

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT



Producing Lawyer Leaders

SEPTEMBER 2025

INSIDE STORY

CHANCELLOR WASHINGTON BRINGS ALUMNI TOGETHER IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

SULC alumni and friends joined Chancellor Washington for a day of connection and networking, celebrating the strong bonds that unite the Law Center community. Breakfast with the Chancellor provided an opportunity for graduates to reconnect with classmates, share professional experiences, and strengthen relationships with the institution. Chancellor Washington highlighted recent accomplishments and ongoing initiatives at SULC, while also expressing gratitude for the continued support of alumni and friends. The gathering fostered meaningful conversations, new collaborations, and a renewed sense of pride in being part of the Southern University Law Center family.



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER IMPLEMENT SOCIAL MEDIA MINDFULNESS POLICY



To maintain Southern University Law Center's strong reputation, the institution has adopted a social media mindfulness policy. This policy serves as a reminder to the SULC community that online posts can be widely shared and may be perceived as reflective of the Law Center. The policy encourages all members of the community to exercise discretion when posting or commenting on social media, even when using personal accounts. Members are advised to refrain from sharing confidential or sensitive information about students, colleagues, or institutional matters. In addition, the policy highlights the importance of remaining aware that written, visual, or other forms of content can be captured, archived, and redistributed.

INSIDE STORY

SULC STRENGTHENS CAMPUS SAFETY IN RESPONSE TO SECURITY THREAT

In response to recent security concerns, Southern University Law Center implemented enhanced safety measures across campus. Working closely with law enforcement, the Law Center advised students, faculty, and staff to remain vigilant, stay aware of their surroundings, and immediately report any suspicious behavior, unattended items, or unusual activity by calling 911. To further support safety efforts, SULC utilized the Jags Safe app and encouraged the community to stay informed by monitoring official communications, including campus email, official SU social media channels.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER WELCOME STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL



As the fall semester begins, Southern University Law Center welcomed its students back, fully committed to supporting their journey toward becoming the next generation of legal professionals. Students returned to the Law Center eager to reconnect with peers, immerse themselves in their studies, and embrace new challenges.

INSIDE STORY

SULC FACULTY ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION



Southern University Law Center faculty is strengthening academic success through early assessments, faculty collaboration, and consistent course coverage. Key strategies include identifying student challenges with written exercises, aligning instruction through regular faculty meetings, and ensuring exams match learning outcomes. Student learning is further supported through transparent exam reviews, self-assessments, and faculty accountability for instructional quality. These approaches focus on building student confidence, balancing high expectations with support, and enhancing instruction with tools like multiple-choice practice and AI-assisted feedback.

LSBA WELCOMES SULC CLINICAL STUDENTS THROUGH ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM



On August 21, the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Access to Justice (ATJ) Program presented the new Southern University Law Center (SULC) clinical students during the swearing-in ceremony. Emily Belanger, ATJ projects counsel at the Louisiana State Bar Association, addressed the students, emphasizing the critical role of access to justice in strengthening Louisiana's legal system. She shared how the ATJ Program works to connect individuals across the state with essential civil legal services, ensuring that even those with limited resources can find support. Belanger also introduced the Modest Means Directory, a valuable resource that links low-income residents with attorneys who provide reduced-cost legal assistance.

Through this collaboration, future Law Center students were reminded of the responsibility and impact that comes with their training, as well as the resources available to help them make a meaningful difference in the lives of those they will serve.

INSIDE STORY

CHANCELLOR WASHINGTON HOSTS FIRST FIRESIDE CHAT SERIES

This fall, Chancellor Washington will host a series of open forums with students to share campus updates, address concerns, and explore ways to strengthen the Law Center community.



SULC STUDENTS FIND SUPPORT THROUGH WEDNESDAY WEEKLY RECESS AND WELLNESS SERIES

The Southern University Law Center has expanded its student wellness programming with the launch of Wednesday Weekly Recess, a weekly support session for law students, and the completion of the Wellness on the Docket seminar series for first-year law students.

Wednesday Weekly Recess will be held every Wednesday. The small group sessions are designed to help students manage stress, anxiety and the many challenges of law school. The first three weeks of each month will feature discussion groups with Charnel Jackson, LPC-S. The fourth week will focus on mindfulness, including meditation, sound bowls and reflection, with Ariana Hollins, LPC.

Earlier this semester, SULC hosted the Wellness on the Docket seminar series, which was tailored to first-year students and facilitated by Jackson. The series included sessions on adjusting to law school, navigating relations, impostor syndrome, stress management and mental health.

Both initiatives were presented through a partnership between Southern University Counseling Center and SULC's Office of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives, reflecting the law center's commitment to providing students with tools for both academic and personal success.

