Official Student Newspaper of Mississippi College School of Law

# DECEMBER 2018

# Letter from the Desk

By: Abbey Barton, Editor-in-Chief



I hope you all have had a productive semester and are gearing up for your upcoming exams. This semester has gone by so fast and was one of

my busiest yet in law school.

I'd like to offer some words of encouragement to my fellow students:

1Ls, you've worked hard during your first semester and law school has

been an adjustment from your previous routines. As a 3L, I can tell you we've all been there, and we understand. Don't forget to take time for yourself in the midst of finals prep. Selfcare is important. Best of luck to all of you on your first law school final exams. You're going to do great!

2Ls, after this round of final exams you'll be halfway to graduation! It's an awesome feeling, and these next three semesters will fly by. Work hard and enjoy the time you have left at MC Law.

continued on page 2...

# A DOOR HAS TWO SIDES

By: Jim Rosenblatt, Dean Emeritus



I continue to be disappointed in the way many folks see only one side of a matter and allow that singe-minded viewpoint to control their actions.

I trust our law students as soon-to-be attorneys don't fall into that trap.

It is absolutely essential for an attorney to be able to look at a situation or issue and see all sides. For the attorney to well represent a client, the attorney must understand and be familiar with all aspects of the client's case and its viewpoint, but also that of the other side. This will allow the attorney to promote the strengths of the client's case while counteracting the weakness.

By the same measure the attorney needs to able to analyze objectively and understand all aspects of the case of the other side. This will allow the attorney to attack and leverage the weaknesses of the other side and engage in preparations to counteract the strengths.

This analytical approach will assist not only in the courtroom but in negotiations and settlement discussions.

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# Letter from the Desk, continued from page 1

3Ls, WE'RE ALMOST THERE!! For most of us, we've only got a few credits left or an externship to take in the spring, and for some of us, the law school journey ends here. Congratulations to our December graduates, and best of luck on your respective bar exams in February. We're rooting for you!

I'd like to thank *The Legal Eye* Staff, Managing Editor Emily Lal, the student organization presidents, and Dean Rosenblatt for making this issue possible. I greatly appreciate all of your hard work in contributing to this issue.

I hope you all enjoy this issue of *The Legal Eye*. Your classmates have worked hard to create this issue and we hope that maybe they will inspire you to write in the future, or at the very least, educate or entertain you during a break between study sessions or exams.

As we prepare return home and spend time with our loved ones after final exams, I wish all of you in the MC Law family a happy and safe holiday season. Sincerely,

Abbey Barton, Editor-in-Chief

# A Door Has Two Sides, continued from page 1

Knowing what is important to the other side and why it is important will allow an attorney to present a proposal that goes to the heart of what is important to the other side—and it is not always money.

A judge who spoke to our law students emphasized how important it was in the selection of judicial clerks that the clerks have the ability to analyze and engage in critical thinking. To this judge, an applicant for a clerk position who viewed matters dogmatically would not be acceptable. Rather, the judge sought judicial clerks who could analyze the facts and apply the law in a dispassionate fashion and not simply advocate a point of view. One of the qualities helpful in engaging in this approach is the ability to listen—whether it be to audible conversations or to the message sent by other viewpoints gained from reading or observing.

I suggest this approach will make our law students more effective in their legal work, in politics, and in their dayto-day engagements in the community.

# Extra, Extra, Read All About It...

# MOOT COURT BOARD TO ADVANCE TO NATIONAL ABA ARBITRATION COMPETITION

Princess Williams (3L), Mason Bonner, Grant Tarleton, and Karmel Keeton (2Ls), were Finalists at the ABA Regional Arbitration Competition at the University of Memphis School of Law this fall. These advocates will go on to represent the MC Law Moot Court Board at the ABA National Arbitration Competition in January. They are pictured with their coaches Juan Hernandez and Amanda Fritz.



# STATE of the UNION Student Bar Association President

By: Lee Smith, SBA President



Fellow classmates, I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your Student Bar Association President. It is truly an honor to be able to serve you. I also

want to thank all of the elected members of SBA and applaud their hard work in ensuring that we had a successful semester. Throughout the semester, we have been able to make positive change for our school that will have both short and long term effects. I have the privilege of writing about those in this article.

