



Thurgood TODAY



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

March 2017

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

*Cordially Invites you
to the*

MOOT COURT ROOM

Naming Ceremony & Reception

Monday, April 17, 2017

5:00 pm. - 7:00 pm.

in the

TMSL Moot Court Room

Reception following in the lobby

R.S.V.P. preferred - prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu
or 313.1142

Special Guests include

The Donor and his family, TSU President, Austin Lane,
TMSL Dean James M. Douglas, local media, and
Distinguished Alumni and Friends.

*Our esteemed, prosperous and most generous
donor's name will be revealed at the event.*





FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Professor Lydia D. Johnson will be honored by the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association (HCCLA) at their 47th Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony on May 11, 2017. Professor Johnson will be receiving prestigious honor of Mentor of the Year.



On March 24, **Professor Craig Jackson** presented his research on the appointment process to the United States Supreme Court, titled “Advice and Consent: A Structuralist Perspective,” to the faculty at South Texas College of Law Houston. In his presentation, Professor Jackson argued that the



Professor Sally Green’s article, *Realistic Opportunity for Release Equals Rehabilitation: How the States Must Provide Meaningful Opportunity for Release*, in which she proposes a prison release model for non-homicide juvenile offenders that would focus on rehabilitation, was recently cited by Perry Moriearty (Associate Professor and Co-Director of the Child Advocacy and Juvenile Justice Clinic, University of Minnesota Law School) in *Implementing Proportionality*, 50 U.C. Davis L. Rev. 961,1028 (2017). Also, in late February 2017, Professor Green presented at the 30th Annual Juvenile Law Conference on ethical issues in high-profile cases and co-facilitated the defense caucus session. Lastly, on March 2, 2017, Professor Green was an invited speaker at the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of *In Re Gault*, a juvenile justice conference co-sponsored by the Earl Carl Institute and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View University. Professor Green participated on a panel discussing the historical perspective of juvenile justice and the progeny of *In Re Gault*.

Senate Majority Leader’s decision to decline to hold hearings for former President Barack Obama’s nominee to replace Justice Anthony Scalia was not based on any valid constitutional standards. Professor Jackson’s topic and presentation sparked a lively debate among attendees.



Professor Stephanie Ledesma accepted an offer to publish her latest article, *PTSD and Bad Paper Discharges: Why the Fairness to Soldiers Act Is Too Little, Too Late*, with *Elon Law Review*. Once Professor Ledesma’s article was posted on SSRN, it immediately received SSRN’s

“Top Ten download” recognition on the following research lists: (1) AARN: Psychological Disorders & Psychology in Practice (Topic), (2) Conflict Studies: Effects of Conflict eJournal, (3) PSN: Access to Care (Topic), (4) PSN: Health Care Delivery (Topic), and (5) PSN: Human Cost (Topic).



Professor Shaundra Lewis’s article, *Bullets and Books by By Legislative Fiat--Why Academic Freedom and Public Pol’y Permit Higher Education Students to Say No to Guns*, 48 IDAHO L. REV. 1 (2011), was recently cited by Joseph D Angelis, *et al.*, *Collective Security, Fear of Crime, and Support for Concealed Firearms on a University Campus in the Western United States*, 42(1) CRIMINAL JUSTICE REV. 77, 79 (Feb. 2017). Additionally, Professor Lewis recently accepted an invitation to reprint her article, *The Cost of Raising a Killer--Parental Liability*

Table of Contents

Moot Court Naming Ceremony & Reception	cover
Faculty Highlights	2
ECI News	4
Experiential Learning	7
Staff News	8
Student News	10
Alumni Highlights	16
Upcoming CLE’s	20
Upcoming Events	21
Events Calendar	25



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

for *Parents of Adult Mass Murderers*, 61 VILLANOVA L. REV. 1 (2016), in *The Defense Law Journal*, a quarterly publication by LexisNexis whose primary subscribers are large law firms and in-house corporate counsel.



Professor Katherine Vukadin was invited to serve as a peer reviewer for the Yale Journal of Health Policy, Law and Ethics. The invitation was based on her publications in health law and policy. The journal is a forum for interdisciplinary discussion on topics in health policy, health

law, and biomedical ethics with a readership of academicians, professionals, and policy makers in health care.



On February 13, **Professor SpearIt** published *Radical, Jihadist, Terrorist--The Difference and Why it Matters* at The Islamic Monthly, <http://theislamicmonthly.com/radical-jihadist-terrorist/>. SpearIt was recently recognized in the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar's 2015-2016 Annual Report: *The Year*

in Review for his participation in a webinar entitled "Integrating Experiential Education in the Classroom," http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/publications/misc_legal_education/15_16_legal_ed_annual_report.authcheckdam.pdf. His work on Muslim prisoners was cited in the book, *NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE NATION OF ISLAM* (Routledge 2017) and peer-review journals in *America, Islam, and Constitutionalism: Muslim American Poverty and the Mounting Police State*, 31 J. L. & Relig. 279 (2016), *Freedom of Religion or Belief in Prison: A Critical Analysis of the European Court of Human Rights Jurisprudence*, 6 Ox. J. L. Rel. 48 (2017), and *The "Watchful Eye of God": The Role of Religion in the Rehabilitation and Reentry of*

Repentant Jewish Prisoners, Int'l J. Offender Therapy and Comparative Crim'y (2017). He was also cited in a Ph.D. dissertation entitled *The Indiana State Senate Internship: A Quality of Life Perspective and Its Place as An Innovative Education Model* (Indiana State University 2016). Finally, SpearIt recently broke into the top 10% of all authors on SSRN.com, ranked by number of downloads.



