



# THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

A Student - Edited Legal Publication of the Southern University Law Center

November 2011



## Seriousness of Purpose: Vice Chancellor Russell L. Jones

Russell L. Jones, the Jesse N. Stone, Jr. Endowed Professor, was named Southern University Law Center (SULC) vice chancellor of academic affairs in 2007. He received a BA degree in 1974 from Northeast Louisiana University, his JD degree, *magna cum laude*, in 1982 from Southern University Law Center, and a LL.M. degree in 1992 from Georgetown University School of Law. He was admitted to practice in Louisiana in 1982.

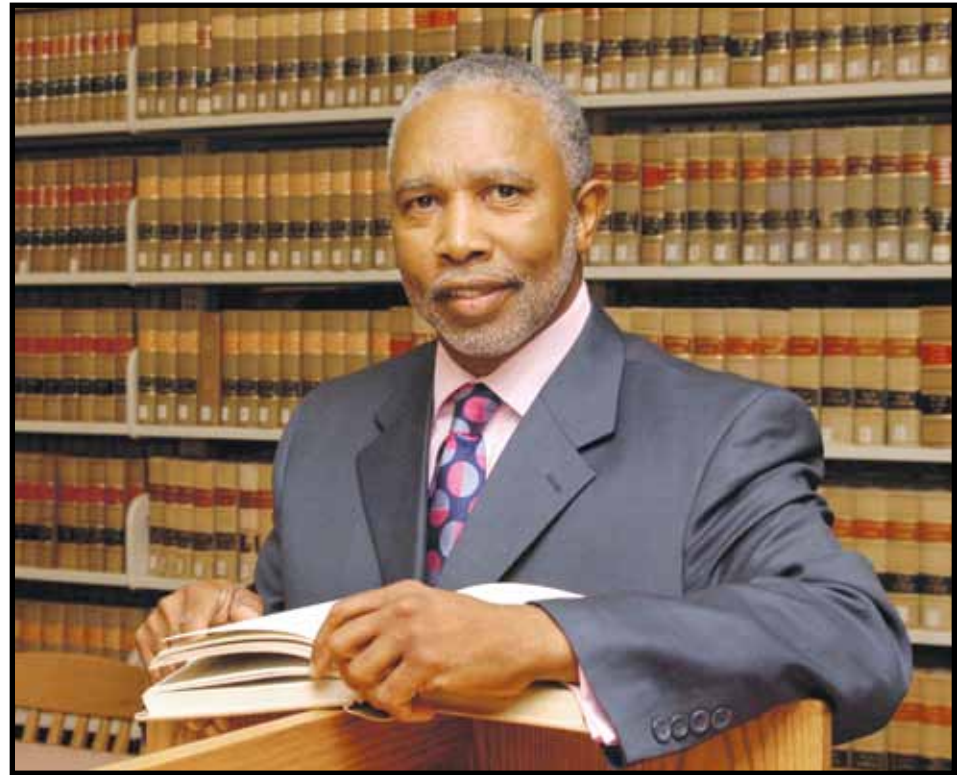
Vice Chancellor Jones was recognized as the 2010 Distinguished Professor by the Louisiana Bar Foundation. He also received the 2001 Louisiana Bar Journal Stephen T. Victory Memorial Award for best Journal feature article.

He is the co-author of two books: Harges and Jones, *Louisiana Evidence*, 2007 (Thomson-West Publishing Co., Lawyers Practice Series); and Harges and Jones, *Louisiana Evidence: Problems and Cases* (Esquire Books, 2011). He also has written several articles on Louisiana Evidence and the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution. He is currently working on two evidence articles: *Louisiana Code of Evidence Article 412.2: Does it Serve Its Intended Purpose* and *Louisiana Code of Evidence Article 404(B)(1): Will We Ever Get It Right?*

Vice Chancellor Jones established the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project at SULC in 2009. He is the recipient of the 2010 Louis A. Martinet Legal Society's Outstanding Community Service Award; the 2009 Kean Miller Hawthorne, D'Armond, McCowan & Jarman Diversity Award; the 2001 Baton Rouge Bar Association President's Award; the 2000 Freeport-McMoRan Community Service Award presented by WAFB and Freeport-McMoRan Company; and the 1984 Pro Bono Attorney Award presented by the Capital Area Legal Service Corporation.

He has been named the SULC Student Bar Association Professor of the Year on several occasions; the SULC Alumni Association Distinguished Professor in 2004; and the Black Law Students Association, Outstanding Law Professor at Nova University-Shepard Broad Law Center, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in 1994.

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Vice Chancellor Russell L. Jones  
Southern University Law Center



## “Don’t call it a comeback”

By **Tori Howze**

On Wednesday, September 21, 2011, marked a historical evening at Southern University Law Center. On that evening, the most prestigious law fraternity, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, International, held their induction ceremony, welcoming in over thirty new members. The A.A. Lenoir Senate of Delta Theta Phi has not been active for a couple of years but with the new leadership recently re-installed, Delta Theta Phi is here to stay. The newly elected officers of Delta Theta Phi are Kerry Hill serving as Dean, Randy Reynolds as Vice Dean, Markita Hawkins as Tribune, Victoria Minor as Clerk of Exchequer, Amanda

Henderson as Clerk of Rolls, Chidi Oha as Bailiff and Matthew Joseph as Master of Ritual.

Chartered in 1973, with one of its first members being Southern University Law Center Chancellor, Freddie Pitcher, the A.A. Lenoir Senate of Delta Theta Phi holds true to their mission. The A.A. Lenoir Senate holds that the fraternal purpose of this organization shall be to “perpetuate in every member the application of the highest standards of personal integrity, diligence, candor and trust, of individual responsibility, of respect for law, rights an property of others and the highest ethical and professional standards of conduct in the study, practice, and teaching of the law.” The

object of this organization is to lead all members to high scholarship and legal learning, to promote justice and to advance the interests of every college of law in addition to some other objectives. To add, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, International is the only law Fraternity in the world that publishes its own authoritatively recognized law review.

The A.A. Lenoir Senate of Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, International is extremely grateful for all alumni and faculty advisors, Professor Cynthia Reed and Career Counselor Tavares Walker. The re-installation of this organization will prove to be the most historical of all organization at Southern University Law Center.

## Women in Law Launches Health Awareness Month

By **Markita S. Hawkins, WIL President**

It’s the click of our heels, the bend of our hair, the need of our care, Women, Women in Law, that’s us. In the Fall of 1984, a group of phenomenal women came together and formed programs that consider their special needs through academic excellence and political and social involvement. Today, Women in Law are still standing.



During the month of October, we bring awareness to Breast Cancer, Aids, Domestic Violence and Diabetes. The purpose of WIL’s Awareness Month is to heighten the awareness of

See **WOMEN** on page 2

## Christians at Law

By **Chrishauna Johnson**

Christians at Law Society (CAL) is a non-denominational organization of Christian law students dedicated to serving Jesus Christ throughout their legal career. Christians at Law Society aims to help students of Southern University Law Center integrate their faith with their study and eventual practice of law. This is done through facilitating fellowships, social and spiritual and providing support through encouragement and prayer. CAL activities include bible study, community service and networking with other lawyers in the greater Louisiana area. CAL is open to all who believe in the Christian faith and to those who desire to



come into a closer connection with God. The Executive Board members are: Jammie Garrett, President; Ashley Conish, Vice-President; LaKayla Friddle, Treasurer; Abigail Cole, Event Coordinator; Kimberly Persley, Secretary; Chrishauna Johnson, Community Service Chair; Jeremy Bazille, Parliamentarian.

