



**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER  
LOUIS A. BERRY CIVIL RIGHTS AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE**



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Mission

*The Louis A. Berry Institute for Civil Rights and Justice is committed to the advancement of civil and human rights and social and restorative justice, especially in Louisiana and the South.*

Vision

*The Louis A. Berry Civil Rights and Justice Institute seeks to ensure the law center's place as a center of excellence in social and restorative justice and civil and human rights research, advocacy, education and instruction. It further seeks to pursue policy initiatives and judicial outcomes that promote equal rights and justice.*

**DID YOU KNOW?**



Louisiana has a Commission on Human Rights.

The Office of the Governor Louisiana Commission on Human Rights (LCHR) enforces specific laws pertaining to discriminatory practices in the state of Louisiana. To accomplish this purpose, the Commission uses distinct procedures for intake, investigation, mediation and determination to process official complaints of discrimination. LCHR handles complaints of employment discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sickle cell trait, pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions. LCHR also provides protection against discrimination in public accommodations and banking and lending practices. If you believe you are a victim of discrimination, you can file a complaint with the LCHR.

For more information, visit <http://gov.louisiana.gov/page/lchr>.



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**News and Events:**

**We are excited to share details about a number of stimulating and impactful programs. Please grace us with your presence and invite others.**

**02/17/19: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Professor Angela A. Allen-Bell Presents:**  
**“The Role of the People in Justice Battles:  
An Overlooked Aspect of Civil Rights Litigation”**  
In observance of Black History Month, Professor Angela A. Allen-Bell, director of the Institute for Civil Rights and Justice, will lead a discussion about how “working from the streets” was used to fight injustice during the civil rights era and how it is still necessary today. Join us to learn how each of us can take an active role in creating social justice and criminal justice changes.  
**Jointly Hosted By:** The Red Shoes and the Louis A. Berry Civil Rights and Justice Institute  
2303 Government Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
**\*This event is free to students who present their ID.**  
Further details:  
<https://www.theredshoes.org/programs/february/>

**03/09/19 9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Roots Camp Day (1 of 2)**  
RootsCampLA is the convening of activists in the state. It has been the progressive event of the year for the past eight years whether your issue is maintaining democratic control of schools, worker’s rights, #BlackLivesMatter, voting right, women’s rights, transit, racial equality, LCBTQIA, disability rights, healthcare, or housing. This isn’t your usual gathering; it’s an “unconference.” Instead of PowerPoints and “expert” panels, participants design sessions and decide the program. This doesn’t mean “experts” aren’t in the room. They are - many of them are you. RootsCampLA is about fostering homegrown talent.  
**Jointly Hosted by: Solidarity Project Advocacy Network and the Louis A. Berry Civil Rights and Justice Institute**  
Southern University Law Center  
2 Roosevelt Steptoe Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
Further details:  
<https://spanlouisiana.org/rootscamp/>  
**Registration required**  
To register for Roots Camp:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/9th-annual-rootscamp-2019-tickets-53843628743>  
**\*Admission is free to SULC students who present an ID.**



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**News and Events Con't:**

- 03/10/19: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Roots Camp (Day 2)**  
**Jointly Hosted by:**  
Solidarity Project Advocacy Network and the Louis A. Berry Civil Rights and Justice Institute  
Southern University Law Center  
2 Roosevelt Steptoe Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
Further details:  
<https://spanlouisiana.org/rootscampla/>  
**Registration required**  
To register for Roots Camp:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/9th-annual-rootscampla-2019-tickets-53843628743>  
**\*Admission free to SULC students who present an ID**
- 03/13/19: 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.**  
**When Lady Justice is Not Ladylike:  
Narratives from Female Prisoners in Louisiana**  
This is an interactive and educational exchange of information that challenges your assumptions about incarcerated people. Through the mouth of women who are “in custody,” you will better understand the criminal justice system from the commission of the crime through pretrial, trial, plea, sentence, incarceration and reentry.  
**Jointly Hosted By:**  
Judge Trudy White and the Louis A. Berry and Civil Rights and Justice Institute  
Southern University Law Center  
2 Roosevelt Steptoe Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70813 **(Room 129)**



“Murder in Mobile” showcases the important restorative justice work of Professor Margaret Burnham and the Northeastern University Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Clinic’s work on the case of Rayfield Davis, a man who was brutally murdered in 1948 in Mobile, Alabama for expressing to a white man that President Harry Truman would give equal rights to African Americans. We salute them for what they are doing in the name of civil rights and restorative justice.

View the 23 minute video here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Its4NTUyTal>



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**Prior Event:**



On January 18, 2018, the Center for African and African American Studies at Southern University at New Orleans partnered with Southern University Law Center’s Louis A. Berry Institute for Civil Rights & Justice (SULC’s Institute) to honor and recognize Louisiana’s own Malik Rahim at an inaugural Living Legend Award Celebration. After his honorable discharge from the United States Navy, Mr. Rahim worked in vulnerable communities in New Orleans as a founding member of the Louisiana Black Panther Party. Mr. Rahim later served as a founding member of Sister Helen Prejean’s anti-death ministry, *Pilgrimage for Life*, as a founding member of the Fisher Projects Health Clinic and GED studies program and as the founder of the Angola 3 Support Committee.