Professor L. Darnell Weeden has accepted an offer from Southern Illinois University Law Journal to publish his article entitled "Marriage Equality Laws Are a Threat to Religious Liberty." Professor Weeden's article surveys issues surrounding the clash of religious liberty rights with marriage equality.

The article argues that notwithstanding the holding in *Obergefell* the United States Constitution's safeguard for religious liberty is greater than the judicially-created right to marriage equality.



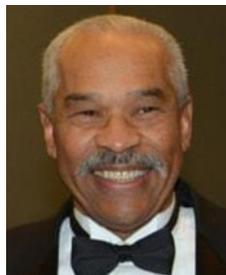
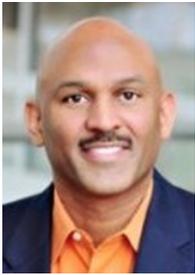


EARL CARL INSTITUTE NEWS



ECI Welcomes New Board Members

ECI is pleased to announce that the ECI Governing Board has voted on and approved the addition of six new governing board members. Please join ECI in welcoming the newest members of the ECI Governing Board: **Judge Bill Littlejohn, Ann McCoy, Harvey Catchings, Sherea McKenzie, Warrington B. Goudeau and Samuel J. Lewis.**



L to R: Goudeau, McKenzie, Lewis, Judge Littlejohn, Catchings and McCoy

ECI Associate Director Represents Center for Criminal Justice Nationally



Associate Director Anthony Haughton participated as a faculty trainer/presenter at the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NADCL) and the National Consortium for Capital Defense Trainings, “Bring Your Own Case” (BYOC) Capital Defense Training in Melbourne, Florida on December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The BYOC Capital Defense Program provides direct training and case development assistance to Capital Trial Teams.

Haughton also presented at the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association’s (TCDCLA) Capital Seminar during November 17-18, 2016. The Seminar was TCDLA’s Capital Trials and Mental Health CLE in South Padre Island, Texas. He presented to more than fifty capital practitioners on the Use of Client Centered Representation to secure a plea for life.

Haughton was also a presenter at the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association’s (ACDLA) *Loosening the Death Belt Series* CLE. The CLE is recognized as a top tier capital casework seminar and is used as part of Alabama’s Capital Attorney Certification Process. Haughton presented to 218 Capital practitioners on the Use of Client Centered Representation to secure the best result in a Capital Case. The CLE was held January 19-20, 2017.



EARL CARL INSTITUTE NEWS *Cont'd.*

THE EARL CARL INSTITUTE HOSTED THE 50TH COMMEMORATION OF THE IN RE GAULT DECISION



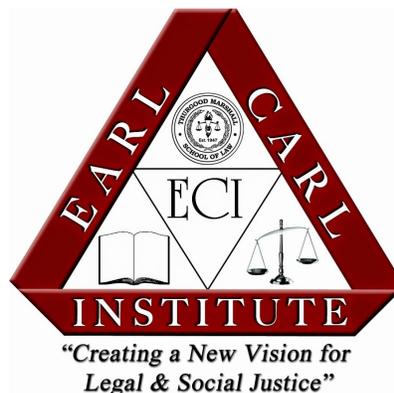
The Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy, Inc. (ECI), Thurgood Marshall School of Law and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M University hosted the 50th Commemoration of the *In Re Gault* decision which set a precedent for juvenile justice law in 1967. This continuing legal education program was held at the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs on March 2, 2017 from 10:00 a.m.-4:15p.m. During this one day event, there were 10 (ten) presenters and 3 (three) moderators. The presenters, attendees and moderators came from throughout Texas

to participate. Over 100 people were in attendance.

In re Gault, 387 U.S. 1 (1967), is a landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision that held that juveniles accused of crimes in a delinquency proceeding must be afforded many of the same due process rights as adults including the right to counsel. The ruling also provided other due process rights, including the right to adequate notice of charges, the right to confront an accuser, and the right against self-incrimination.

On June 8, 1964, Gerald Francis Gault, fifteen years old, was taken into custody on suspicion of making a lewd phone call to his neighbor, Mrs. Ora Cook. After proceedings in juvenile court, Gault was committed to the State Industrial School until he reached the age of 21. Had he been an adult, his maximum punishment would have been a \$50 fine or two months in jail. Instead, he faced the prospect of 6 years of incarceration. His sentence was based on the concept of *parens patriae*; the right of the state, as *parens patriae*, to deny to the child procedural rights available to his elders. The United States Supreme Court, in a decision 8-1, ruled “that Gault’s commitment to the State Industrial School was a clear violation of the 14th Amendment.”