## Seriousness of Purpose

### SERIOUSNESS: continued from page 1

At the Law Center, Professor Jones is chairperson of the scholarship committee, and a member of the Tenure and Promotion committee and the Admissions committee.

Professor Jones is a member of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Baton Rouge Bar Association, Louisiana Bar Association Board of Governors, Louisiana Bar Foundation, Jock Scott Community Partnership Panel, and Director of the SULC Marshall-Brennan Project. Professor Jones was also the attorney coach for the Southern University Laboratory School mock trial team. The team won the Loui-

siana State Bar Association Region VII Mock Trial competition three years under Professor Jones' leadership.

In his community, he is a member of Greater New Guide Baptist Church where he is superintendent of the Sunday school department.

Professor Jones passion is teaching and preparing law students for a challenging but rewarding career. He believes that there is room in the legal profession for those who want to be advocates for justice and positive change.

### WOMEN: continued from page 1

preventable health issues that affect us all. Breast Cancer Awareness was a success, as the members of WIL passed out self-examination instructions, posted facts around the school and motivated the students and faculty to wear pink on Wednesday in support of the fight. With incredible support from the SULC Family thus far, we were thankful and inspired to continue our actions outside of the classrooms.

With the 2011-2012 editorial board, Markita Hawkins serving as President, Kirschelle Williams as Vice President, Crie Spears-De Leo as Secretary, Shemarial Levine as Treasurer, and Lenina Hurdle as Project Director, our organization will continue to advance and expand the needs of women. We encourage all women of SULC to join and contribute to the movement.

## Civil Rights: A Struggle for Justice

### SU Civil Rights Symposium to Commemorate Former Student Activists

Elsie L. Scott, president and chief executive officer of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, and Dave Dennis, a 1961 Freedom Rider, will be keynote speakers at the 2011 Southern University Civil Rights Commemoration Symposium to be held November 10-11, at the Southern University Law Center.

An exhibit opening, book-signings, and reception will kick off the two-day event at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 9, at the Southern University Museum of Art. The exhibit titled, "The World Will Move: Civil Rights and Public Transportation in Louisiana, 1860s- 1950s" is being sponsored by the Louisiana State Museum. Ten authors are scheduled to sign their books during the event.

During the late 1950s through the early 1970s, students, faculty, and administrators on the campuses of Southern University in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Shreveport, played an integral role in the social and political gains made during the Civil Rights Movement. Anniversary dates of many of their strategic efforts, such as sit-ins,

Freedom Rides, and lawsuits, provide the ideal opportunity to highlight these individuals and their historic involvement in the planned commemoration.

Scott, a native of Louisiana and graduate of Southern University in Baton Rouge, will speak at noon Friday, November 11, in the Royal Cotillion Ballroom of the SU Smith-Brown Student Memorial Union. Since February of 2007, she has advised mayors, community groups, and police and other officials on matters involving crime and police and the black community, women's issues, hate violence, management and training, and race and poverty. She has overseen the successful launch of several CBCF projects intended to broaden and elevate the influence of African Americans in the political, legislative and public policy arenas, as well as their overall condition and well being.

Dennis, a former organizer for the Congress for Racial Equality (CORE) and a former co-director of the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO), will speak at noon Thursday, November 10, in the Royal Cotillion Ballroom. He would

have been with the three civil rights workers, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and James Chaney, who were murdered in Mississippi, if he had not been home recuperating from bronchitis. He currently works for the Algebra Project, which provides teacher training to help inner city and rural students achieve mathematics literacy. Dennis says education is the next civil rights frontier.

In addition to the keynote addresses, the symposium, which will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. each day, will include plenary sessions, panel discussions, documentary screening, and other presentations to commemorate the progress made during this period. Recipients of the 2011 Change Agent Awards and winners of the 2011 SULC Legal Writing Competition held in association with the symposium will be made during the Friday luncheon program.

Organizers of the commemoration are still seeking volunteers to be a part of this event. "We also need alumni to spread the word and have former students,

faculty, and administrators of Southern University campuses in all part of the state to connect with us," according to the commemoration co-chairs Sanna Nimitz Towns and the Rev. Bobby Ray Saucer.

The Joe Stewart WKKF Trustee Fund, Battle Creek Community Foundation, is a major sponsor of this event.

For more information on symposium registration, sponsorships, memorial donations, nominations for the Change Agent award, and the student legal writing competition, contact the co-chairs Sanna Nimitz Towns, Class of 1964, at 651-224-0833 or [sannamerle@yahoo.com](mailto:sannamerle@yahoo.com); or Bobby Joe Saucer, Class of 1964, [bjsaucer@bellsouth.net](mailto:bjsaucer@bellsouth.net)

Contact: Rachel L. Emanuel  
[225] 771-5815  
FAX [225] 771-6247

## Women in Law

### Progress Towards Equality?



By Udeme Ikpe

Historically, law has been an institution dominated by men. However, since 1970, the legal profession has more than doubled and this is largely due to the dramatic increase of women.

In 1960, women comprised 2.5% of law school enrollments, but this shot to 40% in the 1980's. However, women are still underrepresented as partners and in the top earning sectors of the legal field.

Many studies highlight the disparities that exist within the legal profession. One study of law school graduates revealed an income gap between men and women in the legal field. A graduating class of law students began working with nearly identical salaries, but several years later the women were only earning 88% of their male colleagues' salaries. A different study on Harvard Law students showed that ten years after graduation only one-quarter of graduating women were partners, compared to more than one-half of the men. On top of this, 46% of men who passed the bar between 1975 and 1990 are now partners, compared to only 25% of women. In fact, research findings proved that men are nearly 50% more likely than women to attain partnership.

Even though women constitute nearly half of most law school students, they are grossly underrepresented in many fields that have historically been dominated by men; for example, corporate and commercial law. Corporate and commercial

law combined makes up 45% of the legal professions revenues while women's fields only account for about 12% of the professions revenues. Women display larger numbers in fields that are an extension of women's traditional familial roles, such as, family, employment, housing, personal finance, probate, child welfare, and personal injury law. Women are specializing in areas that require human relation skills and where women or children are likely to be victims or complainants. Financial companies even seek lawyers with skills in banking, insurance and finance laws, which are also considered female areas of the legal field.

In essence, various fields of law are defined in terms of stereotypical masculine traits such as rationality, aggressiveness, ruthlessness and a cold calculating logic. Legal fields that do not fit the masculine criteria are consequently recognized as feminine. Once a job becomes gendered, institutional demands and daily performances further ingrain a role as male or female. While women are employed to nurture links with client communities, they are able to lay claim to a certain area of knowledge, but the irony is that, at the same time, they also reinforce their position as the "other" in respect to the masculine code of the entire profession.

National data revealed that women are underrepresented in private law firms, but overrepresented in government, public-interest law, and smaller firms. The large private firms pay associates and partners significantly more money than smaller (more sex-integrated) firms, corporate, and government practices. Women usually work in medium-sized legal departments that consist of 11 to 25 lawyers. Further-

more, larger departments that consist of 26 or more lawyers actually hired the fewest women. Women who chose to seek legal jobs that are extensions of family roles, and large firms that continue to hire predominantly men fortify *gender segmentation* within the field.

Gender segmentation creates unfair outcomes for women, including a considerable wage inequality in earnings and a glass ceiling that women cannot escape. The glass ceiling is a conceptualization of the invisible and systemic barriers that separate women from top positions and genuine authority. It is referred to as a glass ceiling because women can look up and see what upper level positions and promotional opportunities are available, but they can never break through the glass to reach them. Even though there are women who do work in private firms, they tend not to follow the

traditional male career path of associate then partner and this further enhances inequalities.