INSIDE STORY

SULC 1000 CHALLENGE

1,000 ALUMNI • \$100 A MONTH • UNLIMITED IMPACT



TOGETHER, WE CAN RAISE \$1.2 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR SULC.

WE'RE CALLING ON 1,000 SUPPORTERS TO INVEST \$100 EACH MONTH IN THE FUTURE OF SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER.

YOUR MONTHLY GIFT HELPS PROVIDE:

- LIFE-CHANGING SCHOLARSHIPS
- STATE-OF-THE-ART LEARNING TOOLS
- PROGRAMS ADVANCING JUSTICE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

BE ONE OF THE 1,000! START TODAY!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT:
WWW.SULC.EDU/SULC1000GIVE

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
LAW CENTER



SULC 1000 CHALLENGE AIMS TO RAISE \$1.2 MILLION FOR STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Southern University Law Center proudly announces the launch of the SULC 1000 Challenge, a powerful initiative bringing together alumni and friends in a shared mission to transform lives and secure the future of our institution. The challenge calls on 1,000 supporters to commit \$100 each month, generating \$1.2 million annually.

Proceeds from the SULC 1000 Challenge will directly support student scholarships, expand access to cutting-edge learning tools and technology, and strengthen programs that enrich the academic and professional success of our law students.

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION KICKS OFF BAR PREP THROUGH MINI BAR SERIES

The Student Bar Associations (SBA) Bar Prep Committee at Southern University Law Center is preparing students for success with its Mini Bar Exam series. The one-day program gives members of the Class of 2026 and 2027 an early opportunity to prepare for the bar exam. The event marked the beginning of a three-part series aimed at providing SULC students with essential preparation and resources to practice under real exam conditions.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
LAW CENTER

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Student Bar Association

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

ANGELA ALLEN-BELL



Professor Angela Allen-Bell presented a keynote at the Louisiana State Bar Association's 17th Annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession.

OKECHUKWU OKO



Professor Okechukwu Oko published his new book, *Louisiana Criminal Law: Cases and Materials* (Carolina Academic Press, 2025).

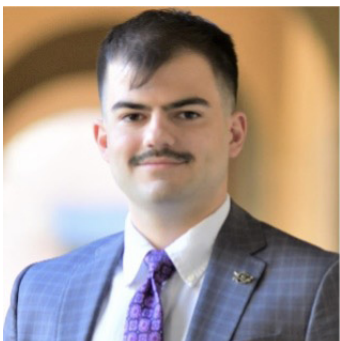
ERICA ROSE



Professor Erica Rose is publishing a new book with LexisNexis titled *Louisiana Criminal Law and Procedure with Forms*.

STUDENTS HIGHLIGHTS

NICOLAS GARON



Nicolas Garon published an article in the *Notre Dame Journal of International & Comparative Law* titled *The Latin Exclusion: Examining the EU and the White House's Policy Favoritism Toward Migrant Sending Latin American Nations While Punishing Similar Pressures Globally*.

STUDENTS HIGHLIGHTS

BREANNA MAGEE



Breanna Magee was sworn in as the American Bar Association Law Student Division's Delegate of Diversity & Inclusion during the 2025 Annual

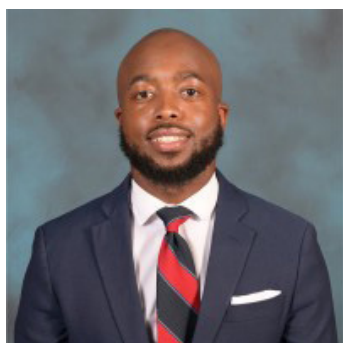
Meeting in Toronto.

KEITH GAUF



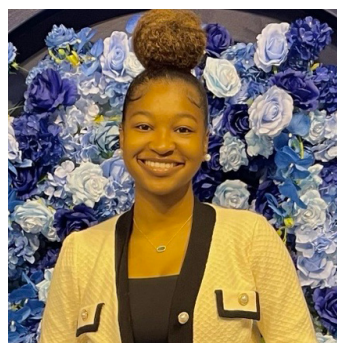
Keith Gauf secured a position at Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson L.L.P. (BSW)'s 2025 Bridget Fellowship Program.

XAVIER CHATMAN



Xavier Chatman was featured as one of the Rising Stars of the Legal Pipeline at the upcoming National HBCU Pre-Law Summit & Law Expo in Atlanta.

ALAYNA FORD



Alayna Ford was honored with a scholarship at the First Annual "Southern Celebrates Scholarship Brunch" provided through the support of the SUS, SUSF, Dow, Mele Printing, and Aramark.