The presenters were: Sessa Kethineni, Dr. Pamela Martin, Dr. Susan Frazier-Kouassi, Dr. Julian Scott, III, Patricia Cummings, Dr. Jeannie Von Stultz, Steven Halpert, Ilene Harper, Professor Sally Green, Matthew Trail and Elizabeth Henneke. *The program panels/topics included:* **A Historical Perspective of Juvenile Justice:** Significance of *In Re Gault* & Its Progeny; **Best Practices in Certification Hearings;** **Ethics in Juvenile Proceedings;** **Why Treat Children Differently:** The Appropriate Age of Juvenile Jurisdiction, The Adolescent Brain, and The Philosophy of Juvenile Court vs. Adult Court; **Where Do We Go From Here? Issues for the Future:** Changes in Sentencing & PREA, Trauma Informed Representation, & Restorative [Justice](#).



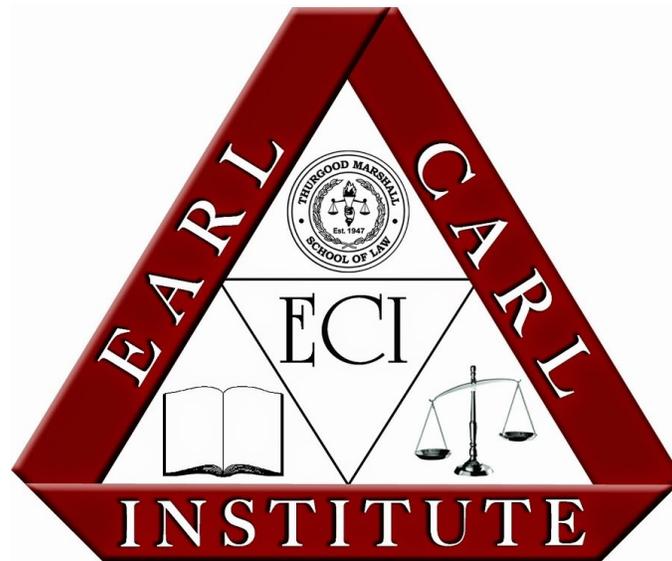


EARL CARL INSTITUTE NEWS *Cont'd*

HCAD partners with ECI for Homestead Exemption Workshops (reprint from “The Leader” newspaper)

The Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD), the City of Houston Housing, and Community Development Department along with the Earl Carl Institute are working in partnership to educate residents on homestead exemptions to save money on property taxes. HCAD led a homestead exemption workshop at the Acres Homes Multi-Service Center on Monday, February 27, 2017.

Ashley Hawkins, staff lawyer with the Earl Carl Institute, gave a presentation on preserving property from generation to generation. Attorney Hawkins explained to residents that a clear title to the property is needed to own a property. She also described wills and the necessity of probating a will. Future workshops and other additional information are posted on HCAD’s website and Facebook Page.



*“Creating a New Vision for
Legal & Social Justice”*



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM NEWS

TMSL Professor speaks at Juvenile Justice Drug Prevention Film and Seminar



The Department of Juvenile Justice, held a Youth Drug Prevention film screening and seminar to enlighten the public about illicit drug use. The event was held February 21, 2017, in the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs. Dr. Sharlette A. Kellum-Gilbert, associate professor in Administration of Justice, organized and hosted the event. Guests from the Texas Juvenile Justice Department shared testimony about inmates' illegal drug use and other criminal activities, including negligent manslaughter. Special Agent Sherod Jones with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), detailed his 32-year history of conducting drug raids around the world. He introduced the screening of *Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict*, a film produced by his agency. **Stephanie Ledesma**, TSU professor and Juvenile Justice attorney, shared information to guide the audience to be agents of change. Michelle Carey-Redic, a drug and alcohol counselor, provided clues to detect drug abuse in children. Renald "Ren" Moore, TSU's 2016 valedictorian, delivered powerful testimony about past criminal activities and debuted his rap single, "U-Life"! Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee and constituents of the 18th Congressional District presented a proclamation. Wal-Mart sponsored the event and distributed gifts to youngsters in the audience.

1L Elizabeth Opara Celebrates Moot Court Victory



The Experiential Learning Department would like to congratulate **Ms. Elizabeth Opara**, in her 1L Moot Court Victory. Ms. Elizabeth Adanna Opara is a first generation Nigerian-American who was born in Houston, Texas. She graduated from Sam Houston State University with a Bachelors of Science in Psychology and a Minor in Political Science. As a first year law student at TMSL, Ms. Opara has participated in several in-house competitions. She was a finalist in the Prestage Woods Negotiations Competition, second place in the Heman Marion Sweatt Client Counseling Competition, and first place as an advocate in the Catherine Haley Shaw Mock Trial Competition. In the 1L Neal Speedon Moot Court Competition, Ms. Opara said she learned several things; the most important was the value of preparation. "Knowing the strengths and weaknesses of your case is key in persuading a panel of judges". Ms. Opara said that the 1L Neal Speedon Moot Court Competition taught her to trust in herself and persevere in the face of challenge. Ms. Opara says she looks forward to further opportunities to represent TMSL and to fine-tune her public speaking and advocacy skills.



