

Writing Awards

MC Law won FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD places in the National Law Student Writing Competition, of the Southeast/Southwest People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference 2016.

- 2L **Bethany Bridges'** paper titled, "For Better or Worse, Doing Time Do We Part: Post-*Obergefell* Marriage in Prison," won **FIRST Place**.
- 3L **Amanda Allen Burchfield's** paper titled, "Showing Our True Colors in Cases of Compulsory Cesarean Sections," won **Second Place**.
- 3L Ylani Hayes' paper, "30 Years of Elusive Triumph: Revisiting *Batson v. Kentucky*, 476 U.S. 79 (1986), and Issues of Race in Jury Selection won **Third Place**.

MC Law won FIRST and THIRD places in the National Law Student Writing Competition, of the Southeast/Southwest People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference in 2014.

- 3L La'Toyia Slay won 1st Place, for her paper titled, *A Letter to My Nephew: An Overview of the Racial and Legal Impact of Major Cases and Controversies throughout America in 2013*.
- 3L Lenderrick won Third place for his paper titled, "*Racial Stereotype and the more evil cousin of Racial Profiling.*"
- The competition is open each year to all law students enrolled in law schools in the United States. The Conference seeks to advance cutting edge and excellent legal scholarship by law faculty, future faculty, and law students. MC Law has placed in previous years: in 2010 the school won 1st and 2nd places (Terry Neyland and Stephen Parks), in 2012 MC Law won 2nd place (Ijeoma Ike), in 2013 the school won 2nd and 3rd places (Jou-Chi Ho and Ahmad Smith), in 2014 we won 1st and 3rd places (La'Toyia Slay and Lenderrick Taylor), now, in 2016, we won 1st, 2nd and 3rd places (Bethany Bridges, Amanda Allen Burchfield and Ylani Hayes).

MC Law second-year student Laura Barton was one of four student finalists in the 2015 Entertainment Law Initiative Writing Competition. As a result, she received a \$1500 stipend, airfare, hotel accommodations and a seat at the 57th Annual GRAMMY Awards show. Barton also won an invitation to other GRAMMY week activities, including the prestigious Entertainment Law Initiative Luncheon. The Entertainment Law Initiative Writing Competition, hosted by the GRAMMY Foundation, invites law students to write a 3,000 word paper on a compelling legal topic facing the music industry today. Barton chose the subject of underlying copyright principles behind emerging remix apps.

Robert Lane Bobo (Class of 2016) received the first place Foman and Nina Musselwhite Prize at Mississippi College's 18th Annual Graduate Research Forum (2016) for his presentation based on his paper entitled *The Supreme Court's Blind Devotion to Establishment Clause Theories*.