There are differing arguments to explain the lack of female partners and women in large, private firms. Though some theorists explained these inequalities in terms of the legal professions incompatibility with motherhood, others have employed the human capital theory for an explanation. In essence, women who take advantage of flexible working hours and maternity and childcare provisions offered by some firms are ultimately disadvantaged in promotion decisions because they are often relegated to the mommy track. Also, women interested in future motherhood often chose employment at firms with the availability of options and concessions for expectant and current mothers. Interestingly, a number of

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## THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

Southern University Law Center Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

Editor-in-Chief, Crie Spears-De Leo  
Executive Editor, Brittany Bell  
Managing Editor, Markita S. Hawkins  
Articles Editor, Adrianna Williams  
Bluebook Editor, Sarah Margaret Smith  
Project Director, Jacob Davis

### Featured Writers:

Crie Spears-De Leo  
Virag Davé  
Markita S. Hawkins  
Udeme Ikpe  
Yoursheka George  
Tori Howze  
Joshua K. Williams  
Chrisauna Johnson  
Benjamin Todd Jealous

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Check us out on the web at [www.sulc.edu](http://www.sulc.edu).

2 Timothy 3:16

# Civil Rights: A Struggle for Justice



# SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY Civil Rights Commemoration *2011* SYMPOSIUM

## November 10-11 • Southern University Law Center

**Kick-off Event** • Exhibit Opening

**“The World Will Move: Civil Rights and Public Transportation in Louisiana, 1860s- 1950s”**

November 9, 5:30 p.m. • Southern University Museum of Art

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**DR. ELSIE L. SCOTT**  
President and CEO  
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation



**DAVE DENNIS**  
1961 Freedom Rider  
Former Organizer for CORE

- Exhibits
- Panel Discussions
- Workshops
- Documentary Screening
- Book Signings
- Change Agent AWARDS

Share stories of **Southern University Student Activism** and engagement in the social and political issues of the **Civil Rights Movement...**

Motivate **Today's Young People** to determine how to use their power in the **Betterment** of their lives, the lives of their families and communities, in this country and **The World.**

## 1959-1965 Struggle for Freedom and Justice

Sit-Ins

Demonstrations

Freedom Rides

Marches

Lawsuits

## 1966-1972 Struggle for Self-Determination

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## Civil Rights: A Struggle for Justice

# I AM TROY DAVIS: THE FIGHT FOR ABOLITION CONTINUES

By *Crii Spears-De Leo*

Troy Davis died the way he spent the last 22 years: vigorously protesting his innocence. At approximately 10:32 p.m. EST, Troy Davis was strapped into a gurney at Georgia Diagnostic and Classification State Prison. Before being pronounced dead at 11:08 p.m., Davis proclaimed his innocence stating:

*"First of all, I would like to address the MacPhail family, and let you all know that despite the situation, I know you all are convinced that I am the person that killed your father, son, and your brother. But I am innocent. The incident that happened that night was not my fault. I did not have a gun that night, I did not shoot your family member but I am so sorry for your loss. All that I can ask is that each of you look deeper into this case so that you can really finally see the truth. I ask to my family and friends that you all continue to pray. You continue to forgive and continue to fight this fight. And to those who are about to take my life that God have mercy on your soul . . ."*

At the time of Officer Mark MacPhail's murder in 1989, the shooting divided Savannah along racial and socio-economic lines. It is indisputable the police were under tremendous pressure to solve the case and convict the murderer. It is also unquestionable that the media and the police implicated Davis before he was arrested. After listening to witnesses recant their testimony from twenty years earlier, I am convinced it is highly likely that Savannah Police coerced a specific class of people, who reside in a specific area, who are likely to engage in criminal activity, thus were easily influenced in the attempt to cover up its inability to tolerate the scrutiny that comes with public office.

As a 2010 NAACP Law Fellow, I learned of a death penalty case that had been making its way through the courts for twenty years. The Savannah, Georgia, community convicted Troy Anthony Davis in 1991 for the 1989 shooting death of Savannah Police officer Mark MacPhail, who was working as a security guard when he attempted to assist a homeless man who had been assaulted in the parking lot of a Burger King restaurant. In the chaos that followed, Officer MacPhail was shot three times. Although it is undisputed that Davis was at the scene that night, many believe that he was not the gunman, but instead Sylvester "Red" Coles -- the principle alternative suspect.

The case against Davis consisted entirely of witness testimony which contained inconsistencies even at the time of the trial. Since then, seven of the nine states witnesses have recanted their trial testimony and stated in sworn affidavits that they were pressured or coerced by police into testifying or signing statements alleging Troy Davis as the gunman. One of the two witnesses who has not recanted his testimony is Sylvester "Red" Coles, who was also the first to implicate Davis.

The Supreme Court stayed Davis' execution on four occasions. In 2009, the Supreme Court of the United States issued an order mandating an evidentiary hearing, remanding the matter back to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, providing Davis the rare opportunity to present evidence of his innocence as part of a petition for a new trial. This type of hearing had not been granted in over half a century.

On June 23, 2010, the NAACP Legal Fellows arrived in Savannah, Georgia, to assist Mr. Ben Jealous and the local state NAACP field organizers and to observe the evidentiary hearing. The seven of us watched in disbelief while Davis was escorted into the Federal Court by five prison guards. After dedicating countless hours to his case, this was our first time seeing him in person.

Only 110 people were allowed to observe the proceeding. Ninety were supporters of both families. The remaining twenty consisted of media and those who impatiently waited in line in the scorching sun that morning for a ticket to the unprecedented proceedings. U.S. Marshalls who sternly and

orderly directed persons to a seat segregated the courtroom. Behind Mr. Davis, his family sat. While on the other side of the courtroom, the first two benches were reserved with colored paper, designating seating for the family of Mark MacPhail.

The court remained silent and still as the Honorable William T. Moore addressed the State of Georgia and the defense. He advised he was ready for the evidence to be presented, to begin with witness testimony.

The defense's witnesses were summoned to testify twenty years later after originally testifying as teenagers. At the evidentiary hearing I observed various witnesses recant their testimony claiming they were pressured or coerced by Savannah Police officers into testifying or signing affidavits implicating Davis. The first witness to take the stand was Mr. Antoine Williams, who testified in 1989 he witnessed the shooting death of MacPhail from his car while waiting in the parking lot of a Burger King restaurant. Williams alleged the gunman to be a black male, 6 feet 2 inches tall, between the ages of 20 and 23, wearing a white t-shirt. He described the murder weapon as a rusty revolver.

Williams recanted the testimony and admitted that in 1989 and still today, he could not read or write. He further stated he did not know who shot MacPhail and did not see anything. He said he signed the affidavit; however, he was unaware of its content because he could not read it. Under cross-examination, Williams identified the affidavit he signed because the signature block was marked with an "X." He explained to the court that his signature is the letter "X" because he cannot write.

On cross-examination the State questioned why Williams agreed to sign an affidavit he did not write and could not read. Williams told the court that where he is from you do what the police tell you to do. As the State aggressively challenged Williams' remark he replied, "all I remember is an officer being shot. I still have nightmares. That's it."

Next to the witness stand was Kevin McQueen, who was in the Chatham County Jail at the same time as Davis. In 1989 McQueen testified against Davis, alleging that Davis confessed to shooting and killing MacPhail. McQueen recanted his testimony admitting that he was bitter regarding a physical confrontation that occurred between he and Davis while incarcerated. McQueen admitted after viewing media coverage on the shooting, he lied under oath and was never told by Davis he shot an officer.

