 2015

## TMSL Welcomes Professor Anthony Paul Farley



**Anthony Paul Farley** is the visiting Andrew Jefferson Endowed Chair in Trial Advocacy at Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law. U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee described Andrew Jefferson as "a pioneer" who "truly braved new areas and stood for the dignity and respect of all in our community." From Socrates to the present day, that is the mission of every true academic: to brave new areas and stand for the dignity and respect of all in our community. "As the Andrew Jefferson Endowed Chair in Trial Advocacy, I hope to fulfill that mission in my scholarship, teaching, and in every interaction with the wider community. I am a newcomer, but I do not feel like an outsider. Thurgood Marshall School of Law is the nation's most diverse law school; its community is the entire world. As I told Dean Holley, I am deeply honored and tremendously excited to be part of this diverse community of brilliant and

public-spirited legal scholars" says Farley. Professor Farley is teaching two courses this term: Critical Race Theory and Criminal Procedure.

Last semester, he was the James & Mary Lassiter Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Kentucky College of Law. He is the James Campbell Matthews Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence at Albany Law School. He has also been Haywood Burns Chair in Civil Rights at CUNY School of Law, tenured professor at Boston College Law School for sixteen years, and visiting professor at Northeastern University Law School. Prior to entering academia, he was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. Prior to serving as a federal prosecutor, Farley practiced law as a Corporate/Securities Associate with Shearman & Sterling in NYC.

Farley's work has appeared in *HIP HOP AND THE LAW* (Cummings et al. eds., Carolina Academic Press: forthcoming 2015), *AFTER THE STORM: BLACK INTELLECTUALS EXPLORE THE MEANING OF HURRICANE KATRINA* (Troutt ed., The New Press: 2006); *CULTURAL ANALYSIS, CULTURAL STUDIES & THE LAW* (Sarat & Simon eds., Duke University Press: 2003); *CROSSROADS, DIRECTIONS & A NEW CRITICAL RACE THEORY* (Valdes et al. eds., Temple University Press: 2002); *BLACK MEN ON RACE, GENDER & SEXUALITY* (Carbado ed., NYU Press: 1999); and *URGENT TIMES: POLICING AND RIGHTS IN INNER-CITY COMMUNITIES* (Meares & Kahan eds., Beacon: 1999). His writings have appeared in numerous academic journals, including the *Yale Journal of Law & Humanities*, the *NYU Review of Law & Social Change*, the *Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal*, the *Michigan Journal of Race & Law*, the *Cardozo Law Review*, *Law & Literature*, and the *Columbia Journal of Race & Law*.

In the past year, Farley was invited to lecture about his research and participate on panels at Harvard University, Yale Law School, Florida A&M College of Law, Howard Law School, the University of Kentucky College of Law, Florida International University College of Law, the University of Minnesota Law School, at the LatCrit Biennial in Chicago, the ClassCrit Conference at UC Davis, at York University's Osgoode Hall in Toronto, Canada, and at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting. He is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Society of American Law Teachers and a current member of the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Minority Groups. He is the organizer of many academic conferences, most recently "Freedom from Fear: On Black Childhood & Other Dangers" at the University of Kentucky College of Law.

Professor Farley is a graduate of the Harvard Law School and the University of Virginia.



## DR. JAMES DOUGLAS SWORN IN AS NAACP PRESIDENT



**Distinguished Professor James Douglas**, TSU former president (1995-1999), Thurgood Marshall School of Law dean (1981-1995), and distinguished professor of law at TMSL was sworn in as president of Houston NAACP January 11, 2015 at the Wortham Center in downtown Houston. In his acceptance speech, Professor Douglas spoke about the state of the NAACP and his appointment.

“It is not often an individual has an opportunity to live a dream and at the same time, be able to give service to society. Today, I am living one of my dreams. It is an honor that the Members of the Houston Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the oldest civil rights organization in the country, have collectively agreed to allow me, James M. Douglas, to provide leadership for the next two years.