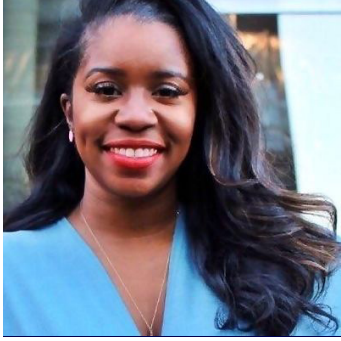
BRANDON ATKINS



Brandon Atkins is serving as a Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Fellow on Capitol Hill with Rep. Hank Johnson.

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

ASHLEY OGBONNA



Ashley Ogbonna was named as one of Just the Beginning, A Pipeline Organization's 5 Under 40 legal professionals.

STACY PORCHE



Stacy Porche was recognized by Best Lawyers as "One to Watch" in the Litigation – Bankruptcy category.

IKE DURU



Ike Duru has accepted an offer to serve as an assistant district attorney with the Augusta District Attorney's Office.

MARNITIA WALKER



Marnitia Walker accepted a position with the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Chemistry Patent Examiner.

HOLLIS LEWIS



Hollis Lewis received the West Virginia State University's Alumni Young Professional Achievement Award.

ROD THORNTON



Rod Thornton started a new role as a Staff Attorney with the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal in New Orleans.

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

JASON BEN



Jason Ben was recognized in the 2025 Edition of Chambers USA in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Illinois).

MOLLIE PONDS



Mollie Ponds was honored with the Louis A. Martinet Award at the Martinet Gala.

ROBERT MARIONNEAUX



Robert Marionneaux, Jr. and Robert Marionneaux, III achieved a \$10.5 million jury verdict in a wrongful death and survival action trial.

TIM HARDY



KAYLA JACOB



Tim Hardy and Kayla Jacob were recognized in the 2026 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

CURRENT & FUTURE EVENTS

SEPT 30TH

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
LAW CENTER
Office of Communication and External Affairs

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
LAW CENTER
Student Bar Association

LINKEDIN: BUILDING YOUR PROFILE

THE LINK TO GET YOU IN

MAKE YOUR DIGITAL FIRST IMPRESSION COUNT.

Your resume opens doors, but your online presence gets you noticed. Unlock the power of your professional brand! Join us for an interactive seminar designed to help you build a LinkedIn profile that showcases your potential and sets you up for success.

30 SEPT
TUESDAY

12 P.M. - 1 P.M.

ROOM 130
AND VIA ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting | sulc-edu.zoom.us/j/99390410270 | Meeting ID: 993 9041 0270


AARON MANZY
President, Student Bar Association
Moderator


T'YONNIE JACKSON
Director of Communications and External Affairs


DR. MELANIE P. REY
Interim Director of Career Services


DR. MARLA DICKERSON
Vice Chancellor Innovation and Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- How to write a headline that stands out
- Tips for crafting a compelling summary
- Strategies to showcase experiences, skills, and accomplishments
- Ways to attract employers, mentors, and networking opportunities

OCT 4TH - Feb 21ST

PREPARING FOR THE LOUISIANA BAR EXAM?
WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER PRESENTS
BAR EXAM SUPPORT FOR ALUMNI

- ◆ TOPIC PRESENTATIONS ON TESTABLE SUBJECTS
- ◆ BAR-STYLE PRACTICE QUESTIONS
- ◆ PERSONALIZED FEEDBACK TO STRENGTHEN YOUR RESPONSES

SESSIONS HELD VIRTUALLY ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS VIA ZOOM
starting Saturday, October 4, 2025 until February 21, 2026
1 P.M. - 3 P.M.

ZOOM LINK: [SULC-EDU.ZOOM.US/J/99757431848](https://sulc-edu.zoom.us/j/99757431848)

INTERESTED? ALUMNI WHO DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE OR WHO HAVE QUESTIONS CAN
CONTACT VISITING PROFESSOR MICHAEL GARRARD MGARRARD@SULC.EDU OR
225-278-6698

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
LAW CENTER

OCT 17TH

YOU'RE INVITED TO

SULC'S ALUMNI HOMECOMING TAILGATE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

12 P.M.

SULC ATRIUM

REGISTER: WWW.SULC.EDU/ALUMNITAILGATE

SCAN QR CODE
TO REGISTER





SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
LAW CENTER
Office of Alumni Affairs

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
LAW CENTER
Student Bar Association

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER
P.O. Box 9294, BATON ROUGE, LA 70813
(225)-771-2552 | www.sulc.edu

The Southern University Law Center is a unit of the Southern University System

Dennis J. Shields, President of the Southern University System
Alvin R. Washington, SULC Chancellor

Produced by the SULC Office of Communications and External Affairs