In an attempt to discredit McQueen, the State introduced his criminal history. McQueen continued, "He spit in my damn face" and "got the best of me. He did not tell me he shot anyone -- period."

Later called to the witness stand was Jeffrey Sapp, who detectives claimed informed Savannah Police that Davis told him and others about the shooting the next day in 1989. However, Sapp recanted and testified Davis did not say he shot MacPhail. When Sapp testified in 1989 he was an 18-year-old drug dealer. The police continued to harass him at his home, reminding him they were after Davis, and were also aware of Sapp's drug activities. Sapp testified he was taken in for questioning and "four or five" detectives told him Davis had confessed. He claims that police told him, "Just say Troy told you. Just say Troy told you." Sapp also admitted to being on drugs at the time, "I was smoking a lot of marijuana back then, and may have been in a fight with Troy at the time."

Sapp admitted he also lied under oath. "When you have detectives in one ear, in the other ear, behind you, you do what they say" Sapp said. "I said Troy is dangerous." "I was saying the same thing they told me to say," Sapp told the courtroom about detectives.

Darrell Collins, who was 16-years-old at the time took the stand after Sapp and testified the night of the shooting he attended a party with Davis and another friend. He told the courtroom they left the party and walked to a pool hall where they witnessed Sylvester "Red" Coles arguing with another man over alcohol. Collins stated they all left and were walking towards the Burger King. Davis and



Collins trailed behind Coles and the unidentified man as they continued arguing. He says police came and he walked away from the scene.

Collins testified he did not witness an altercation in the Burger King parking lot. "I didn't see anyone with a gun. I did not

see Troy with a gun. I didn't see anything," Collins told the courtroom. He testified that he said he heard gunshots, but did not know what happened. The next day, police arrived at his home and told him Davis assaulted the

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A Message from the NAACP

## The Funeral of Troy Davis



Photo Source: NAACP

Thousands joined in to celebrate his life at the Jonesville Baptist Church, and tens of thousands more joined online through the webstream. The power of our global community—united to honor, to stand on convictions and to show respect—was palpable inside the church.

There was little talk of sadness, little mention of grief. The Davis family, compelled by their deep faith, chose to celebrate Troy's spirit, to honor his life, and to continue to move his mission to abolish the death penalty.

Their strength mirrors Troy's own. Half of his life was spent behind bars, a captive of a system designed to crush even the mightiest of spirits. But Troy never lost hope. He never lost his faith in God or in his higher purpose.

In the execution room, Troy used his last words to proclaim his innocence one final time. He then made a call for his movement—all of our movement—to bring about to end of the death penalty for good. And then, in his final breath, he asked God's mercy upon those about to kill him.

Even in his darkest hour Troy Davis saw light. In the face of death he showed compassion, resolution and conviction—a bravery that will forever be remembered.

So together, we will honor Troy's memory and work to end the terror of state sponsored execution. It was a goal of Fredrick Douglass, Ida B Wells, and Thurgood Marshall. And it is a goal that the NAACP will carry forward in the weeks and months ahead.

A punishment reserved almost

exclusively for poor people of all colors, and especially for those like Troy who are of color, is not a punishment. It's the most irreversible and violent act of discrimination, and the ultimate violation of human rights.

The way that each of us can ensure the end of capital punishment comes as soon as possible is to shift from rallies where we shout the slogan I am Troy Davis, to a sustained campaign where we practice the faith of Troy Davis. If our movement is going to be successful, then we must focus on three types of action:

First, we must target the death penalty for elimination in ten more states.

Second, we must approach every sitting District Attorney and candidate for District Attorney and let them know that they will no longer get our votes unless they stop sending people to death row.

Finally, we all must vote. We are more powerful than those who would do wrong in this world. But only through our collective voice will we achieve our goal.

The time has come for us all to come together and finish what our foremothers and forefathers started. We will end the death penalty, and we will do it in honor of Troy Davis.

Sincerely,  
Ben

Benjamin Todd Jealous  
President and CEO  
NAACP

Reprint from [www.naacp.org/news/entry/the-funeral-of-troy-davis](http://www.naacp.org/news/entry/the-funeral-of-troy-davis)

## Legal News

# The Casey Anthony Murder Trial: A First Hand Account

By Virag Davé

While the world was watching Casey Anthony through the lens of a camera, I had the opportunity to see a different Casey Anthony, first hand - 15 feet away from me. The Casey Anthony trial was in full-swing when I saw Judge Belvin Perry Jr. administer one of the most highly contested and controversial legal cases in recent history. When I saw the prosecution team deliberate against Jose Baez and vice versa, I was immediately enthralled by watching the two opposing sides throw down the gauntlet and argue over Casey Anthony's guilt in the unfortunate death of Caylee Anthony.

On July 5th, 2011, when the jury found Casey Anthony not guilty of 1st degree murder, the world was surprised. Many critics were taken aback and even spoke out, to suggest that the jury had rendered the wrong verdict. Casey Anthony had been tried in the Court of Public Opinion and was found guilty. She would eventually have to come to terms with this fact. Yet the question is often raised that how could a jury acquit a person when the defendant was such a chronic liar? The biggest question often raised is: What led to the jury's findings of "not guilty"?

Since the prosecution had focused their concentration on first degree murder, the state had to show that: (1) the victim was deceased; (2) the death was caused by an alleged criminal act of the defendant; and (3) there was a premeditated killing of the victim. The defense did an excellent job in countering the prosecution's points. Yes, there may have been human remains, but do we really know, beyond a reasonable doubt, how Caylee Anthony died? No! The jury had the duty of taking all the evidence and facts into consideration, and in the end I believe they were stuck on "the cause of death" which led to the not guilty verdict. The jury did not acquit Casey Anthony for all charges, as she was found guilty of deliberately lying to law enforcement. The prosecution, however, failed to prove that Casey Anthony murdered her daughter Caylee Anthony due to the lack of hard, physical evidence, which was needed in order to tie the defendant directly to the crime scene.

**And then there was the media . . .**

As I made my way towards the court-



house, the presence of the media became apparent. Stopping in front of one of the delis on the side of the courthouse, I took a look around me; I could see large tents set up across the street from the courthouse. As I approached the steps of the courthouse, I saw groups of different media outlets running towards the doors of the courthouse as if there was a stampede. As I turned my head, I realized what was taking place, it was George and Cindy Anthony walking into the courthouse - their faces clearly showed signs of wear and tear. Just seeing the massive amounts of people that were lining up to enter the courthouse was unbelievable.

The media circus was everywhere. Anywhere I turned, I saw them. I remember searching for my seat one day using my ticket, and slowly I realized that someone else had taken my seat. As I continued to look for my seat, the officers started to approach me since security was tight in the courtroom, and they did not want interruptions of any kind. I was then escorted to a seat in the gallery of the courtroom which is on the second floor. As soon as the door to the second floor swung open all I could see was people engaging with all sorts of tools for social media and communication, such as cell-phones, iPads, etc. I realized I was entering the area where most of the media were localized.

It was one thing watching the case unfold on the television but the atmosphere in the courtroom was unimaginable. I could not tell you the number of times that the attorneys approached the sidebar due to differences in some form or fashion.

