#### **SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**

LAWCENTER

# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT



Producing Lawyer Leaders

JUNE 2023

# Inside Story

# Southern University Law Center Participates in SU Day at the Capital



Southern University Law Center was proud to participate in "SU Day at the Capital" held by the Southern University System. This year, each institution had the opportunity to share student and faculty research at the Louisiana State Capital. The Law Center showcased our student internship reports, expungement initiative reports, along with Burnham Honors Cohort research done by Law Center students.

# SULC LAUNCHES NEW LAWYER LEADERS AT SPRING 2023 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



On May 20, over 200 received their Juris doctorate degree during Southern University Law Center's Spring 2022 Commencement Ceremony. The ceremony was held at the F. G. Clark Activity Center on the campus of Southern University Baton Rouge. Honorable Dana M. Douglas, United States Circuit Court Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, served as the commencement speaker. Chancellor John Pierre opened the ceremony with a

# Inside Story

### CONT. COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



warm welcome to guest, family, and friends. He expressed how proud he is of this group of students because they succeeded despite beginning law school at the height of a nationwide pandemic. Pierre gave the new Law Center alumni words of encouragement and well wishes.

Douglas spoke about being resilient and pivoting through disaster. Douglas reflected on her career trajectory and went on to describe how her career froze during the inevitable tragedies of 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, and Covid-19.

Prior to taking the bench, Douglas practiced in the areas of energy, product liability, and intellectual property litigation in the state and federal courts of Louisiana. She currently sits on the boards of the Thomas More American Inns of Court and Federal Bar Association. Douglas is a past president of both the New Orleans Bar Association and the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Society. In addition, she is also a charter and founding member of the Louisiana Chapter of the Women's Energy Network.

Douglas poured positive affirmations into the graduates. She reminded them that they are capable of anything. She ended her profound address by saying, "You are indeed ready for it all. Better people. Better lawyers."

The ceremony was live-streamed and recorded on the Law Center's YouTube channel.

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# Inside Story

### CONT. COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY





# SULC HOSTS INAUGURAL COLLEGIATE GAMING TOURNAMENT CALLED THE BLUFF OPEN



The Southern University Law Center hosted The Bluff Open Tournament featuring Fortnite at the newly launched Esports Innovation Lab located on the campus of Southern University.

"Hosting an esports tournament of this caliber on an HBCU campus, and specifically through SULC, is a truly unique and innovative

feature," said Chris Turner, coordinator for the Mixed Reality Virtual Innovation Gaming and Esports Institute at Southern University Law Center. "The Southern University Law Center's Esports Innovation Lab is breaking new ground by embracing the future of gaming and esports by creating opportunities for students to engage in this burgeoning industry. The Bluff Open Tournament featuring Fortnite is just the beginning of what promises to be an exciting and transformative journey for both the university and the community."

# STUDENT FEATURES

#### Angelica Dix



Law Center student Angelica Dix joined Blue Williams, LLC. as a summer associate.

#### Bria Wallace



SULC student
Bria Wallace was
selected to join the
Peggy Browning
Fellowship.

### Lauren Graham



Lauren Graham accepted an internship offer at Chevron.

### Joseph Coleman



Law Center student Joseph Coleman was selected to join the inaugural Garvey-Nkrumah Fellowship Program.

### JAZMINE WILSON



Jazmine Wilson joined Lavender Rights Project as a research intern.

## Brizjon Wilright



Brizjon Wilright was chosen to join the 2023 NBA HBCU Fellowship.

# STUDENT FEATURES

#### Marlina Dangervil



Marlina Dangervil accepted an internship offer from Chevron.

#### NIA BOUTTE



Nia Boutte secured an internship position with the Office of the Attorney General for the District of

Columbia.

### Barry Jones



Barry Jones was selected to join Universal Music Group's Summer 2023 Internship Program.

## **KEYRA JOHNSON**



Law Center student Keyra Johnson accepted a Judicial clerkship with the 40th JDC. She was also selected to join

the Bard Prison Initiative summer fellow cohort.

#### Carlos Pollard



Law Center student
Carlos Pollard accepted
a summer internship
with Community
Justice Project.

### SAYDIE AVERY



Saydie Avery secured two internships with the City of Lake Charles.

# STUDENT FEATURES

#### **CHACITY SIMMONS**



Chacity Simmons accepted a law clerk position at Kean Miller LLP.

### LAMONTE PRYOR



Lamonte Pryor
landed an internship
with Honorable
Judge Kimberly
Knowles of the
District of Columbia

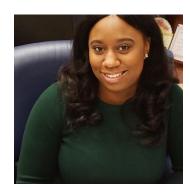
Superior Court.

### JEREMEE HENRY



SULC student
Jeremee Henry
was elected to the
American Bar
Association law
student council.

# SHAYLYNN BIVENS



Shaylynn Bivens secured a law clerk position with Honorable Siobhan Teare, judge for the Essex County

Superior Court in New Jersey.

Carlar Scott



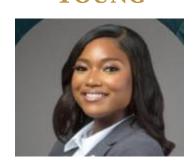
Parker Wiltz



Cameron LeDoux



CHELSEA Young



Hammonds, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins, L.L.P. welcomed Law Center students Carlar Scott, Parker Wiltz, Cameron LeDoux, and Chelsea Young as law clerks.

# FACULTY FEATURES

### Deleso Alford



Professor Deleso Alford successfully completed the National Association of Branch Campus Administrators Branch Campus Leadership Institute, Class V.

# ALUMNI FEATURES

#### BRYANNE FARR



Alumna Bryanne Farr joined Paralegal Studies at Columbus Technical College as its program director.



# Latisha Jones



Law Center alumna Latisha Nixon Jones joined the law faculty at Jacksonville University College of Law.

### DEIDRE ROBERT



Alumna Deidre Deculus Robert was named president of the Louisiana Bar Foundation.

### Sheva Sims



alumna Judge SULC Sheva Sims was selected as a recipient for the 2023 Power of Influence Award presented by the NAACP.

# ALUMNI FEATURES

# KARNINA DEANE JARED NELSON





Karnina Dargin Deane and Jared Nelson were recognized as "Top Lawyers" by the Acadiana Profile Magazine.













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

Dennis J. Shields, President of the Southern University System and Chancellor of Southern University and A&M College John K. Pierre, SULC Chancellor