## BUDGET

We have made structural changes to the way we use the SBA budget so that we will not outspend the money we have been given. We began the semester with the lowest SBA budget in recent years. However, we will finish the Fall semester with over \$11,000 left in our account. We have been able to save this money, while still keeping the same amount of student activities offered in previous years.

# ELECTIONS

Our wonderful Elections Commissioner, Abbey Barton, along with our wonderful IT Director, Derek Van Winkle, have changed the way we run the elections here at MC Law. We have moved to a system where each student votes by following a link in their email. This has created a more fair and efficient process and upholds the integrity of everyone's vote. The new voting system has also led to higher voter turnout, as we had more students voting in the Fall elections this year than we have had in prior elections.

# CAMPUS EVENTS

We have hosted leaders of our state on campus this year. Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann spoke to the student body about the role of the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office. Investigative reporter, Jerry Mitchell, spoke to the student body on his role in investigating several murders during the Civil Rights Movement. His investigations led to the prosecutions of several people responsible for killing Civil Rights workers in the 1960's.

# FAMILY ATMOSPHERE

We have worked hard to bring our student body together to create a more family-like atmosphere on campus. We took a tour of the Civil Rights Museum in Jackson and participated in a school wide community service event at Stewpot. These events have allowed students from all walks of life to come together, take time off of law school, and do something for the greater good.

I hope to see us continue to come together as a student body. We, above anyone else, know what each other is going through. Nobody can do law school alone. Uplift your classmates, look out for them, and let's keep working together to make MC Law a better place!

**Goin the conversation at MC Law!** BECOME A STAFF WRITER OR GUEST CONTRIBUTOR FOR THE LEGAL EYE.

Please email us at legaleye@mc.edu

# Women's Student Bar CAssociation YEAR IN REVIEW

By: MaCall Morgan, WSBA President

EGAL EYE



With close to 50 members, the Women's Student Bar Association is the largest organization on campus. As President of the organization, I made it my

mission to give our members as many opportunities to network, serve our community, and learn from others that have gone before us. We began our year

> 66 Being a member and serving as President of WSBA has 100% been the best experience during my law school career. **??**

with the Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series in February. This event is hosted by the Mississippi Bar's Women in the Profession Committee, in honor of late Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Gandy, whose passion for public service survives through this lectureship. The Series focused on balancing the scales, breaking the barriers, and promoting diversity in the workplace. Our members were able to network with women attorneys from all over the state of Mississippi.

Our next event was the annual Libel Show, a fundraiser benefitting Mississippi's Toughest Kids Foundation hosted by WSBA and SBA. We raised over \$2,600 for the foundation through raffles, donations, professor date auctions, and more. The event was held at the Yacht Club of Jackson, and Mr. John Kitchens attended on behalf of the organization.

> Mr. Kitchens and his two brothers were the first to host the Libel Show at our school, and we were honored to continue this tradition. He spoke on how the Foun

Professor Judith Johnson's home. The pot-luck is a great way to send off our graduating members, and two federal judges attended to meet and network with our members! WSBA also received the award for the organization with the most community service hours.

In addition to these events, we've hosted meetings with wonderful speakers from all over the state. We have heard from attorneys Morgan Keup, Professor Mary Purvis, Roslyn Griffin, Jennifer Riley-Collins, Sheila Bossier, Jessica Murray, Adrienne Aikens, and Mississippi State Treasurer Lynn Fitch. Each speaker gave first-hand knowledge and advice on how to face the "real world" after graduation.

Being a member and serving as President of WSBA has 100% been the best experience during my law school career. I've met and made relationships with attorneys, as well as my fellow classmates. A special thank you to the 2018-2019 officers who helped us have an amazing year: Vice-President Meaghan Jordan; Secretary Rhea Richardson; PR Director Abbey Barton; Treasurer Chelsea Glaspie; and Volunteer Coordinator Mary Hannah Winstead. **\*** 

SOCIAL SNAPS

to continue this tradition. He spoke on how the Foundation helps those in need and how our

dation helps those in need and how ou donations will help their mission.