“As a member of the NAACP, people often ask me one of two questions. The first is whether the NAACP is necessary today; and the second is what is the NAACP doing? The answer to the first is a very strong YES. All one has to do is open his or her eyes and view the world. Conflicts between various races and cultures are present on every continent and conflict between races in America is at its highest since legal segregation. Blacks and Whites have not grown closer since 1975; but instead they have grown further apart. If the NAACP did not exist today, we would have to create it. As to what are we doing, just review the work performance of our various committees (Legal Redress, Education, Political Action, Economic Development, Veterans Affairs, Labor Advocacy, Environmental & Climate Justice, ACT-SO, Youth Works; just to name a few). And lastly, tune into our weekly radio show, NAACP TODAY with James Douglas on MJWJ Global Radio ([mjwjtalkradio.com](http://mjwjtalkradio.com)) to learn more of our advocacy efforts and to join us in the conversation on social justice reform. The NAACP is in fact doing a lot; however, we could do more with our involvement, so we ask you to “Please Join the NAACP Houston Branch”. *TSU E-News Now, January 2015.*

Below are links to the video from our instillation ceremony this past weekend at The Wortham Center.

Dr. Douglas Speech (Part 1) - [http://youtu.be/zShdq\\_5x6Ls](http://youtu.be/zShdq_5x6Ls)

Dr. Douglas Speech (Part 2) - <http://youtu.be/NVqiHH01cHs>

Officer Swearing Oath - <http://youtu.be/jx4-L3cGLL0>





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



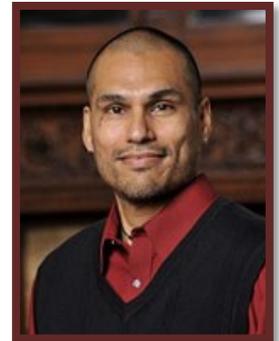
On January 14, 2015, TMSL was delighted to host its third scholar-in-residence this academic year - **Professor A. Benjamin Spencer**, of the University of Virginia School of Law and a member of the Multi-State Bar Committee for Federal Civil Procedure. During his visit, Professor Spencer gave a talk entitled *Federal Civil Procedure and Declining Access to Justice*, co-taught a federal civil procedure class on personal jurisdiction with **Professor Craig Jackson**, and led a 3L multi-state bar review session on federal civil procedure that gave students an inside peek into the topics tested. This year is the first year that civil procedure will be tested on the multi-state bar exam. Professor Spencer is also a member of the American Law Institute, a proud graduate of Morehouse College, and was an articles editor on the *Harvard Law Review*.

On January 21, 2015, **Assistant Dean of Academic Support Marsha Griggs** gave a talk to the faculty entitled *Breaking Rank: Is Law School Curriculum a Better Predictor of Bar Passage than Race, Rank and LSAT Score?* as part of the 2014-15 TMSL Faculty Series.



On January 28, 2015, **Anthony Paul Farley, Visiting Andrew Jefferson Chair in Trial Advocacy, and the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy, Inc.** gave a joint talk on the *U.S. Criminal Justice System and Urban Communities* as part of the 2014-15 TMSL Faculty Series.

**SpearIt** is featured on News-Fix with a video story entitled *Thurgood Marshall School of Law: Catch the "SpearIt" of Law*. The video can be accessed at <http://www.chron.com/jobs/getting-ahead/article/TSU-S-Thurgood-Marshall-School-of-Law-continues-5804814.php>



In response to the tragic events in Paris this month, **SpearIt** also accepted an offer from The Conversation, a news and analysis platform for academic that obtains two million visits per month, to write a piece on Islamic radicalization in France. SpearIt's final piece is entitled *Prison, Muslim Memory and the Making of a Terrorist* and can be accessed at <https://theconversation.com/prisons-muslim-memory-and-the-making-of-a-terrorist-36091> Additionally, **SpearIt's** piece, *Experiential Education and the Law School Experience*, was published in the Fall 2014 edition of The Law Teacher and is available on page 52 at <http://lawteaching.org/lawteacher/2014fall/lawteacher2014fall.pdf>