STAFF NEWS

TMSL Welcomes New Staff Members



Kelley Austin joined the Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy's Opal Mitchell Lee Property Preservation Project to provide bankruptcy and foreclosure defense representation in February 2017. Prior to joining the Earl Carl Institute, she worked in private practice where she practiced mainly bankruptcy and civil litigation. She has worked extensively in matters involving toxic torts, product liability, property disputes, bankruptcy and debt reorganization, and various other areas of civil litigation. She has served as court appointed counsel for the Harris County Tax and Probate courts, Fort Bend County Criminal Courts and Texas Board of Pardons and Parole. She earned her J.D., *Cum Laude*, in 2003 from Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University where she was a member of the James Douglas Board of Advocates and Phi Alpha Delta National Law Fraternity. She earned her B.A., in 1992 from Southwest Texas State University. She was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in December 2003 and the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas in May 2004. She currently serves on the City of Sugar Land's Land Use Advisory Council. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Sugar Land Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.



Jasline Hardiman joined the Earl Carl Institute as a Staff Attorney for the Opal Mitchell Lee Property Preservation and Foreclosure Defense Project in February 2017. She is a recent graduate of South Texas College of Law Houston and the first person in her family to obtain a doctoral degree. Jasline first developed a passion for Probate law during a Wills, Trust and Estates class. Since then she has made it her mission to develop the necessary skills to become a successful and effective Probate attorney. She has interned with Harris County Probate Court Number 3, volunteered for the Houston Bar Association's Will-a-thon, and participated in a Probate Clinic. During her last semester of school, Jasline was admitted into the Pro Bono College by South Texas and the State Bar of Texas for her volunteer work. Along with this distinguished recognition, Jasline made Dean's Honors list and was a recipient of various scholarships including one from the Houston Bar Association Probate, Trusts, and Estates section. In her spare time, Jasline enjoys volunteering with the Young Adult Ministry at Fallbrook Church, traveling, and hiking.



Chuck Nguyen is excited to join the Thurgood Marshall School of Law as our Network Administrator II in the IT department. His prior experience includes 3 years as a Systems Analyst at MD Anderson Cancer Center and over 10 years in Systems Engineering. Mr. Nguyen received his Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering at San Jose State University and Master of Business Administration at University of Phoenix. Mr. Nguyen has several Certifications including Microsoft MCSA in Windows 2012, Windows Server 2003/2008/2012, Microsoft SQL, Exchange and HP/Dell/IBM Server/Desktop/Laptop and SAN Storage. His skills include Enterprise system/hardware/software installations, configuration and testing. He is focused on providing quality customer service to the faculty, staff and students.



STAFF NEWS *Cont'd.*

Kenyon Moore Serves as Liaison for Discover Law Program

TMSL joined South Texas College of Law (STCL), and the University of Houston Law Center (UHLC) to participate in the 2017 JD Edge Program. The program held on March 4, 2017, was sponsored by the National Bar Association and the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) as a part of DiscoverLaw.org, a yearly initiative targeted to students from racial and ethnic groups underrepresented in the legal profession.

This one-day immersion program targeted diverse college sophomores and freshman to expose them to and prepare them for law school and the application process. The program consisted of a Law Student Panel—two students from each of the three schools and a Lawyer Panel—lawyers from each of the three law schools. The program was held at South Texas College of Law and is expected to be held at TMSL in 2018. This is **Assistant Director Kenyon Moore's** 8th year serving as TMSL's Liaison for this program.



Danyahel Norris Running for SBOT Director



Danyahel "Danny" Norris, Assistant Director of the TMSL Law Library is running for the State Bar of Texas Director position. Danyahel has served in many leadership roles both at the State bar and with the local Houston Lawyers Association. Danyahel has previously served as the president of the African American Law Section for the State Bar of Texas and the Houston Lawyers Association. TMSL family, let's cheer him on and wish him much success in the race for Director.

In Memoriam

Our condolences are extended to **Mosetta Moy**, Acquisitions Clerk, during this labored time of bereavement. Mosetta lost her brother, James C. Moy on March 13, 2017, and subsequently lost her sister, Minnie Pearl Chambers on March 20, 2017. TMSL family please keep Mosetta Moy in your positive thoughts during this time of great sadness.



STUDENT NEWS

TMSL Welcomes New Law Review Members during 2017 Associate Editor Pinning Ceremony

A host of family members and invited guests witnessed the installment of 11 new members into the Thurgood Marshall Law Review on Friday, February 24, 2017. The 2017 Associate Editor Pinning Ceremony occurred in the TMSL Moot Courtroom.



The Thurgood Marshall Law Review represents some of the brightest legal minds offered by the law school, providing a vehicle for academic publishing in the field of law. Students selected for law review are in the top percentage of their respective classes, and/or demonstrate a high level of research and writing skills.

The program included opening remarks by the 2016-2017 Editor-in-Chief, **Sekeia Wyatt** and introduction of the guest speaker by Managing Editor, **Kelechi Onwumere**. The keynote address was delivered by 2010 Summa Cum Laude Alum, **Kameron Brackins**, who served as Managing editor on the 2009 – 2010 Thurgood Marshall Law Review Editorial Board.