There were two things that really stuck with me after watching this trial. First when the defense called George Anthony, Casey Anthony's father, to the stand. As he approached you could see the fire of resentment, kindle in his eyes. He was beginning to look uneasy as if he had seen someone he previously had an altercation with. The questioning began, and the fire in his eyes grew stronger. George Anthony remained unresponsive to Jose Baez's questions, but eventually, he started to crack and became emotional when it came to the big question. Jose Baez asked George Anthony "If you smelled what you believed to be human decomposition, why did you not report anything to the police if you used to be a police officer?" If he had smelled something unusual in his daughter's vehicle, why hadn't he contacted the police or done something about it? George Anthony told Jose Baez that if he was trying to trick him it would not work. George Anthony and Jose Baez went back and forth over the question, until finally George Anthony answered and stated that he did not realize at that time that the car would be considered evidence in a future criminal case. After seeing all of this unfold, I personally believed that George Anthony was involved in some way, shape or form. This is when I finally was able to form a logical conclusion that George Anthony was somehow aware of what had happened to Caylee Anthony. I could see the uneasiness in every-one's eyes in the court-room as I looked around. No "big" facial movements or even the slightest whisper were made because such actions would be enough for a

dismissal from the courtroom.

The second thing that stuck with me was that in the people's eyes Casey Anthony was not a good parent, but then came the moment for this question to be answered by her former associates. While I was sitting in the court room, I watched as one by one, each person approached the witness stand, took their oath and testified. I could see as Jose Baez asked each person such questions, "Did you ever see Casey Anthony beat Caylee Anthony?", "Was Caylee Anthony happy when she was with her mom?", "Is Casey Anthony a good mother?" As each former associate was questioned as to Casey Anthony's role of being a good mother, my initial impression in the Casey Anthony case started to change. After hearing most of her former associates and friends testifying that Casey Anthony was good to her daughter and that they never saw any signs treating her daughter in any abusive way, I started to believe that there was more involved in this case than meets the eye. However, with no cause of death or any direct evidence available, we may never know for certain what really happened to Caylee Anthony.

Jurors law are not supposed to base their decisions on what an average person might see on the news to form their opinions. They are to base their verdict on the evidence presented by both sides of the case. After hearing testimony from both sides, the issue of whether or not Casey Anthony was guilty of first degree murder was becoming less and less clear-cut and increasingly gray. There was enough proof "beyond a reasonable doubt" that Casey Anthony was a habitual liar, however the evidence connecting her to the alleged crime scene did not prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" that she had committed the crime.

After this verdict, many people automatically assumed that it was a product of a flawed justice system or that the justice system had failed somehow because it did not produce the verdict the public expected. In actuality, I believe, it is a fine example of the judicial process at work, created by our Constitution. The Casey Anthony Murder Trial should be a reminder of why we should be thankful that we live in a country that honors our civil liberties.

## THE FIGHT: continued from page 4

man who Coles was with. He said police told him he could be an accessory to murder. Although he was afraid he would be charged with murder, he told them he did not witness Davis assault anyone. "The police did not care. They did not care," Collins informed the courtroom.

He testified Savannah Police threatened him, "kiss your life goodbye because you are going to jail," out of fear he told the story the police told him and signed a typed statement given to him by police, Collins claimed.

After lunch recess, the defense team began to build towards the argument of the real killer being Coles.

April Hester testified next. She told the courtroom she was 17-years-old when MacPhail was killed, and the same night she and others hosted a pool party, which Coles attended. She said Coles was involved in an altercation with someone at the party. Court records show later that night Hester heard about a police officer being shot and drove to the scene, where she found Coles nearby. She told the court Coles told her to walk with him "so it would look like he didn't do anything wrong." She was questioned by police but said she did not tell them about this particular interaction.

Hester's testimony was followed by the testimony of two men who were incarcerated. Charles Hargrove, who admitted to having a lengthy criminal record, told the court he knew Coles, and Coles admitted to shooting officer MacPhail while the two were smoking marijuana.

The judge interrupted, asking the defense if they were going to discuss Coles why was he not called as a witness. Defense attorney Stephen Marsh told the court the defense did not subpoena Coles to testify because they assumed he would deny the allegations and implicate Davis. Therefore, much of what could be admitted under the relaxed rules of evidence as hearsay of a hostile witness could not be given much consideration being Coles was not introduced as a witness.

Judge Moore replied they never know what Coles might say under cross-examination. After an objection on the basis of hearsay from the State, Judge Moore agreed it was hearsay but allowed the testimony to continue, although noting



it was unlikely it would carry any weight in his final ruling.

Next, 36-year-old Benjamin Gordon was called to the stand. He is also incarcerated but said he was a relative of Coles. Court records show that although he had seen Davis before, they were not acquainted. Gordon had previously stated in affidavits he witnessed the shooting, but could not identify the gunman. However, in court, he admitted to witnessing Coles shoot MacPhail.

The State questioned Gordon about his criminal history, including multiple charges of false statements to police and tampering with evidence and drug charges.

Gordon testified he failed to tell the police the truth because he does not trust the police. Furthermore, he was 16-years-old at the time and feared retaliation by Coles.

After hearing seven of nine eyewitnesses, whose testimony convicted Davis, recant or contradict their trial testimony, Judge Moore admitted that the evidence presented did cast some "additional, minimal doubt" and that the State's case against Davis "may not be ironclad." However, he did not consider this enough to reverse the conviction and death sentence, finding that Davis had not provided the court with compelling evidence of his innocence and denied the request for a retrial.

The defense's goal to present evidence believed to prove Davis' innocence, or at least prove doubt about his guilt was

a challenging one. Normally in a trial, the prosecution has to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. But in this evidentiary hearing founded on an existing conviction, the burden was the opposite. The defense had to not only raise reasonable doubt of guilt, but prove innocence beyond a reasonable doubt. Considering the State's well-versed approach of discrediting certain witnesses by introducing prior bad acts, coupled with the skillful mechanism of challenging testimony accusing police officers of coercive practices, the defense had a difficult time proving the simple truth -- that it may have been impossible or unheard of that Savannah Police would coerce any citizen, it appeared to be the norm where the witnesses and Davis were raised. As such, these witnesses were easily intimidated, and therefore, Davis was easily convicted.

Puzzlingly, twenty years prior, at trial, the State used the testimony of the exact witnesses that they now impeach to convict Davis. I challenge, why is a lack of physical evidence linking Davis to the crime and recantations by the majority of the critical eyewitnesses who originally implicated him in the shooting not reason enough for the Georgia courts to grant Davis a new trial?

Moreover, if prior criminal history and concern of credibility was an issue while testifying at the evidentiary hearing in 2010, why were these factors not an issue during trial testimony in 1989? Especially considering the charging information in 1989 was recent criminal activity committed by a teenage witness. However, present day, the criminal activity used to discredit the witness is, in fact, criminal HISTORY. Criminal activity that occurred twenty years prior, the criminal HISTORY of a rehabilitated adult.

Bob Barr, a four-term Republican congressman from Georgia and death penalty supporter explained it best, "imposing an irreversible sentence of death on the skimpiest of evidence will not serve the interest of justice." I concur.

Although many believed Mr. Davis to be innocent, the position of the NAACP was that he deserved a new and fair trial. When we were not in the courtroom, we were advocating and participating in a community rally outside the courthouse and at events hosted to advocate justice that included local preachers, NAACP field organizers, and Amnesty International workers from Australia, England, and the United States.

## News Briefs

### “Till Contract Due Us Part”

By Markita S. Hawkins

“To have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part...”

Everyday around the world, couples hold their soul mate’s hand, stare them in their eyes and profess before their family and friends their love by repeating those words. Those traditional spoken words, although not embodied and expressed within the four corners of a sheet of paper, but implied from the conduct of parties that a lifetime agreement has just been reached. Unfortunately, these “lifetime” agreements are broken every day as couples decide to go their separate ways, and file for a divorce. Similar to marriages, they are costly, memorable and life long lessons.