Over the past year, we also participated in the Susan G. Komen Race for a Cure, attended a self-defense class, and hosted a pot-luck dinner at

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CLICK TO VIEW



### By: Bianca Bryant



Jimmy Ramirez moved to Jackson from Houston, Texas to begin his journey here at MC Law. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at San Antonio

with a degree in Construction Science and Management and a minor in Business. Before coming to MC Law, Jimmy worked as a Construction Field Engineer at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center (NASA) in Houston.

#### WHY DID YOU WANT TO GO TO LAW SCHOOL?

Law school has always been a choice of mine. I decided to take some time off after undergrad to make sure Law school was what I really wanted to do. After a year and a half I made the decision and it ended up being the best thing I could have done. Having a JD opens up many doors for career advancement and the law has always been very intriguing to me. In addition, I want to help people and corporations with any way that I can. I am bilingual so helping internationally would be a huge plus for me if given the chance.

#### WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO COME TO MC LAW?

When I came to visit MC Law I got to meet some amazing people that really persuaded me. I wanted to be in an environment where the school is very welcoming and beneficial when it comes to my future. MC Law has that and much more to offer. In addition, MC Law has the Joint JD/MBA program in which I was seeking at a Law School. They also have study abroad programs with international courses that satisfied my interest when I was seeking a Law School. I plan on going to Lille, France in May to take a class with Professor Anderson in an International Business course.

#### HAS THIS SEMESTER BEEN WHAT YOU EXPECTED LAW SCHOOL TO BE LIKE?

This semester has been exactly what I expected it to be. I enjoy going through the experience with my classmates and all my professors. It is a very tight-niched community and everyone is very helpful. It is crazy how much you will learn in such a short period of time.

## WHAT PRACTICE AREA(S) INTEREST YOU AND WHY?

I am specifically interested in Corporate Law. I am going towards my JD/ MBA dual degree to better focus on the Business aspect of the Law. I am also interested in Oil and Gas. I am a current member for both the Business Law and Oil and Gas Society.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT?

My favorite subject is Contracts. Professor Anderson is very knowledgeable about that part of the law and makes class very interesting. Civil Procedure with Professor Challener is also up there because she has a great way of teaching.



#### WHAT IS YOUR GOAL AFTER LAW SCHOOL?

My Goal after law school is to pass the Bar in Texas and New York. I am highly interested in Finance, Global markets, and Equity Research so being in a large financial hub working at a firm with those types of environments will give me the opportunity to work with specifically Mergers and Acquisitions, Secured Transactions, and International transactions.

#### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU HAVE GIVEN YOURSELF BEFORE STARTING LAW SCHOOL/ WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUR PEERS?

I would say to prepare to change your studying habits, which will be very different than you are used to from undergrad. I took a summer class that really helped me prepare for what I was going to be facing and it helped extremely. Now that I am a 1L there are times where it feels like too much but never doubt yourself. Everyone is going through the same thing and you will get through it one step at a time. Keep working hard and focus on yourself, everything will turn out as it should **‡** 



#### By: Lamar Yeates, Business Law Society President



Sometimes when I walk in the library, I choose where I sit based on how much work I want to do. As you walk into our library on the second floor there are

multiple tables that you can choose from as well as singular cubbies along the back walls. There is even a glass enclosed room where students can eat

their lunch without having to pack up their books and leave. The second floor is a great place to work if you need to communicate for a group project because it is conducive to conversation. Downstairs, on the first floor, there is a mix of small tables, cubbies, and a few rows of

tables with multiple chairs available for students who might want a bit of solitude as they work. At the very top of the library, the third floor offers students a choice of separated, sound proof rooms where small groups can study or work on projects for class. The third floor also has private study rooms that students can reserve along with more individual cubbies for isolated study. The layout of the library in general portrays an open study environment where students can choose a location that is ideal for their daily objectives.

After law school, many students find themselves working at firms where the open layout of the library is replaced with four walls and a door, otherwise known as an office. For some, the idea of a personal office is seen as a sign of improvement or importance. But for tech companies such as Google

Implementing a diverse workspace design, similar to our library, could generate more collaborative opportunities and enhance workplace productivity.

and Facebook, it is seen as an outdated concept that hinders creativity and communication. Maybe it is time for the legal industry to implement some changes as well. Younger lawyers are calling for a change from the previous 50 years of the same workplace design that law firms still implement today. In a recent article from The American Lawyer, the three concepts of workspace, work experience, and work product were compared to the production of exceptional work. It was noted that the best results often depend on the type of person engaged in the work as well as the level of cognitive ability required for each task. The traditional office setting does not provide the same benefits for every employee.

