

# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT



*Producing Lawyer Leaders*

SEPTEMBER 2024

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# INSIDE STORY



## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER WELCOME STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL

At the start of the fall semester, Southern University Law Center (SULC) enthusiastically greeted its new and returning students, dedicated to assisting them in their pursuit of becoming future leaders in the legal field. The students came back to the Law Center, excited to reconnect with classmates, engage in their studies, and take on fresh opportunities.

## SULC STUDENTS GAIN CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS THROUGH FMCS TRAINING



Over 25 Southern University Law Center (SULC) students completed an intensive 40-hour mediation training with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS). Alvin Washington, mediation professor and interim chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, selected each participant and emphasized the value of this experience in preparing them for their future careers.

The program, led by FMCS experts, reiterated active listening, analysis techniques, and effective conflict management. The training concluded with the presentation of certificates to the participants.



# JOINT VENTURES

## SULC CELEBRATES A DECADE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CRRJ



SULC celebrated a decade of collaboration with Northeastern University School of Law's Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project (CRRJ). Together, under the leadership of Professor Margaret Burnham and Ada Goodly-Lampkin, they have worked to investigate Jim Crow-era anti-Black violence, seeking justice and recognition for victims and their descendants. To mark this milestone, SULC hosted an anniversary ceremony featuring powerful testimonies from families affected by the cases and reflections from former students who have been shaped by this impactful work.

# STUDENT FEATURES

## AMAIYA EWELL



Amaiya Ewell secured a law clerk position with the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System.

## WILLIAM GASPARD



William Gaspard was named a 2024 HBCU White House Scholar.

## BREANNA MAGEE



Breanna Magee was selected to participate in the Carver Integrative Sustainability Center's HBCU Graduate Fellowship Program.

## SYDNEY BRISCOE-CURTIS



Sydney Briscoe-Curtis accepted a job offer at Phelps Dunbar LLP as an associate upon graduation.

## SHEMIAH RUTLEDGE



Shemiah Rutledge accepted a law clerk opportunity with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

# STUDENT FEATURES

## TIFFANY MOORE



Tiffany Moore accepted a full-time job offer at Reed Smith LLP.

## MAYA JONES



Maya Jones accepted an externship position at White & Case LLP.

# FACULTY FEATURES

## ANGELA ALLEN-BELL



Angela Allen-Bell, a professor at the Southern University Law Center, has published the first two books in her forthcoming three-part series, aiming to provide readers with profound insights into the systemic legacies influencing Louisiana's legal system.

Her first book, *Under Indictment: Race, Juries & Justice* in Louisiana, aims to provide the reader with a comprehensive understanding of Louisiana's unanimous jury campaign in its historical and racial context, exploring the historical suppression of Black jurors, examining the impact of bias and racism in the carceral state, and fostering a desire for transformation in the legal system. The second book, *Diversity in the Jury Box and Beyond*, explores the significance of jury diversity and deliberative process research in achieving effective deliberations, highlighting

the victory in ending a 120-year-old law on non-unanimous juries in Louisiana as a case study, and offers insights on using the same research to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, as well as addressing systemic failures in the legal system through transitional justice.

Both books are available for purchase on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Walmart, and other online book retailers.

## DELESO ALFORD



Professor Deleso Alford recently served as a key presenter at the Special Presidential Plenary Session Continuing Medical Education event titled, "The Justice Imperative: Restorative, Climate & Environmental Justice." This session was part of the 122nd National Medical Association Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly in New York. During the discussion, attendees explored the intersections of justice frameworks and their profound impact on marginalized communities.



# ALUMNI FEATURES

## DR. MAURICE GIPSON



Dr. Maurice D. Gipson was appointed to interim president and CEO of Philander Smith University.

## BRITTANY ARVIE



Brittany Arvie was named judge-elect for the Shreveport City Court Division C.

## TAVARES WALKER



Tavares Walker was appointed to executive director for the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

## FAITH JENKINS



Faith Jenkins was inducted into the Hall of Fame at C.E. Byrd High School in Shreveport.

## ROBIN RAASCH



Robin Raasch is listed in the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America as best lawyer for energy law.

## D. NICOLE SHEPPARD



Judge D. Nicole Sheppard received the 2024 Civil Rights Outstanding Leadership Justice By Action Award recipient from The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

## XAVIER FLAVIEN



Xavier Flavien secured a judicial law clerk position at the Louisiana Supreme Court.

# CURRENT & FUTURE EVENTS

OCT 17<sup>TH</sup>

## MIGRANT FARMWORKERS WEBINAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>  
12 P.M. CST  
VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE  
VIA ZOOM

WITH

**EMMA SCOTT**

*Associate Professor, Director of the  
Food and Agriculture Clinic,  
Vermont Law and Graduate School*

REGISTER AT [WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI](http://WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI)



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
Agricultural Law Institute  
For Underrepresented and Underserved Communities

OCT 24<sup>TH</sup>

## LET'S EXPLORE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup>

12 P.M. CST

VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE VIA ZOOM

REGISTER AT [WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI](http://WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI)

GUEST PRESENTERS



**DOUG O'BRIEN**  
*President & CEO  
National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) CLUSA International*



**THIA EVANS**  
*Project Director  
National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) CLUSA International*

Nov 7<sup>TH</sup>



## USDA RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY WEBINAR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>

12 P.M. CST

VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE VIA ZOOM

REGISTER AT [WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI](http://WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI)

GUEST PRESENTER

**RODDRIC BELL**  
*Director, USDA-Risk  
Management Agency*

Nov 21<sup>ST</sup>



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>

12 P.M. CST



GUEST PRESENTER:

**KELLI CASE**  
*Senior Staff Attorney, Indigenous Food &  
Agriculture Initiative, University of Arkansas (IFAI)*

REGISTER AT [WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI](http://WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI)

DEC 5<sup>TH</sup>



## JOIN US FOR OUR CROP INSURANCE WEBINAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

12 P.M. CST



GUEST PRESENTER:  
**CHIMERE HAMPTON**  
*Navigator Project Specialist  
University of Arkansas*

REGISTER AT [WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI](http://WWW.SULC.EDU/ALI)

DEC 13-14

## SAVE THE DATE

END OF YEAR CLE

DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> & 14<sup>TH</sup>

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
Continuing Legal Education

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

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

*Produced by the SULC Office of Communications and External Affairs | Photography by April Buffington*