

# **SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER**

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## **News from the Southern University Law Center**

**November 6, 2008  
For immediate release**

### **SULC and Louisiana Attorney General's Office Collaborative Initiative Announced November 6**

The Southern University Law Center (SULC) Clinical Education Program administrators announced Thursday, November 6, 2008, a collaborative initiative project with the Louisiana Department of Justice-Office of Attorney General to establish an externship program for SULC law students.

Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr., and Louisiana Attorney General (AG) James D. "Buddy" Caldwell signed a letter of intent for this program at a reception held at the Southern University Museum of Art on the SU Baton Rouge campus. Mentoring is the major emphasis of this program in which up to five SULC clinical education students a semester will be assigned to shadow an attorney mentor from the Civil and Litigation sections at the AG's office. The program is to go into effect in the spring semester of 2009, according to Chancellor Pitcher.

In the Civil Section's environmental law and elections divisions, students will gain the necessary experience in research and drafting AG opinions.

Students will be assigned to the Litigation Section's civil rights, workers compensation, general liability, and medical malpractice divisions to obtain litigation skills in pretrial litigation, drafting, researching, discovery, and trial practice.

The Law Center has administered a clinical education program since 1972. Today, eligible third-year students certified as student-attorneys by the Louisiana Supreme Court represent indigent clients via participating in one of seven clinics, Administrative, Criminal, Juvenile, Mediation, Low Income Tax, Domestic Violence, and Elders Law.

Certified and trained student mediators from the mediation clinic will also assist the Attorney General's office with mediating consumer complaints.

For more information on this initiative, contact Virginia Listach, associate professor for clinical education, Southern University Law Center, (225) 771-3333 or [Vlistach@sulc.edu](mailto:Vlistach@sulc.edu).

(PHOTO OUTLINE) On November 6, Louisiana Attorney General James D. "Buddy" Caldwell (at left) joins SULC Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr., in signing a letter of intent for a collaborative initiative between the two offices on the establishment of an externship program for SULC students. Mentoring is the major emphasis of this program in which up to five SULC clinical education students a semester will be assigned to shadow an attorney mentor from the Civil and Litigation sections at the AG's office, effective in the Spring of 2009.