From this information, it is reasonable to consider the changes that could be made to the traditional law

> firm style. Implementing a diverse workspace design, similar to our library, could generate more collaborative opportunities and enhance workplace productivity. This is not to say that the ideal of isolated office work should be abandoned altogether. It is well understood that

in some situations at work, an isolated area is beneficial. By using a workspace layout with isolated as well as group oriented settings, law firms could develop a modernized environment that encompasses every option to facilitate the goals of the next generation of lawyers.

# THE BLACK LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION

#### By: Keleigh Williams



The purpose of the Black Law Student Association is to increase the number of culturally responsible Black and minority attorneys who excel academically, succeed

professionally, and positively impact the community. This year, the R. Jess Brown Chapter of the Black Law Student Association continues to sustain a legacy of excellence, scholarship, and community service with several activities and initiatives.

This semester, the chapter welcomed seventeen new members into its ranks. As members, students have access to academic resources, tutoring, professional development and support from both current members and alumni. Notable recent alumni include Zakia Butler (Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustee's Office), Marcellus Chamberlain (Butler Snow), Daryl Porter (Pepper & Odom P.C.), and Ray Young (Federal Law Clerk, Northern District of MS).

Students also had the opportunity to support the Association at the regional level this year at the Academic Retreat. This year, the retreat took place right here at MC Law. BLSA kicked off the weekend with a networking mixer at Johnny T's Bistro & Blues, located in the historic Farish Street District in Downtown Jackson. The next day, students were able to engage in a meaningful conversation with several panelists about the job market, professionalism, and surviving law school. The keynote speaker, Catoria Martin, stressed the importance of financial independence and making a plan to pay off student loans.

In February, the student body is invited

to join BLSA in celebrating Black History Month. BLSA will be distributing biographical information on prominent Black attor-



neys and judges, hosting events that will celebrate the history of the African diaspora and involving students in thoughtful discourse on race relations and identity.

BLSA's success rests on the hard work of students and the continued support MC Law's dedicated faculty. The current faculty advisor is Attorney Carlyn Hicks.

# MC LAW DEAN'S AMBASSADORS MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE, ONE PROSPECTIVE LAW STUDENT AT A TIME

#### By: Leigha Malone, Student Director of Dean's Ambassadors



Serving at the pleasure of the Dean, Dean's Ambassadors are responsible for assisting both the Offices of Admissions and the Dean to provide a bridge between the law school and the 1L class. Our DAs play an integral part in Admissions, from giving campus tours to making phone calls to uncommitted prospective students in the spring. All DAs are required to perform at least one campus tour per academic year.

Often, DAs accompany our Admissions team to recruitment fairs at their alma mater. This provides for a unique opportunity to highlight their accomplishments in law school, while maintaining strong relationships with their undergrad institution. According to Jay Armstrong, Director of Admissions, the success of much of our campus events can be directly attributed to this organization: "[t]he Dean's Ambassadors are vital to all that we do in the office. Without the help of the Dean's Ambassadors, prospective student tours, prospective

continued on page 8...

# MC Law Dean's Ambassadors, continued from page 7

student events, and orientation would not be such a success. They are the face of our student body to our prospective students, letting them know who we are at MC Law."

In the spring, Admissions hosts two recruitment events on campus, which are both staffed primarily by DAs: Pre-Law Day (open to all prospective students) and Acceptance Day (open to accepted students). These events allow us to showcase the best of what MC Law has to offer, including a tour of campus, a mock class, student-led panels, and opportunities to hear from different departmental offices.

In addition to hosting students throughout the academic year, DAs perform their most significant roles during Fall Orientation. DAs work with the Admissions team to accomplish various administrative duties leading up to Orientation. During Orientation, each DA act as a friendly and welcoming face for our new 1Ls. During the academic year (and beyond), DAs also



serve as student advisors to help promote relationships between faculty advisors and the 1L class.