**Professor Weeden** accepted an offer from The George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal (CRLJ) to publish his article entitled *Good Public Policy Occurs Under Plyler When In-State College Tuition Rates Are Awarded to Undocumented Bona Fide Resident Immigrants*". In the article Professor Weeden contends that governmental classifications, based on undocumented immigration status, creates a substantial denial of an equal higher educational opportunity to potential college students living in the same state since early childhood. This denial of educational opportunity places a virtual death sentence on access to equal employment and economic opportunities in violation of their equal protection rights.



## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd.)



**Danye Holley**, Dean of Thurgood Marshall School of Law and his daughter **Danielle Holley-Walker**, Dean of Howard University School of Law were featured in the Texas Lawyer article “Familiar Foot-steps: One Family,

Two Law School Deans.” The article gives an in-depth look into the lives of both Deans, and illustrates how the rich academic experiences of both parents influenced Dean Holley-Walker’s chosen career path. The Deans appreciate the ability to consult with one another facing similar challenges and opportunities. The article further notes that at no other time has there been a father and daughter serving as Deans of law schools at the same time. To view the entire article go to <http://www.texaslawyer.com/id=1202713835857/#.VK08HmY3zgo.mailto>

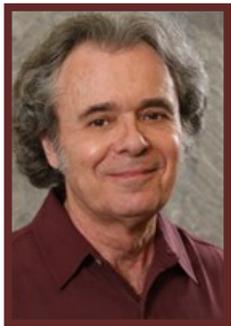
**Executive Director Docia Rudley** received the Verna Lee Booker Hightower Award as a Woman of Excellence on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at the Black Heritage Committee Annual Western Gala.



On January 27, 2015 **Distinguished Professor James M. Douglas** spoke at the Black Men Rise: Fighting Crime from the Inside Out-A Conference on Black on Black Crime and Violence hosted at Texas Southern University, Sawyer Auditorium.

### The Return of Professor Deana Pollard Sacks

Please join the faculty, staff and students of TMSL in welcoming back Distinguished Professor Deana Pollard Sacks! This semester Professor Pollard Sacks is teaching Real Estate Transactions and Law Practice Management.



**Professor Thomas Kleven** presented his book *Equitable Sharing* on a panel entitled *Equitable Sharing* at the ClassCrits Conference held at UC Davis Law School on November 14, 2014.





## From the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy Inc.

### ECI's Juvenile Justice Project Attorney Highlighted in the Houston Chronicle



The Earl Carl Institute's Juvenile Justice Project attorney, **Mani Nezami**, was quoted in a front-page story of the Houston Chronicle on January 19, 2015. The article, entitled *Critics hope Legislature will pass less punitive form of truancy law*, highlighted one of ECI's clients and mentioned the circumstances of two others. Attorney Nezami was quoted discussing the circumstances under which children find themselves before the justice of the peace and municipal courts, and the cases that lead to them serving jail time for minor school related offenses. The article provided:

“Only a small percentage of the students called into the justice of the peace courts have legal representation, said Mani Nezami, a staff attorney with Houston's Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy. Adolescents are so intimidated by the process, he said, that they tend to accept whatever prosecutors offer - usually plea bargains and fines up to \$500.”

Those students who can't pay the fines have reason to fear that on or after their 17th birthdays, they'll have to do jail time for the amount of money they owe, Nezami said.

“Kids are picked up on their 17th birthdays all the time,” he said. “A number of the justice of the peace courts have what they refer to as 'birthday parties.’ ”

The highlighted student, Edgar Ontiveros, had been kicked out of his house, was sleeping on his friends' couches, and showering at a local YMCA. Unable to obtain reliable transportation to school, he received a Failure to Attend school ticket. At the hearing, despite being a minor unaccompanied by an adult, the court ordered him to drop out of school, obtain a GED, get a job, and pay a fine and court costs. Mr. Ontiveros later retained the services of ECI's Juvenile Justice Project. ECI was able to favorably amend the court order waiving all fines and court costs amongst other things.