Recently, Mexico City’s legislators proposed a bill that would require all couples to get temporary marriage licenses. Yes, that is correct, temporary marriage licenses! Legislators explained that after



24 months of the marriage, couples can decide if they would like to renew their license. Spokesman for the Catholic archdiocese, Rev. Hugo Valdemar said, “Asking couples to put a “sell-by” date on wedding vows is totally absurd. This is a proposal

made by people who do not understand the nature of marriage.” But spokesman for legislator Lizbeth Rosas, Carlos Torres mentioned, “There were about 40 divorces for every 100 marriages in 2009-10”, according to the most recent figures from Mexico City marriage registries. Legislators believe this is a solution to problems seen in family courts and would cut down on the torturous proceedings at the time of a divorce.

Do you think Mexico City’s legislators have gone too far? One may argue that this solution will help unclog family courts but others may believe that this is a challenge to the institution of marriage. I believe that Mexico City’s legislators have gone too far and this law will only make things worse.

It will destroy families, values and cost the City millions of dollars in creating the type of database to keep and update all records. I hope someone reminds Mexico’s City’s legislators that everything is not greener on the other side.

## TRENDING TOPICS

### INTERESTED IN BEING PUBLISHED?

The Public Defender welcomes submissions year-round of articles, comments, notes of interest and literary pieces. The primary goal is to publish succinct articles in all branches of the law. While continuing to publish traditional legal articles, the publications scope is to include legal issues of importance both domestically and internationally. In addition, The Public Defender carefully considers other submissions that might be of interest to readers of a student legal publication. Please forward all inquiries and submissions to the Editor-in-Chief, at [publicdefendersulc@gmail.com](mailto:publicdefendersulc@gmail.com).

### THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE FUND LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE:

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to attend the Thurgood Marshall College Fund Leadership Institute:

Adrianna Williams  
Ariyal Fabre  
Ariel Dixon  
Brittany Bell  
Carla Guillory  
Christopher Dassau  
Clinton Jackson  
Crie Spears-De Leo  
Jacob Rideau  
Jammie Garrett

Lorrie Crawford  
Markita Hawkins  
Megan Early  
Shermarial Levine  
Toussaint Pierre  
Valeria Williams  
Virag Davè  
Wendy Ramnarine  
Yesha Pittman

The Annual Leadership Institute & Recruitment Fair is the premier recruitment conference for public HBCU/PBI students. For the past decade, this four-day conference has given talented future leaders a unique professional development experience. A carefully-selected group of students are brought together with some of the nation’s top executives for leadership training, career management, life skills, development and recruitment opportunities. One of the main components of the Leadership Institute is the Recruitment Fair, where students meet with over 60 companies and government agencies offering job and internship opportunities.

Sur félicitations!

### CHRISTIANS AT LAW (CAL):

Join Christians at Law and attend the student led Bible study on November 9, 2011 @ 5 p.m. Room 227.

### CIVIL RIGHTS COMMEMORATION SYMPOSIUM

Volunteers are needed to assist with the facilitation of the 2011 Southern University Civil Rights Commemoration Symposium, November 10-11. Please contact Dr. Rachel L. Emanuel at 225-771-6247 or via email at [remanuel@sulc.edu](mailto:remanuel@sulc.edu).

## Alumni Spotlight

### Afi Patterson

Afi was awarded her Juris Doctor from Southern University Law Center in 2008 and admitted to the Louisiana Bar that same year. Upon graduation, Afi worked as an associate attorney with Adams & Reese on Education, Entertainment, and Employment Law projects. She left firm life in 2010 to pursue her LL.M. in Trial Advocacy and to gain international advocacy experience. While pursuing her LL.M. at Temple University, Afi worked as a Fellow with the International Justice Project in Newark, New Jersey. As a member of a team of four attorneys, she represented victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity before the International Criminal Court. These victims were from three (3) of the largest ethnic tribes of the Darfur region of Sudan - the Fur, Masalit, and Zaghawa - and had been allegedly targeted for annihilation by their government. Her work took her to New York,

London, Germany, Amsterdam, and the seat of the International Criminal Court in the Hague, Netherlands where she attended the 2011 International Criminal Court List of Counsel Seminar and Training.

After receiving her LL.M. and completing her fellowship with the International Justice Project, Afi returned to Louisiana and is practicing criminal litigation.

Beyond the legal work, Afi has been operating an organization she began while a student at SULC, The LACE Institute. LACE is an acronym for Leadership Language Arts Culture and Etiquette and is strictly for young girls. It thrived early on due to the support of SULC volunteers from Women in Law, In kind Donations, and support from people like Professor Grey, Vice Chancellor Pierre, Chancellor Pitcher, Michelle Blackwell Jackson and other staff and professors.



## Sports and Entertainment

# The NFL Lockout and Its Effects on Sports and Entertainment Law

By Joshua K. Williams

For 130 days, the football world was at a standstill as owners and players negotiated a new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) that was more owner-friendly and maximized the \$9 billion in Revenues. The National Football League's (NFL) team owners voted to discontinue the previous CBA after the end of the 2010 season. As the CBA expired in March, negotiations began. A week later, the players' union officially decertified, thus allowing players to file antitrust lawsuits against the league. In response to the players decertifying, the league declared a lockout and suspended all football activity until a new agreement was reached. Under the previous CBA, 57% of the league's revenues went to the players, which left team owners in smaller markets struggling to stay profitable. Underway negotiations came to a halt, resumed, stopped again, and then led both the football fans and players to be fearful that they were facing a shortened season at best. Panic stricken with the possibility of an abbreviated season, owners and players made reasonable concessions and ended the lockout without missing any regular season games.

However, what does the new CBA mean for Sports and Entertainment law? Under the new CBA, rookies are guaranteed a substantially reduced amount of money than they were prior to the enforcement of the new CBA. The current CBA has placed a cap on entry-level compensation causing a decrease in earnings



for both the player and the agent. Previously, Samuel Bradford, the number one overall pick of the 2010 draft, received a rookie deal that guaranteed him \$50 million. Cameron Newton, the first overall pick of the 2011 draft and currently playing under the new CBA, was only guaranteed \$22 million. Additionally, rookies now only sign four-year contracts; whereas previously, rookies signed eight-year contracts. Essentially, the players are guaranteed less money and are under

contract for a shorter period of time. This modification will cause rookie players to look to their agents, many of whom are attorneys, to secure endorsement deals and opportunities to make money beyond the football field. NFL agents are entitled to only 3% of their clients' contracts. As each player's salary is reduced, each agent's profit is minimized, which undoubtedly render negative effects. As a result, agents will have to work twice as hard to secure the type of money once

guaranteed under the previous CBA.

Sports and Entertainment law is an umbrella term used to describe the legal issues present in the world of sports. Sports and Entertainment law was drastically affected by the distribution of league revenues that the NFL teams received. The old agreement awarded players 57% of revenues, while the current 10-year agreement only awards players 47%. The 10% players' decrease and owners' increase will have a likely result of teams investing the additional revenue back into the organization in the form of increased media exposure and stadium improvements. An increase in media exposure will lead to an increase in negotiation opportunities for entertainment lawyers.