I have fulfilled various capacities and roles as a student recruiter over the past eight years, but I admit with complete honesty that it has been one of the most significant personal and professional privileges of my life to serve MC Law as the Student Director of Dean's Ambassadors. Over the past two years, I have seen the true impact that this organization can have on every prospective law student that walks through our doors...we're in the business of making dreams come true!

# The Dean's Ambassadors for the 2018-2019 academic year:

Ana Alford Brady Allen Brianna Bailey Sarah Barber **Greyson Breal** Claudia Brunson Allie Cooper Jarred Culpepper May Dozier Hailey Faulkner Katherine Gargiulo **Emily Gillenwater** Chelsea Glaspie Eric Granberry Zach Grubbs Alexis Guillot **Kimberly Jenkins** Kanesha Johnson

Meaghan Jordan Karmel Keeton Andrew Kelly Ekhlaas Khandekar Jolie King Leigha Malone Mary Lathram McArthur Stephen Mercer Laura Moore Samuel Newman **Emily Newton** Angela Payne Craig Phelps Anne Piervil Rosario Ramirez Parris Reese Rhea Richardson Bailey Rigby

Olivia Sage Laithan Simmerman Lee Smith Sharon Spencer Kelli Stevens Amber Stewart Mariah Stringer Ashley Subervielle Michelle Sultan Lan Truong Vivek Vedanarayanan Carol Ann Warren Amber Wheeler Shavla White Mary Hannah Winstead Jimmy Yocom



By: Emily N. Lal, Managing Editor



WHERE ARE YOU FROM AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE MC LAW?

I am originally from Anacoco, a very small town in

west central Louisiana near the Fort Polk military base. I attended Centenary College of Louisiana where I graduated with a degree in Business Administration: Accounting Concentration. I came to MC Law because, as cliché as it is, I felt "at home." MC Law was the last school I toured, and I knew immediately that it was where I was supposed to be. Everyone I met that day treated me like I was already a member of the MC family. This same helpfulness and kindness followed me throughout this entire journey.

# WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO BECOME A LAWYER?

In another cliché, I became a lawyer because I wanted to help others and advocate for those who were unable to advocate for themselves.

I originally planned to get my C.P.A. and work as an auditor, but later realized I wanted to go to law school. After my first-year classes, I realized there were so many other opportunities and interests I wanted to pursue. I was given the incredible opportunity to work as a judicial intern to the Honorable Jeff Weill, Sr. of the Hinds County Circuit Court through the Benton Fellowship. I found my calling in working "behind the scenes."

# WHAT ORGANIZATIONS ARE YOU PART OF AT MC LAW?

I serve as the Treasurer for the Women's Student Bar Association, am a member of the Phi Delta Phi honor society and MC Law Review, and I am a Dean's Ambassador. I also am the Writing Fellow for Section A1.

#### HAVE YOU HAD ANY EXTERNSHIPS?

I began working with Judge Jeff Weill, Sr. through the Benton Fellowship. After the Fellowship ended, I was offered the opportunity to stay for the remainder of the term. It has cultivated in me a greater appreciation for the law and given me an incredible mentor in Judge Weill.

# OUTSIDE OF LAW SCHOOL, WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE HOBBIES/THINGS TO DO?

I love to spend time at home with my two cats, Layla and Aslan. I enjoy crafting, painting, and anything DIY. I spend far too much time watching documentaries and re-watching *The Office* and *Law and Order: SVU*. I also love to



read and listen to the podcast, *My Favorite Murder* (shout out to my fellow murderinos). I am also teaching myself to play the ukulele. My absolute favorite things to do are travel and kayak.

# WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS AFTER LAW SCHOOL?

After law school, I plan to relocate the cats and I to Tennessee (preferably Chattanooga or Nashville). I would love to find a job working either as a judicial staff attorney or something in the criminal law area.

# WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER STUDENTS?

I would start with something I remember Dean Will telling my class several times, "You will get a ton of advice, not all of it will be good or right for you." I would echo this and remind students that this is not a "one-size-fits-all" experience. The best overall advice I have received is from Judge Weill. He said, "Before you can advocate for others, you must learn how to advocate yourself."