The Earl Carl Institute's Juvenile Justice Project addresses the issue of disproportionate minority contact, through a holistic approach, by providing legal representation to children who are in multiple juvenile systems. These systems generally include the criminal justice system, disparate educational systems, the mental health system and foster care system. The project continues to have 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.

Below is a link to the full article:

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/life/article/Truancy-bill-will-be-hotly-debated-during-the-6012827.php?t=b50bade19681750c0d&cmpid=twitter-premium#/0>



## Alumni News

### Alumni on the Move

#### **TMSL alum, The Honorable Jason Pulliam Appointed by Gov. Rick Perry**



**The Honorable Jason Pulliam**, TMSL class of 2000 was appointed as Justice of the 4th Court of Appeals by former Texas Governor Rick Perry. Judge Pulliam is the first African American to serve on this court. Prior to his appointment, Pulliam served as a judge for the Bexar County Court at Law No. 5 from 2011-2015. Please join the TMSL Family in congratulating The Honorable Jason Pulliam on his great accomplishment.

#### **TMSL alum, Kim Cooks Elected Judge of 255th District Court**

**The Honorable Kim Cooks**, TMSL class of 2002 was sworn-in as Judge of the 255th Family District Court (Dallas) on January 9, 2015. Judge Cooks was featured on Fox 4 news in Dallas for running a unique campaign together with another single mom candidate. Both ladies won their elections.

Prior to her election, Judge Cooks was in private practice at the Law Office of Kim A. Cooks, P.L.L.C.





## Alumni News

### A Triple Threat: Three TMSL Alumnae Display Their Writing Talent to the Masses as Authors and Bloggers

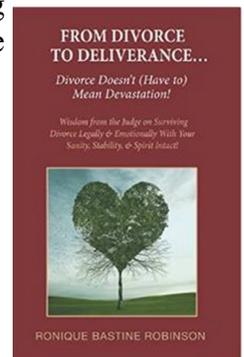
#### Authors

Author **Norma L. Jarrett**, TMSL class of 1999, best known for her novels Sunday Brunch, Sweet Magnolia, and The Sunday Brunch Diaries is hosting the Book Besties Literary Bliss Writers Conference January 30-31, 2015 at the Houston Westchase Marriott.

TMSL alum and alumni board member **Carol Guess** is also presenting. For more information go to: [www.bookbestieslitbliss.com](http://www.bookbestieslitbliss.com).



The **Honorable Ronique Bastine Robinson**, TMSL class of 1996 published From Divorce to Deliverance...Divorce Doesn't (Have to) Mean Devastation. The book guides the reader through what to expect when going through a divorce. For more information and to order the book, go to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



#### Blogger



**Davon Hatchett Robinson**, TMSL class of 2007 was always known as our resident food, beverage and travel connoisseur so it seemed only fitting that Mrs. Robinson started her blog "The Bubbleista." The blog shares "tips, ideas, and inspiration designed to enchant, delight, and make life more beautiful, memorable and absolutely sparkling." To view the blog, go to [www.thebubbleista.com](http://www.thebubbleista.com).



## Upcoming Events



**ABA Judicial Division Standing Committee on  
Diversity in the Judiciary and Texas Southern  
University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

*Present*

**2015 ABA Judicial Panel: “Path to the  
Bench – How to Become a Judge”**

**Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
3100 Cleburne St  
Houston, TX 77004  
Rooms 105-107**

**Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015**

**Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

### **Reception**

**Location: Texas Southern University  
School of Public Affairs Lobby**

**Time: 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.** (immediately following the Judges Panel)

Join the Judicial Division Standing Committee on Diversity in the Judiciary during the ABA Annual Meeting for an inspiring discussion with several prestigious judges, talking about their experiences and legal and judicial careers.