The event featured the pinning of 11 new members: **Amber Bunch, Alex Chalk, Smaranda Draghia, Countess Dudley, Marcus Esther, Danielle Garcia, Jolissa Jones, Brian King (pictured below), Kenneth Spears (pictured below), Khanay Turner, and Lakeisha Walton.**

Along with the announcement of the newly inducted members, the 2017-2018 Editorial Board was announced. **Countess Dudley** is the 2017-2018 Editor –in-Chief. (pictured above bottom row center)





STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*



GENDER, RACE & JUSTICE
LAW JOURNAL

Thurgood Marshall School of Law Gender, Race and Justice Law Journal *Welcomes New Associate Editors during The 4th Annual Pinning Ceremony*

The Thurgood Marshall School of Law *Gender, Race, and Justice Law Journal* is a student-run organization whose primary purpose is to publish a journal of legal scholarship. Accordingly, each issue contains scholarly works by student editors as well as outside authors. Student editors make all editorial and organizational decisions and, together with faculty advisors, carry out day-to-day operations.

The *Journal* held its 4th Annual Pinning Ceremony on February 9, 2017. The event featured the pinning of 22 new members. The newly installed members inducted as Associate Editors included:

Bethany Allen, Daphne Benford-Smith, Maegen Bradley, Merideth Carpenter-Black, Alex Chalk, Staci Childs, Cherika Edwards, Marcella Hagger, Erikson Hall, Maureen Iruke, Brittanie Johnson, Ronisha Kelly-Johnson, Chanta'l Lillie, Cesar Mata, Shakila Miller, Olympia Oliver, LaToya Rascoe, Francis Ruben, Monique Sellers, Belinda Veliz, Amber Walker and Marchelle Warren.





STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

TMSL was a Strong Presence at the BLSA National Convention

The National Association of Black Law Students held their 49th Annual National Convention in Houston, TX March 7th—12th, 2017. The theme for this year’s convention was “Embracing Our Legacy: Pursuing Racial Justice and Lasting Social Impact”. The week began with a National Roundtable press conference on Social Justice and a welcome reception with remarks made by Mayor Sylvester Turner. Students attended professional workshops, networking events and interviews. Other students from around the nation and Canada competed in Negotiations, Mock Trial and Moot Court Competitions. Also during this week long event, U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee and the Honorable Barbara C. Jordan were inducted into the NBLSA Hall of Fame. As the convention came to a close on March 11, 2017, TMSL embraced our legacy of excellence and left a lasting impression.



TMSL Mock Trial are Finalists in National Mock Trial Competition



The 2017 Southwest Regional Mock Trial champions are Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) students **Preston Strickland**, **Brooklyn Morris**, **Maya**, and **Kevin Christensen**. The team coached by TMSL alum LeTicia Quiones advanced to the National level and competed against the top thirteen teams from around the nation including Harvard, University of Texas, and New York University. The team advanced to become finalist in the 2017 Thurgood Marshall National Mock Trial Competition.



TMSL Moot Court Team Advances to The Top Eight

Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) students **Olympia Oliver** and **Ashley Rose** advanced top eight out of the 91 teams that competed around the nation. The moot court team coached by TMSL alum **Anthony Hynes** reached the quarterfinals for the first time in the National Competition. All three the teams from the southwest region (pictured right) placed within the top final spots of the competition. In addition, 2L Ashley Rose was elected National Director of Moot Court.





STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

TMSL Community Service Day

TMSL students volunteered at The 12th Annual Health, Education Science Fair and Carnival on Saturday, March 4, 2017. Special thanks are given to TMSL student organizations; Barbara C. Jordan Chapter of Black Law Student Associations; Thurgood Marshall Law Review; Student Ambassadors, and the Student Bar Association whom all participated. Additional thanks goes to Chef Bryan Oliver of Keith's Lounge for catering our VIP guest and elected officials.





STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW



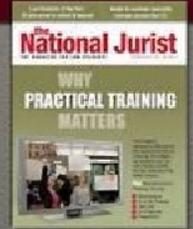
Congratulations to

Mr. Laymond Wilburn, 3L

on being selected as one of

The National Jurist Magazine's

2017 Law Students of the Year



Laymond's feature can be found on Page 17 in the Spring 2017 issue of The National Jurist.

CLICK THE LINK BELOW, to view Laymond's award-winning feature that secured this outstanding honor:

<http://www.nationaljurist.com/content/law-students-year-laymond-wilburn-texas-southern-university>

Hard copies of the magazine can be found complimentary in the TMSL Library.





STUDENT NEWS *Cont'd.*

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW



Congratulates
Ms. Nekketa Archie, 3L
for winning
Outstanding Oral Advocacy
25th Annual Duberstein
Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition
March 4-6, 2017, New York, NY



Nekketa Archie (3L) student, at Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law’s (TMSL) was named as “Outstanding Oralist” in this year’s Duberstein Moot Court Competition. This year marked the 25th year that TMSL has competed in this prestigious, nationwide competition which was held in New York, March 4-6, 2017.