DOES YOUR STUDENT UPCOMING EVent? ANNOUNCE ORGANIZATION HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT? IT HERE!

# MR. & MS. MC LAW

By: Emily N. Lal, *Managing Editor* 

EGAL EYE



Meet Mr. and Ms. MC Law, J. Winston Franklin and Leigha Malone. The two third-year students were selected by their peers to represent Mississippi

College School of Law during Mississippi College's 2018 Homecoming activities on October 27, 2018.

Leigha serves as the Student Ambassador for the Office of Admissions and the Student Director of Dean's Ambassadors and is a member of the Oil and Gas Society, the MC Law ACLU, and the Women's Student Bar Association. Winston serves on the MC Law Moot Court Board and proves himself a champion advocate.

Upon being selected by her peers as Ms. MC Law, Leigha said the honor means more than she could express in words. "It is incredibly humbling to even be nominated, but to be represented enough to be elected is something that I will never forget," Leigha said, "being chosen as Ms. MC Law is the capstone of my law school experience."

"Being selected as Mr. MC Law means to me that while I have been at MC, I have made such an impression on my classmates and future colleagues to where they wanted me to represent them," Winston said of the honor. Mr. and Ms. MC Law were greeted by Mississippi College students, fans, and family as they assumed their titles during the recent MC Homecoming parade in Clinton. They rode in the parade in a convertible, which Leigha said almost overheated causing them to have to pull off the road. Nonetheless, our Mr. and Ms. MC Law kept on smil-

ing and did not let the mishap ruin their day. Leigha and Winston represented the law school in style and class.

"We had a unique experience," Leigha remembered about their ride, "it made for a better experience because we were able to laugh the entire time." Recapturing the moment, Winston explained one of his favorite parts of the big day, "Waving to my family who came to see me in the parade, knowing that without them I would not be the person I am today."

Leigha and Winston both plan to graduate in May of 2019 from Mississippi College School of Law with their Juris

Doctorates. Leigha, who is expecting her first child, son Julian, with her husband in December, plans to use her legal skills next semester through an externship in the Legal Counsel Office at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi. Winston has his eye on working in the criminal defense field.

While Leigha and Winston's jour-

neys at MC Law are winding down, each leaves their fellow friends and law students with some advice from how to treat others to trying new things to gain more legal skills.

"Enter law school without any trace of arrogance and you will be just fine. Never underestimate the value of being humble and kind to those



around you and I can guarantee that you will have the best possible law school experience," Leigha said. Winston added, "take advantage of the opportunities provided by our externship programs. They allow you to test yourself and gain experience you cannot duplicate in a classroom."

FACEBOOK!

LIKE US ON

# FALL 2018 EXAM SCHEDULE

DATE	MORNING, 9AM-12PM	AFTERNOON,	, 1:30PM-4:30PM	
Monday, December 3	Criminal Procedure – J. Johnson (250/251) Conflict of Laws – Challener (203) American Legal System – Meyer (151A) Environmental Law – Wells (200)			
Tuesday, December 4	Civil Procedure I, Section A – Will (150/151A/15 Civil Procedure I, Section B – Challener (250/25	1) Civil Law Obligations	Domestic Relations – Ng (150) Civil Law Obligations – McIntosh (151B) Agency – Edwards (203)	
Wednesday, December 5	Sales & Leasing – Manheim (150/151B) Arbitration Practice & Procedure – Leech (151A)			
			Commercial Paper – Christy (150) Trademarks & Unfair Trade Practices – Hetherington (151A)	
Friday, December 7	Advanced Legal Analysis – Morgan (203)	Wills & Estates – R. Jo	Wills & Estates – R. Johnson (150/151A/151B)	
Monday, December 10	Ethics – Campbell (150) Bankruptcy Law – Henkel (200) Business Associations I – Edwards (250/251) Copyright Law – Ng (151A)			
Tuesday, December 11	Torts I, Section A – Modak-Truran (150/151A/15 Torts I, Section B – R. Johnson (250/251)			
Wednesday, December 12	Federal Income Taxation – Lee (150)		Health Care Law – Thomas (203) Mississippi Practice – Griffis (150)	
Thursday, December 13	Criminal Law, Section A – J. Johnson (250/251) Criminal Law, Section B – Steffey (150/151A/151		Evidence – Anderson (250/251) Louisiana Mineral Law – Cockerham (203)	
FIN	AL PAPER CLASS P	ROJECTS	ΤΑΚΕ ΗΟΜΕ ΕΧΑΜ	
Electronic Immi Juvenile Le	Research SeminarDrafting for Busgration ClinicGuardian Aegal Issues SeminarPretrial	ional Law ness Transactions I Litem Clinic Practice re Practice	Admiralty Adoption Clinic Corporate and Partnership Tax Deposition Skills Seminar Youth Court	