Dealings and transactions, as it relates to sports and entertainment law, affect various people in adverse ways on a daily basis. Agents and players were affected by the reduction in guaranteed money throughout contracts. Owners benefited from the increase they received from league revenues. This change will lead to more cash being distributed for NFL purposes. To the lawyer looking to get involved with the NFL from a Sports and Entertainment law perspective, the lockout means more work, as player contracts are not worth as much as they once were. However, for those lawyers willing to put in an increased level of work, the lockout will ultimately lead to more money over the duration of this new CBA.

## EQUALITY: continued from page 2

women go into government practices, which happen to be more accommodating to motherhood than private firms, mainly due to laws against sex discrimination.

The human capital theory claims that inequalities in earnings are explained by sex differences in education and work achievements that result in increased worker productivity. This theory concentrates on the supply side of the labor market and can be understood in terms of investments in education, skills, training, and work experience. Basically, gender differences in promotion, earnings, and status attainment are a direct result of employers rewarding productivity. Human capital theorists assumed that women's investments in family inhibit their investments in education and experience, and therefore render them less productive. The idea here is that the reward, or promotion, goes to the more committed male lawyers who choose to invest more heavily in their careers. From a human-capital perspective, gender equality can only be achieved through a significant restructuring of the division of domestic labor. If no change is made on the domestic front then women will continue to choose jobs that enable them to take on the bulk of domestic duties. Without changing the amount of women's household duties they will also continue to be penalized for their lower work commitment and effort.

The gender differences in education and work experience are conceived by some to be a result of women's decision to invest in careers that allow for a greater balance between domestic and career roles. Women are believed to choose careers with higher starting salaries, but lower wage appreciation, so that any anticipated career interruptions, or motherhood, will result in overall lower earnings penalties. Because women generally are more involved than men in child care and domestic work, they may be willing, or forced, to forego advancement so as to have more flexible work hours, reasonable maternity leave, and other family-friendly options.

Theorists who reject the human capital theory argue that gender inequalities in the field are a result of sex discrimination, which includes all forms of sexual harassment, sex-based stereotyping, and same-gender preference in hiring. Sex discrimination may take on a blatant or subtler form, but it definitely exists. Discrimination can either lie within the law firm or simply with their clients. In most cases when the sexual harassment lies with the clients, law firms take little to no action towards the protection of their female lawyers in favor of keeping their clients satisfied.

Although sexual harassment and discrimination have become much subtler, gender stereotypes still pervade the minds of many employers seeking applicants with specific qualities. Gender, or sex, stereotypes are defined as characterizing attitudes or behaviors that are appropriate for men and women. Current sex stereotypes see men as competent, rational, decisive, assertive, objective, and self-confident while women are viewed as emotional, submissive, depen-

dent, tactful, friendly, gentle, and willing to cooperate. In addition, women are perceived as inadequate partner candidates, uncommitted to their career, unable to network, and unlikely to command a room and take charge. These kinds of sex stereotypes seriously impede female lawyers and further maintain glass ceilings.

Gender stereotypes are likely to distort employer's perceptions of job candidates. It has been well established that stereotypes of all kinds influence people's perceptions and memories of others. In fact, people are more likely to remember information that confirms an applicable stereotype than information that refutes it. Therefore, employers are likely to believe that male candidates possess stereotypically masculine characteristics, decisiveness and assertiveness, and women possess stereotypically feminine characteristics, friendliness and willingness to cooperate. The use of gender stereotyping will consistently lead to unequal outcomes in hiring practices unless people start to seriously break down the masculine and feminine categories into gender-neutral characteristics.

Once an applicant has been stereotyped, employers attempt to identify with the applicant. Employers either recognize a candidate as a member of their own sex or a member of the opposite sex. There are several theoretical bases for the expectation that employers prefer candidates of their own sex. For example, the conflict theory tradition claims that groups deliberately take steps to obtain and maintain power and privilege for their own members at the expense of other groups. In respect to this perspective, male employers may intentionally exclude women from lucrative and powerful jobs. When considering that a majority of people feel most comfortable around others that are similar to them, it makes sense for employers to hire those that bear a resemblance, especially in gender, to them.

Some theorists suggest that gender inequalities in earnings are determined by variations in structural opportunities and the locations of male and female jobs, but not sex discrimination. A study of sex differences in the incomes of male and female lawyers illustrated a relationship between sex, sector, and salary. It described the legal profession as stratified into two main sectors that influence gender variation in earnings. The first is a core of large private firm practices comprised primarily of men with high salaries. The second is a periphery comprised of men and women in small private firms, government practice, and general counsel practice with much lower salaries. The final analysis of the earnings of male and female lawyers showed that sex differences in income arise when movements are made across the core and periphery sectors. This perspective showed how inequalities could emerge without the purposeful and intentional exclusion of women.

There is also a statistically significant relationship between sex, family and the probability of having a higher income level. For men, being married and being a parent

significantly increase their income whereas it has the opposite effect for women. Interestingly, a study was able to show that 39% of the gender earnings differential was due to the fact that men and women lawyers work in different positions, fields, firms, and organizations. Sex discrimination, including gender stereotypes and same-gender hiring practices accounted for 8% of the earnings differential. The remaining 53% was explained by the interaction of the two.

Kathleen Hull and Robert Nelson are the only theorists that seem to have the most effective idea for ending these inequalities. Essentially, the gender inequality problem in society seems to stem from practices that take place in the household. Therefore, if a change must be made in the organization of the legal profession then a change must be made in the household and it must begin with women's role in the home. There must be a re-division of domestic duties so that women will not be forced into certain fields of law in order to accommodate their family needs. If not, women will continue to choose jobs that fit their familial roles and, therefore, will continue to earn substantially less than men and make less advancements in their careers.

Sharyn Anleu, *Women In The Legal Profession: Theory and Research*, 66 Law Inst. J. 193 (1992).

Sharon C. Bolton & Daniel Muzio, *Can't Live With 'Em; Cant Live Without 'Em: Gendered Segmentation in the Legal Profession*, 41 Soc. 47 (2007); John Hagan & Fiona Kay, *Raising the Bar: The Gender Stratification of Law-Firm Capital*, 63 Am. Soc. Rev. 728 (1998).

Jo Dixon & Carroll Seron, *Stratification in the Legal Profession: Sex, Sector, and Salary*, 29 Law & Soc'y Rev. 381 (1995).

John Hagan, *The Gender Stratification of Income Inequality Among Lawyers*, 68 Soc. Forces 835 (1990); See Hagan & Kay, *supra* note 2, at 729.

Anleu, *supra* note 1, at 197-203; See Bolton & Muzio, *supra* note 2, at 57-58.

Bolton & Muzio, *supra* note 2, at 57-59.

Kathleen Hull & Robert Nelson, *Assimilation, Choice, or Constraint? Testing Theories of Gender Differences in the Careers of Lawyer*, 79 Soc. Forces 229 (2000).

Anleu, *supra* note 1, at 200-202.

John Hagan & Fiona Kay, *The Persistent Glass Ceiling: Gendered Inequalities in the Earnings of Lawyers*, 46 Brit. J. Soc. 279 (1995).

Anleu, *supra* note 1, at 201.

Anleu, *supra* note 1, at 200-201.

Dixon & Seron, *supra* note 3, at 384.

Hagan & Kay, *supra* note 2, at 729;

See Hull & Nelson, *supra* note 7, at 232.

Anleu, *supra* note 1, at 200-201; See Hull & Nelson, *supra* note 7, at 232.

Hagan & Kay, *supra* note 2, at 729.

Rebecca Korzec, *The Glass Ceiling in Law Firms: A Form of Sex-Based Discrimination*, 2 J. Emp. Discrimination L. 251 (2000).