Third-year students **Nekketa Archie (3L)**, **Marcella Hagger (3L)** and **Victoria Liu (3L)** competed as team 1 and **Baltazar Salazar(3L)**, and **Krystyna Salinas(2L)** and **Brian Ehrenberg (2L)** competed as team 2. The teams were coached by **Retired Bankruptcy Judge Manuel D. Leal**, **Professor Fernando Colon-Navarro**, **Professor Peter Marchetti** and attorney **Brendon Singh**, of Corral, Tran Singh, LLP. Special thanks to **U.S. Bankruptcy Judge David R. Jones** and **U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Marvin Isgur** who presided at oral argument practice session before the competition.





ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

Three TMSL Alums & a Faculty Member receive 2017 Honors for Outstanding Achievements



Robert Jones, TMSL class of 1972, is one of three recipients of the Richard “Racehorse” Haynes Lifetime Achievement Award. Jones has over forty years legal experience and has previously received an AV Preeminent rating for his ethical standards and legal ability. Robert specializes in criminal defense, federal criminal law, appellate practice and felonies.



Tyrone Moncriste, TMSL class of 1982, is recognized as the 2017 Lawyer of the Year. Moncriste who graduated magna cum laude in 1982, was voted as Texas Super Lawyers in Texas Monthly magazine in 2006 - 2015 and one of the Best Lawyers in Houston in 2008 - 2015. He was also voted Nation Top 1% Percent - 2008 -2015 by the National Association of Distinguish Counsel in 2015. Moncriste is board certified in criminal law by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.



Cheryl Irvin, TMSL class of 1980, is one of two recipients of the Sharon Levine Unsung Heroes Award. Irvin has over 30 years experience as a practicing attorney and served as a Houston City Court Judge from 1996-2001. Irvin also is a member of Harris County Criminal Lawyer Association, and a member of the prestigious National Trial Lawyer Association. In 2014, National Trial Lawyer Association picked Irvin as “one of the top trial lawyers” in the nation.



Lydia D. Johnson, current TMSL faculty member, is recognized as the 2017 Mentor of the Year. Professor Johnson has been involved with the Criminal Law Clinic and Clinical Legal Studies Program since 2006. She is also currently an Associate Municipal Court Judge for the City of Houston and previously served as an Assistant District Attorney, Harris County District Attorney's Office for eight years.

All honorees will be honored by the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association (HCCLA) at their 47th Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony on May 11, 2017.

Hotel ZaZa
5701 Main Street

May 11, 2017
5:00 pm Cocktail Reception
6:30 pm Dinner & Program

Richard "Racehorse" Haynes Lifetime Achievement
Allen C. Isbell
Robert Alton Jones
Clyde Williams

Lawyer of the Year
Tyrone C. Moncriste

Torch of Liberty
Mark Pirtle

Sharon Levine Unsung Heroes
Cheryl Elizabeth Irvin
Mana Yegani

Mentor of the Year
Lydia D. Johnson

Member of the Year Paul Morgan *President's Award* Rand Mintzer



ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.* ALUMNI ON THE MOVE

The Honorable Jason Pulliam appointed to Public Safety Commission



The Honorable Jason Pulliam, TMSL class of 2000, was appointed by Texas Governor Greg Abbott to the Public Safety Commission. His term is set to expire January 1, 2022. The commission oversees the Texas Department of Public Safety, which enforces laws protecting the public safety and provides for the prevention and detection of crime. Pulliam is counsel for Prichard Young and previously served as a justice on the Fourth Court of Appeals. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps in 2004. He is a member of the San Antonio Young Lawyers Association, San Antonio Bar Association, and the Defense Counsel of San Antonio.

TMSL Alumna Meredith Lilly appointed to Key Position by DeKalb CEO



Meredith Lilly, TMSL class of 2006, was announced by DeKalb CEO Michael Thurmond as the external affairs manager. Lilly's focus will be on constituent services and community-based engagement. Previously Lilly was appointed by President Barack Obama as the senior advisor to the regional administrator of the U.S. General Services Administration. An attorney and political strategist, Lilly started her political career in 2007 with the Obama for America campaign, in which she served as a regional political director, managing multiple campaign offices in several states. Over the past several years she has been involved with the following organizations: Habitat for Humanity, NAACP, American Cancer Society (Relay for Life), Hospitality House for victims of domestic violence and Toys for Tots. Meredith holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Pre-Law from Talladega College and she is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Inc.





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

William Smalling Publishes Featured Article in the ABA Air Quality Committee Newsletter



Claude William Smalling, TMSL class of 2008, published the featured article, *The NAAQS As A Metric For The Veil Of Cooperative Federalism* in the American Bar Association's Air Quality Committee Newsletter. The article discusses National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and mounting concerns regarding the Environmental Protection Agency's lack of cooperative dealings with the states. Smalling who has three L.L.M. diplomas in energy and environmental law, intellectual property law, and taxation knows better than anyone the undue burden of compliance placed upon impacted states due to oil and gas production activities dispersed across large acreages of land. Smalling currently has an environmental and energy law practice in Houston. Previously, Smalling has worked as an environmental and engineering consultant, after working at various positions with the Texas Air Control Board (predecessor to TCEQ).