Child Welfare & Family Justice

Would you like to see a particular topic featured in The Legal Eye? Let us know! PLEASE EMAIL US AT LEGALEYE@MC.EDU



Race and the Law Seminar Negotiations





## By: Keleigh Williams



Valerie Mims is from Bessemer, Alabama, a small city on the outskirts of Birmingham. She obtained a degree in sociology with a minor in philosophy

because she wanted to understand different behaviors and to use philosophy to influence social change.

#### WHY DID YOU CHOOSE MC LAW?

The downtown location in the center of Jackson's legal community and because of the way I was welcomed when I came to visit. Also, being in walking distance from the Supreme Court is a plus.

#### HOW DO YOU WANT TO USE YOUR JD?

I want to practice in the Civil Rights and Criminal Justice fields.

## WHAT HAS BEEN THE BEST PART OF YOUR SCHOOL EXPERIENCE?

During the summer of my 2L year, I took a six-credit externship. My placement was at the District Attorney's office, Bessemer Division. I had the opportunity to observe an autopsy, receive gun safety training, and help prepare for a criminal trial. During the spring, I look forward to studying Comparative Civil Rights abroad in Cuba.

#### HOW ARE YOU SPENDING YOUR 3L YEAR?

Currently, I volunteer with the



Mississippi State Conference National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. My work there involves assisting with voter protection during the 2018 general election and prosecutorial reform research.

#### DO YOU HAVE ANY WORDS OF WISDOM FOR INCOMING 1L STUDENTS?

God will never place more on you than you can bear—stay motivated!

# Family Law Society Hosts JUDGE DENISE OWENS

#### By: Kanesha Johnson, Family Law Society President



On November 6, 2018, the MC Law Family Law Society closed out is fall semester with a Lunch & Learn featuring guest speaker, the Honorable Denise Owens of the Hinds

County Chancery Court. Judge Owens has served on the bench for over 30 years and

was eager to share her experience with MC Law students and faculty. Judge Owens spoke about technology and how it has affected family law practice such as how judges now deal with the admission of evidence from social media platforms, the benefit of using technology for co-parenting, and using technology to prove fault grounds in divorce proceedings. Judge Owens also offered encouraging words to students who wished to practice law to participate in organizations like Family Law Society for the exposure to practicing lawyers and judges. The Family



Law Society is grateful to Judge Owens and MC Law students and faculty that joined in such an informative meeting.

# Veterans Legal Clinic GIVING BACK TO THOSE WHO FOUGHT FOR OUR FREEDOM

By: Hannah Heffernan, Military Justice Society President

EGAL EYE



The Military Justice Society is heavily involved with MC Law's monthly Veterans Legal Clinic. The Clinic began on Veterans Day, November 11, 2016, as a way to pro-

vide free legal aid to Mississippi veterans. The initial clinic drew a large crowd and was a huge success. Realizing the need for such services, the clinic became a monthly instillation at MC Law the following semester.

We just completed our twentieth clinic, but it takes an army to make sure the clinic runs smoothly and appropriate legal services are provided. As such, there are multiple parties involved, including: the Military Affairs Committee of the Mississippi Bar Association, the VA, and the Mississippi National Guard. Many JAG officers, local attorneys, and MC Law students and faculty have donated their time to ensure the success of the clinic.