Elizabeth Gorman, *Gender Stereotypes, Same-Gender Preferences, and Organizational Variation in the Hiring of Women: Evidence From Law Firms*, 70 Am. Soc. Rev. 702 (2005); See Korzec, *supra* note 17, at 257.

Gorman, *supra* note 18, at 703-704.

*Id.* at 707.

Dixon & Seron, *supra* note 3, at 387.

Dixon & Seron, *supra* note 20, at 397.

Hagan & Kay, *supra* note 9, at 300-301.

Hull & Nelson, *supra* note 7, at 232.

## Message from the Student Bar Association

### Message from Student Bar Association Vice President

The Student Bar Association (SBA) strives to accomplish a comradery among the students of Southern University Law Center (SULC) and with students of other law schools as well. After all, we will need that same comradery to exist once we have been accepted into the practice of law. This comradery begins by treating fellow students with the same utmost respect and courtesy that we will show each other as colleagues in the field of law. After passing the bar of whatever State, we

will all be brothers and sisters of the law; and at one point or another, we will need each other for assistance.

The SBA will show students that they can make it through the grueling process of law school and pass the bar. Additionally, the SBA will illustrate “the light at the end of the tunnel” by providing a panel of successful attorneys and judges to speak to the SULC student body about their life stories, the steps they took to obtain their current positions, and the daily demands they face in

their careers.

The SBA is a student run organization that serves the needs of the students. Therefore, students should feel free to come to the SBA Officers with any concerns regarding law school.

Harold D. McLendon, Jr.  
SBA Vice President 2011-2012



### Message from Student Bar Association Evening Division President

Dear Evening Division Students,

It is with pleasure that I address you as the current Evening Division President. When I ran for this position, it was hugely due to the inspiration I received from my evening division classmates. Last year's 1L class was full of seasoned professionals, recent college grads, and everything else in between. We started a trend in being actively involved in the happenings of the Law Center, and it certainly has not gone unrecognized by the administration and the SBA. That collective involvement was one of the catalysts of my desire to run as your Evening Division President.

As the 1L class already knows, the ball is in their court, and the bar has been raised. We, upperclassmen, expect nothing but the best and a 100% effort in all that you do as you matriculate through

law school. We welcome you with open arms and offer you a wealth of advice, recommendations, and P.O.O.P... of course.

As many of you know, I ran for this position with the promise of ensuring that the evening division students are privy to the same information and benefits that daytime students are afforded. In addition to setting up evening Westlaw and Lexis-Nexis training sessions and an evening division social, I have also addressed issues regarding the current curriculum and career services. I look forward to the changes and new opportunities that are on the horizon for our division. Further, I look forward to serving you all throughout the duration of my term.

In starting this year, I charge you all to keep in mind the ultimate goal of being here at Southern

University Law Center. Regardless of how close (or far) you may be from graduating, you must always exude professionalism and exemplify *seriousness of purpose*. Your dress, your speech, and your effort inside and outside of the Law Center are all reflections of your law school journey. Do not take this opportunity lightly. As upon graduation and successful completion of the bar exam, you will “realize the transformative powers of a law degree.” (Okonkwo, Professor of Law, *Southern University Law Center*).

I would like to thank you all in advance for your participation and involvement throughout the year. I wish the very best for you all in your studies, careers, and personal lives.

Best,  
Erin T. Campbell



### Message from the ABA Representative

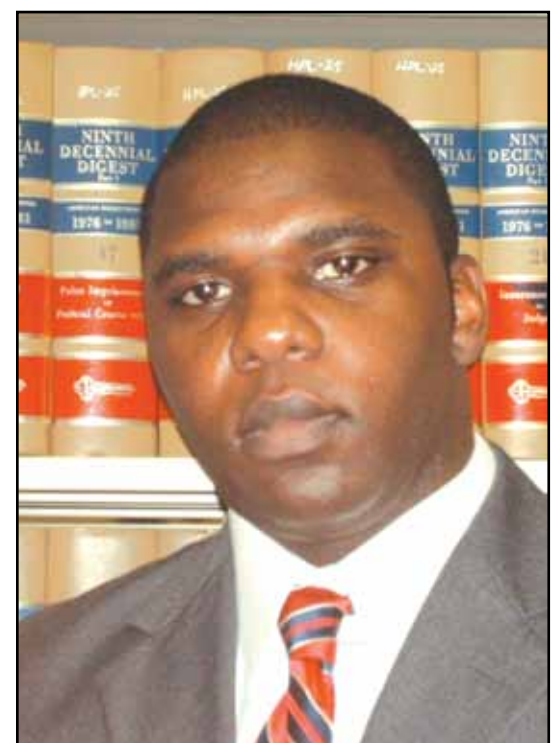
Welcome to the 2011-2012 academic year! The ABA is the largest professional organization in the world, which provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public. There are currently over 400,000 members of the ABA and over 42,000 law student division members. The law student division offers various benefits to its members, such as a subscription to the *ABA Journal* and the *Student Lawyer*, a magazine specifically for law students that provides guidance, education, career, and related issues for the Law Student Division and other subscribers. The ABA also offers affordable health, auto, and renter's insurance, membership in various legal sections, discounts on Starwood Hotels and Resorts, Hertz rental car, Sprint Cellular Service, West study guides, and many other products. There are also various competitions that will enhance your skills as an attorney such as various writing competitions and the practical skills competitions in the areas of negotiations, client counseling, appellate advocacy, and arbitration. The ABA is currently accepting applications for a BarBri bar preparation scholarship for 3Ls. Last

year, several SULC students in the class of 2011 were awarded this scholarship. The ABA recently launched a program known as ABA OnRamps, which allows a student to attend a conference sponsored by a legal section within the ABA free of charge in exchange for the student's services in assisting with the event. The cost for membership in the ABA is \$25 per year. If you are a 1L, you have the option to pay \$60 for all three years of law school.

This is an exciting time to be a member of the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association here at SULC! Currently, we have nearly 40% of our student body that are members of the ABA. As of September 5, 2011, SULC had a 226% increase in membership dating from September 5, 2010. This is currently the highest increase in membership in the country. Also, SULC has several students serving the ABA on the local, regional and national level. Akemi Malone is the newly appointed Junior representative, who is responsible for assisting in the operation of the ABA display table and membership drives. Jammie Garrett, Erin Campbell, Ta'Tiauna Holland, Jeremy Babers, Avia Rice, Karlus Cozart, Grant Herrin, and I are all Lieutenant Governors for the 13th

Circuit, the region of the ABA that includes the law schools in Louisiana and Texas. We are responsible for the planning and implementation of various activities and programming for the entire circuit. In addition to being the ABA representative at SULC and a Lieutenant Governor, I am also the Law Student Division Delegate for the ABA House of Delegates, an elected national executive board position that allows me and the two other elected delegates to bring forth issues and concerns from the Law Student Division to the governing body of the ABA for a vote.

At SULC, the ABA will be hosting Diversity Week during the first week in March and Mental Health Day on March 27th. There will also be various networking opportunities sponsored by the ABA throughout the school year. The ABA Mid Year Meeting will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on February 2-7, which is also a great opportunity to network with various attorneys and law students from all over the country. If you have any questions about the ABA, its benefits,



or upcoming events, stop by our table every second and fourth Tuesday of each month, join the ABA/LSD: Southern University Law Center and the ABA For Law Students Facebook pages, or email me at [cmpatterson61@gmail.com](mailto:cmpatterson61@gmail.com) for more information.

Your American Bar Association/  
Law Student Division Representative,

Cleveland M. Patterson, III