TMSL Alum William "Cruz" Shaw in Election for City Council Member

TMSL Alum, William "Cruz" Shaw, Class of 200 is in a heated election for City Council, District 2 (San Antonio). Cruz, a former chairman of the San Antonio City Zoning commission, is running for city council because he feels that it is time that the city of San Antonio focus on education and economic development as a means to help fight crime. As a strong advocate for community policing, Cruz plans to organize Cellular on Patrol, as a way for residents to monitor their neighborhoods and have direct access to police in their communities.

Cruz vehemently advocates for police officer accountability and plans to scrutinize the police union contract that the incumbent supported.

Please join the TMSL family in support of William "Cruz" Shaw.



ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

IN MEMORIAM



Jack Kenneth Gray, TMSL class of 1993, departed this life on March 20, 2017. He was a practicing attorney in Bellaire, TX, in the areas of business and wills-trusts-probate. Jack will be remembered by his family and friends most for his wit, jokes and fishing adventures. In keeping with the family's wishes there will not be any services. The family simply asks that you celebrate Jack's life in your own preferred way and remember him as he would want to be remembered—with a smile.

Not Pictured

The father of **Valerie Jewett**, TMSL Class of 1998, James Timothy Jewett transitioned from this world on March 9, 2017. TMSL Family please extend your condolences to the family.



The mother of the **Honorable Monica McCoy Purdy**, TMSL class of 1992, entered into eternal rest on Thursday, March 16, 2017. Judge Purdy's mother, Sandra McCoy was laid to rest in her hometown of Tampa, Florida on March 25, 2017. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to the American Heart Association, Attn: Rebecca Garcia, 105 Decker Court, Suite 200, Irving, TX 75062.



UPCOMING CLE's

March 27th – April 6th

Experiential Learning and Office of External Affairs - Solo Practice Night CLE Series

- March 27th Family Law – CLE
- March 28th Personal Injury – CLE
- March 29th Criminal Law – CLE
- March 30th Transactional Practice – CLE
- April 3rd The State Bar Grievance Process –
What You Should Know to Protect Your License
and Ethics in Marketing a Law Practice–CLE
- April 4th Intellectual Property– CLE
- April 5th Civil Rights – CLE

ALL CLE COURSES:

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$25.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys

MCLE: 3.00 • Ethics: 1.00

Register online: www.tmslcle.com



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

311 Cleburne Street • Houston, Texas 77004



SAVE the DATE

TSU Rio Grande Valley Takeover

Thursday, May 18th

Hidalgo County Reception & Fundraiser

Home of TMSL Alum – The Honorable Rick Rodriguez
3010 North Roegiers - Edinburg, Texas 78541
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Friday, May 19th

Immigration CLE - Rio Grande Edition

Toscafino
3100 Pablo Kisel Blvd, Brownsville, Texas 78526
Cost \$100.00
MCLE 4.0 Ethics 1.0
Time: 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Cameron County Reception & Fundraiser

Home of TMSL Alum Noe Garza
Location: La Gloria Ranch • Time: 6:00 pm -9:00 pm

Saturday, May 20th

Inaugural TMSL Rio Grande Valley Skeet Shoot

Shooting for Bar Success
Location: Mi Ranchito Sporting Clays
35003 County Road 4848 • Linn, TX 78563
8:00 am - Registration & Breakfast
9:00 am - Shoot

Post Tournament BBQ Awards Luncheon

Attire: Jeans & Boots

For more information contact the
Office of External Affairs (713) 313-1142
Email prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu
Prudence Smith, Assistant Dean
Texas Southern University,
Thurgood Marshall School of Law



THURGOOD MARSHALL
SCHOOL OF LAW



UPCOMING EVENTS

You are

INVITED

2L Pinning Ceremony



*Cordially invites you to share in commemorating the passage of
The 2L Class into their final year of law school.*

SATURDAY

THE FIRST OF APRIL

TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN

SIX O' CLOCK IN THE EVENING

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY - SAWYER AUDITORIUM

3100 Cleburne Houston, Texas



UPCOMING EVENTS *Cont'd.*

The Hispanic Law Students Associations of

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW,
THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER,
AND SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF LAW

Cordially invite you to attend our

*Hispanic Law Students Association
Annual Scholarship Banquet*

Friday, March 31st, 2017

The Houston Downtown Aquarium
410 Bagby Street
Houston, Texas 77002

Please join us for cocktails beginning at
six thirty in the evening.
Dinner will follow at eight o' clock.

Keynote Speaker:
United States Congressman
Joaquin Castro



UPCOMING EVENTS *Cont'd.*

Thurgood Marshall School of Law

2017 Law Day Banquet

Keynote Speaker: The Honorable James E. Graves, Jr.

A promotional poster for the event. It features a central image of a golden Egyptian sphinx with a blue and gold striped nemes, set against a background of hieroglyphs. Below the sphinx are several golden pyramids. The date "4.22.17" is prominently displayed in large yellow font at the top. The title "A NIGHT ON THE NILE" is written in large, bold, yellow, block letters across the middle. At the bottom, the text "CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW" is written in black, followed by the venue "Hilton Americas - 1600 Lamar, Houston, Texas 77010" and the schedule "Cocktail Hour 6 PM | Banquet 7 PM | After Party 9 PM".