The clinic typically services anywhere from 5-20 veterans a clinic. The veterans come from all military branches, walks of life, and from all over the state. Each veteran comes seeking advice on a variety of legal issues and works closely with a student and an attorney to find a resolution to their issue. While some problems are relatively simple, others have proven to be complex. For example, after years of military service, a Mississippi veteran, whose name will be withheld, faced another battle-only this one was with the Social Security Administration. No lawyer in the Jackson area would touch his case and he had lost hope. Thankfully, he learned of the Clinic and came not expecting much, but knowing that the Clinic was his last hope. We took his case, drafted his Federal District Court appeal, and won.

David Germany, a Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist at the Jackson VA, knows firsthand the legal struggles Mississippi's veterans face and refers veterans, like Mr. Hines, to the Clinic. Although there are a lot of agencies in Mississippi to help veterans, he notes that "having an opportunity for face to face contact with attorneys and law students was desperately needed. This Clinic is something Mississippi has needed for a while and we are very grateful for the Clinic and all of those involved."

While the clinic has been a success, we are currently working on a medical legal partnership with the VA to further our legal services. Additionally, we are also exploring a fundraiser dinner in the Spring to raise money for the Clinic. It is our goal to make the Clinic self-sufficient and mobile, so we can have a larger impact state-wide.

If you are interested in gaining hands on legal experience and giving back to those who selflessly gave to our country, please join us at our next clinic on December 14. We are very thankful for all the students and faculty who make our Clinic a success, especially Professor Richard Meyer.

# THRIVING AND SURVIVING AS LAW SCHOOL MOMS

### By: Keleigh Williams



MC Law has the unique ability in bringing out the best in its students. Here, students are invited to explore their interests and talents while applying their newfound aptitudes to various societies, externships, organizations, and jobs.

Despite the recognition of the many milestones students at MC Law often reach, there is one special group of law students who are often overlooked. However, we should in fact regard them as shining examples of the true grit and tenacity needed to conquer law school, the legal profession, and achievements beyond the scope of what students might expect of themselves. That group is made up of students who are also mothers.

There is something to be said for those who are the first to get up in the morning and last to go to bed at night, and those who rush in between classes

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to make it to their children's carpool and make it back in time for a late afternoon class. If one wants any advice on how to balance a personal life with a heavy workload, just ask any of our wonderful students who are also parents. One mother who is also excelling in school offers words of encouragement and advice. "Law school with children can be very challenging. I started my first semester with two children, a twoweek old and a two-year-old, fresh off a move from Louisiana. The key to my success has been all the wonderful support I have received from my husband, classmates, and the faculty and staff here at MC Law. I try to be really involved with the school: I am a Dean's Ambassador, on Law Review, and participate in several organizations. None of this would be possible without the support I mentioned earlier and making sure that I stay prepared by keeping up with my calendar. All my deadlines

and meetings go into the calendar on my phone immediately so that I don't forget," stated Sarah Barber, a 2L.

Erika Midgett, 2L, offered her perspective on being a mother and returning to school:

#### Tell us about yourself:

I'm a mother of two girls, ages 8 and 9. I was a stay-at-home mom before law school. My girls are in the 2nd and 4th grade. My husband and I have been married for 20 years. He's an OBGYN and practices in Madison, Mississippi. We moved to the Jackson area in 2009.

### Why did you go back to school?

Now that my girls are older, I wanted to return to the work force. For years I have helped my husband with the legal side of being a doctor. He suggested that I apply to law school because he's heard me express interest in going. It's something that I've always wanted to do so I thought now would be a great time. My husband and my girls are so supportive.

What advice do you have for other students with children?

Being in law school is hard and being a parent is also hard; but, it can be done successfully. The sooner that you realize that time is precious, the more doable the journey will be. When you're a parent in law school, you have to manage your time wisely. You quickly realize that you do not have time to waste because you're either spending time with your kids or you're being a law student and all that goes along with that. With that being said, try not to get overwhelmed with the process. Your priorities will change daily...some days your child will come first and then there are days where school has to come first. Ditch the guilt of not being 100% present for your kids because that's impossible to attain for any parent. Some days you'll have more to give and some days you'll be just "good enough." Remember to take some time out for yourself. Take time to just gather your thoughts and time to reflect on how blessed you are. The important thing to remember is to never give up and press through no matter what obstacles come your way. 🗍





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