### **Confirmed Judges**



**The Honorable James E. Graves, Jr.**  
U.S. Court of Appeals



**The Honorable Vanessa Gilmore**  
U.S. District Court—TX



**The Honorable Rebecca Huddle**  
First Court of Appeals—TX



## Thurgood Marshall School of Law

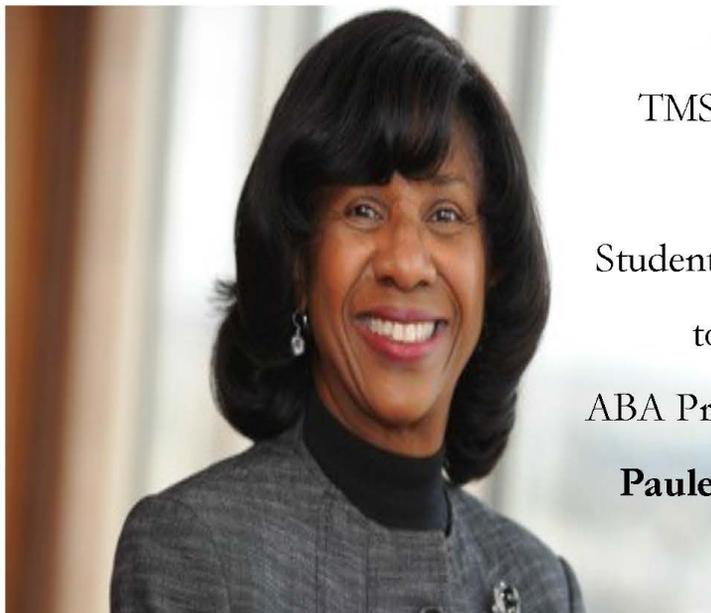
Office of External Affairs  
3100 Cleburne Street  
Houston, TX 77004  
Phone 713.313.1197  
[www.tsulaw.edu](http://www.tsulaw.edu)



## Upcoming Events

### ABA PRESIDENT ELECT VISITS TMSL

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TMSL Faculty  
and  
Students are invited  
to meet  
ABA President-Elect  
**Paulette Brown**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2015**

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#### Student Session

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** Room 202

#### Faculty Session

**Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Dean's  
Conference Room





## UPCOMING CLEs



### EARL CARL INSTITUTE FOR LEGAL & SOCIAL POLICY, INC. THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW



#### 4th Annual Honorable Craig Washington & Senator Rodney Ellis Excellence in Indigent Defense Series February 6-7, 2015 ~ 8:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. (each day)

Thurgood Marshall School of Law, 3100 Cleburne St., Houston, TX 77004



MCLE: 14.5 (Day 1: 7.5 Day 2: 7.0)~Ethics: 2.0 (1.0 each day)  
Breakfast & Lunch provided each day

*Day 1: Best Practices in Indigent Defense*  
*Day 2: The ABA 10th Annual Summit on Indigent Defense Improvement*

Early Registration before 01/30/2015

Attorneys: \$100

Public Defenders and Non-Attorneys: Complimentary

Register for one day and attend the 2nd day free!

AFTER 01/30/2015

Attorney: \$125.00~Public Defenders: \$50.00

Non-Attorneys: Complimentary

Register Online: [www.earlcarlinstitute.org](http://www.earlcarlinstitute.org) or Pay on-site

## CLE

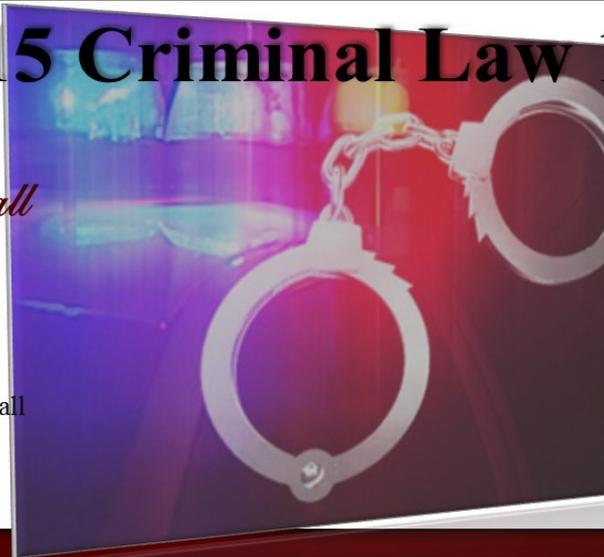
### Texas Southern University THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW



## 2015 Criminal Law 101

*Thurgood Marshall  
School of Law*

3100 Cleburne St.  
Houston, TX 77004  
For more information, please call  
(713) 313-1197



DATE  
FEBRUARY 27, 2015

TIME  
9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

COST  
\$105.00 attorneys;  
\$30.00 gov't attorneys &  
non-profit attorneys

Free: non-attorneys  
MCLE: 7.0  
Ethics: 2.0

Register Online: [www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration](http://www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration) or Pay on-site

\*Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law is an accredited sponsor approved by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE



## OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### JANUARY 2015

**January 29th**

**Creating the Record of Criminal Convictions for Immigration Purposes- CLE**

**Immigration & International Law Institute**

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Time: 12:30 pm-4:30 pm  
Cost: \$60.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys  
MCLE: 4.0  
Ethics: 1.0  
Register and pay online: [www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration](http://www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration)

**January 30th**

**2015 Criminal Law-CLE (Dallas)**

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: Dallas, Texas  
Time: 12:00 noon – 4:00 pm  
Cost: \$60.00  
MCLE: 4.0  
Ethics: 1.0  
Register online: [www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration](http://www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration)

### FEBRUARY 2015

**February 4<sup>th</sup>**

**2015 ABA Judicial Panel – “ Path to the Bench – How to Become a Judge”**

**ABA Judiciary Committee**

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: TMSL Rooms 105, 106, 107  
Time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
Reception Following at the TSU School of Public Affairs Lobby – 7:30 – 8:30 pm

### FEBRUARY 2015

**February 6th & 7th**

**2015 Indigent Defense - 4th Annual Craig Washington & Senator Rodney Ellis Indigent Defense-CLE**

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual ABA Midyear Summit on Indigent Defense Improvement**

**Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association**

**Harris County Public Defenders’ Office**

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

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: TMSL  
Time: 8:30 am – 5:15 pm (each day)  
Cost: \$100.00 attorneys and complimentary public defenders and non-attorneys (Before January 30, 2015); and \$125.00 attorneys, \$50.00 public defenders (After January 30, 2015; complimentary for non-attorneys each day. Register for one day and attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> day FREE!!  
MCLE: 14.5 (Day 1 -7.5 and Day 2 – 7.0)  
Ethics: 2.0 (1.0 each day)  
Register online: [www.earlcarlinstitute.org](http://www.earlcarlinstitute.org) or pay on-site  
Breakfast & Lunch Provided Each Day

**February 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Thurgood Marshall Law Review Spring Pinning Ceremony and Reception**

Location: Judge Kenneth Hoyt Courtroom  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Reception Following at Sambuca Houston  
909 Texas Avenue  
Houston, TX 77002

Sponsorship Opportunities- contact the Office of External Affairs (713) 313-1142

**February 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>**

**ABA 2015 Dean’s Workshop**

Location: Washington, DC

**February 27th**

**2015 Criminal Law 101 – CLE**

**Criminal Law Clinic**

**Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Time: 9:00 am-4:00pm  
Cost: \$ 105.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys  
MCLE: 7.0  
Ethics: 2.0  
Register and pay online: [www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration](http://www.tinyurl.com/tmsleventregistration)



## January Birthdays



- Maurice Hew** 1st
- Emeka Duruigbo** 4th
- Marcia Johnson** 19th
- Faith Jackson** 20th
- Reba Hall** 21st



### 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”*