4.22.17

**A NIGHT ON THE
NILE**

CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

Hilton Americas - 1600 Lamar, Houston, Texas 77010

Cocktail Hour 6 PM | Banquet 7 PM | After Party 9 PM



UPCOMING EVENTS *Cont'd.*

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Signature Event of the Year

the
**Maroon
&
Gray**
A F F A I R

Save the Date

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017

MARRIOTT MARQUIS DOWNTOWN HOUSTON

RECEPTION 6:30PM • DINNER PROGRAM 7:30PM



BECOME A SPONSOR • HOST A TABLE • PURCHASE TICKETS
FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.TSU.EDU OR CONTACT US AT (713) 313-1363



EVENTS CALENDAR

On-line Registration for ALL TMSL CLEs: [Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law](http://www.tmslcle.com)

APRIL 2017

April 1st

2L Pinning Ceremony

Location: TSU Sawyer Auditorium
Time: 6:00 pm

April 3rd

The State Bar Grievance Process – What You Should Know to Protect Your License and Ethics in Marketing a Law Practice–CLE

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Time: 6:00 pm-9:00 pm
Cost: \$25.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys
MCLE: 3.00
Ethics 1.00
Register online: www.tmslcle.com

April 4th

Intellectual Property–CLE

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Time: 6:00 pm-9:00 pm
Cost: \$25.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys
MCLE: 3.00
Ethics 1.00
Register online: www.tmslcle.com

April 5th

Faculty Development

Location: Deans Conference Room
Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

April 5th

Civil Rights–CLE

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Time: 6:00 pm-9:00 pm
Cost: \$25.00 attorneys; complimentary non-attorneys
MCLE: 3.00
Ethics 1.00
Register online: www.tmslcle.com

April 12th

Faculty Development

Location: Deans Conference Room
Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

April 12th

How to Succeed in Your Summer Internship

Time: 12:00 p.m.
Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Contact: For more information email Career Services at careerservices@tmslaw.tsu.edu

April 14th

Good Friday (No Classes)

April 17th-22nd

TMSL Law Week

Go to: www.tsulaw.edu for more information

Monday, April 17th: Alumni Guest Speaker – Kimberly Phillips (Shell Oil) – 12 noon
Moot Court Room Naming Ceremony & Reception – 5pm – 7pm

Tuesday, April 18th: History Day

Wednesday, April 19th: Alumni Guest Speaker – The Honorable Marc Carter – 12 noon

Thursday, April 20th: Financial Workshop – 12 noon
Faculty/ Staff Appreciation Day & Faculty Roast – 5pm

Friday, April 21st: Step Show, Carnival & Food Trucks – 5pm

Saturday, April 22nd: Law Day Banquet – 6pm (Cocktails) & 7pm (Program)



EVENTS CALENDAR

On-line Registration for ALL TMSL CLEs: [Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law](#)

APRIL 2017

April 19th **Faculty Development**

Location: Deans Conference Room
Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

April 20th **Alumni & Student Reception**

Location: TBD
Time: 5:30pm – 8:00pm

April 21st **TMSL Alumni Board New Member Orientation & Induction**

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law – Dean’s Conference Room
Time: TBD

April 22nd **TMSL Alumni Board Meeting**

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law – Dean’s Conference Room
Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

April 22nd **Law Day Banquet**

Location: Hilton Americas Hotel
Time: 6:00 reception, 7:00 dinner & program
Cost: \$50 individual & \$90 couple
For sponsorship information please contact the Office of External Affairs [\(713\) 313-1197](tel:7133131197) or prsmith@tmslaw.tsu.edu

April 26th **Last Day of Classes**

April 26th **Last Day to Drop a Class**

April 26th **First Year Professor’s Grades Due**

April 26th **Faculty Development**

Location: Deans Conference Room
Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

April 27th & 28th **4th Annual Child Welfare Forensics Conference - CLE**

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

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Time: Thursday – 8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Friday - 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Cost: Before April 15, 2017:
Attorneys \$175, gov’t/nonprofit attorneys \$100, non-attorney professionals \$40, complimentary for public defenders, faculty, staff, and students
After April 15, 2017: Attorneys \$225.00, gov’t/nonprofit attorneys \$150, public defenders \$50, complimentary for faculty, staff, and students

MCLE: 15.0

Ethics: 3.0

CEU Credits Available

Register online: <https://childwelfareforensicscle.eventbrite.com>

April 27th – 30th **Reading Period (No Classes)**

April 29th **Maroon & Gray Affair**

Location: Marriot Marquis Houston, TX
Time: 7:30 pm



March Birthdays

Deana Pollard Sacks	5th
Marsha Griggs	8th
Sarah Guidry	8th
Mary Kelly	9th
Sally Green	17th
Shaundra Lewis	18th
Jeanetta Washington	19th
Docia Rudley	21st
Anya Ahunanya	23rd
Martina Cartwright	31st



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”