When Hurricane Katrina made its cataclysmic presence known, Mr. Rahim did what was instinctive. He served Louisiana citizens in need through immediate rescue efforts and later founded *Common Ground Collective (CGC)*, which offered free healthcare, legal, rebuilding and clean up services in homes, schools and commercial buildings in nine parishes. By the time his work with CGC ended, approximately half a million Louisiana citizens had been served at no cost. From the 1970s until the present, Mr. Rahim has been a fierce and committed advocate for environmental and social justice, housing and prisoner rights and civil and human rights.

According to Professor Angela A. Allen-Bell, “The late civil rights attorney Louis A. Berry once referred to the Equal Protection Clause as a platitude.” SULC’s Institute seeks to rectify this lapse by working to ensure that constitutional protections are realized for all citizens, particularly racial and ethnic minorities, the poor, vulnerable, underrepresented and neglected. In Allen-Bell’s view, “Mr. Rahim’s pursuits have been toward this noble end. The conferment of this award was a tribute as much as it was a necessary act of restorative justice in that it counters the historical harm done when acts of leadership and heroism are suppressed in minority communities.”





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**Prior Event Con't:**



"This has touched my spirit... To know that your life's purpose and work have been recognized by an institution such as Southern University...You have restored hope in me where it was fading...last year was a year of many battles in my life...I was wondering-if I pass, how was I going to be remembered? Will I be remembered as a fool who wasted his life fighting for lost causes...? I have been rejuvenated. I know my work and sacrifice have not been in vain. Now my past... is set and my future... lay ahead and I thank you for it. This year, as we celebrate the 400 year anniversary of our ancestors being brought to America as slaves as well as the 300 year in Louisiana, let us not only recognize and honor those who have worked for environmental peace and justice but also those who have paved the way for future generations to get involved to pick up the banner of hope and continue this noble cause. Southern University has bridged the gap of hope and despair. May you continue to restore hope while teaching civic/global responsibility."

May the blessing of the Most High always lead you.

In the struggle for environmental peace & justice

**Malik Rahim**





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**Prior Event Con't:**



Members of the SULC family at the Living Legend Ceremony

**Here's what some of our guests shared:**

"The program was AWESOME! To have the opportunity to witness so many brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, and grandparents all joining together and bearing the fruit of the Spirit is moving - to say the least. It has, in fact, restored my faith."

"The event was very informative, eye opening, and well-organized. I can't wait for the next event."

**Media Coverage:**

**The Louisiana Weekly:**

La. Black Panther Party Leader, Activist Honored

<http://www.louisianaweekly.com/la-black-panther-party-leader-activist-honored/>

**The Advocate:**

'Living legend' Malik Rahim Honored for Decades as Civil Rights Activist in New Orleans

[https://www.theadvocate.com/new\\_orleans/news/article\\_cb4e64e6-1d15-11e9-a838-cb241411f288.html](https://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/article_cb4e64e6-1d15-11e9-a838-cb241411f288.html)





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**Announcements:**

**The Louis A. Berry Civil Rights and Justice Institute is accepting donations of civil rights era documents, memorabilia and/or artifacts. If you wish to donate, please email our director at: [ABell@sulc.edu](mailto:ABell@sulc.edu).**

**Please consider supporting our partners by attending these programs and/or sharing these event details:**

**Donna Brazile Lecture**

“Can the Democratic Party Continue to Usher African Americans into the American Mainstream?”

Hosted by: SUNO’s Center for African & African American Studies (CAAAS)

Monday, February 11, 2019

New Orleans, LA

<http://www.suno.edu/news/category/announcements>

**Civil Rights Etouffee**

Hosted by: Federal Bar Association, Civil Rights Section

Friday, February 15, 2019

New Orleans, LA

[www.EtouffeeLaw.com](http://www.EtouffeeLaw.com)

**Jena 6 Member Theo Shaw Lecture**

“My Perspective on the Intersection of Law & Justice”

Hosted by: SULC Lecture Series Committee

Southern University Law Center

2 Roosevelt Steptoe Drive

Baton Rouge, LA 70813 (Room 129)

Monday, February 25, 2019

12:00 pm-1:15 pm

**Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA)**

**21st Annual Conference**

Thursday - Friday, March 7-10, 2019

New Orleans, LA

[www.copaa.org/2019conference](http://www.copaa.org/2019conference)



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**Contact us:**

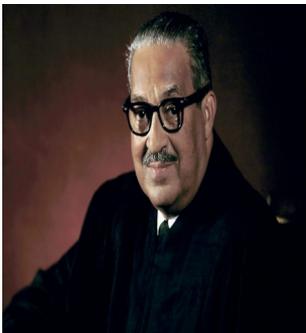
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“America must get to work. In the chilled climate in which we live, we must go against the prevailing winds. We must dissent from the indifference. We must dissent from the apathy. We must dissent from the fear, the hatred, and the mistrust. We must dissent from a nation that buried its head in the sand waiting in vain for the needs of its poor, its elderly, and its sick to disappear and just blow away. We must dissent from a government that has left its young without jobs, education, or hope. We must dissent from the poverty of vision and timeless absence of moral leadership. We must dissent, because America can do better, because America has no choice but to do better.”

**Justice Thurgood Marshall**

