

ST. THOMAS LAW NEWS

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NETWORKING WITH LOCAL AND STATE BAR ASSOCIATIONS

In last week's newsletter, Dean Ray explained ways to begin planning your career and building a marketable package of skills and assets. He spoke about ways a student can network on the national, state, and local level. Last week, we discussed the benefits of national networking with membership in the ABA. Below are the two St. Thomas law student organizations aimed at state and local networking.

THE DADE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION (DCBA)

The Dade County Bar Association (DCBA) is the largest voluntary bar association in Florida with approximately 4,500 members. The St. Thomas Student Chapter of the Dade County Bar Association is dedicated to providing student members with greater opportunities for employment, networking, legal education, and outlets for community outreach and pro bono by utilizing the collective resources of the DCBA and the St. Thomas University School of Law. Interested students may become members by visiting the Dade County Bar Association Website (www.dadecountybar.org) and completing the law student application online under memberships. The membership rates are \$25 per year and are pro-rated throughout the year. Student members of the DCBA will automatically become members of the St. Thomas Student Chapter. Students interested in the DCBA St. Thomas Chapter can contact Jennifer Health at jhealth@stu.edu.

THE FLORIDA BAR YOUNG LAWYER'S LAW STUDENT DIVISION

The purpose of The Florida Bar Young Lawyer's Division Law Student Division is to encourage interaction between law students and the legal community, provide a program of activities and projects designed to be of interest and assistance to members, and further the professional development of law students. The Young Lawyer's Division focuses on bridging the gap between law school and practice. For additional information regarding the Florida Bar Young Lawyer's Law Student Division, contact Raquel Moya at moya@stu.edu.

ST. THOMAS LAW ALUMNA NAMED HEAD OF DCF SOUTHEAST REGION

The September 15, 2011, edition of *The Florida Bar News* featured a front page story on St. Thomas Law Alumna Esther Jacobo (J.D. 1992). Ms. Jacobo was appointed on September 1st to manage the entire southeast region of the Florida's Department of Children and Families (DCF), supervising 1,200 employees. Ms. Jacobo discussed in the article that she was motivated initially to move to a government practice by a desire to "change the lives of children." She originally began practice as a criminal prosecutor for the 11th Circuit State Attorney's Office and then left for private practice. She was lured back into government practice with the DCF in 2008 and quickly rose to her current position. Ms. Jacobo was quoted as saying that "government lawyers...are the voice for the most vulnerable in every sense."

Ms. Jacobo exemplifies the St. Thomas Law mission: providing lawyers to underrepresented communities; certainly, providing a voice for abused and maltreated children is tied to that mission. Moreover, Ms. Jacobo's rise in leadership in DCF since 2008 exemplifies the University's mission: in "developing leaders for life." Her leadership and success is yet another example of how St. Thomas Law Alumni/ae have a positive impact on many communities.

CUBAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

The **Cuban American Bar Association** annually awards a scholarship to an eligible law student currently enrolled at St. Thomas University School of Law.

To be eligible for the *CABA Scholarship*, the applicant must be a Cuban American law student who has distinguished himself or herself academically or in service-oriented activities or both; or any student who has distinguished himself or herself in research, writing, community service, or other activities of importance to the Cuban American community; and be a currently enrolled student in good academic standing at St. Thomas University School of Law. The scholarship monies may be applied toward tuition, fees, and housing expenses.

The applicant must submit an essay (no more than 1,000 words) focusing on and describing in detail the activities and achievements that qualify him or her for the award, an updated resume, and a copy of his or her transcript.

A copy of the application must be received by the Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs on or **before 5:00 p.m., October 12, 2011**. You can email a copy of your application to chartley@stu.edu in lieu of submitting hard copy. Please request a verification of receipt if you email in the copy. You must use your STU email account to email the copy, or it will not be accepted. This office then will forward a copy of these materials to The Cuban American Bar Association to meet its deadline for receipt of all applications and retain one copy for The St. Thomas University School of Law scholarship files.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AND REFUNDS

If you did not waive out of the health insurance provided by the University then you are automatically enrolled in the health insurance policy provided by Pan-American Life Insurance and administered by GM-Southwest. There has been a delay in the cards being sent out, but the coverage is effective August 1, 2011. Card should be sent out in the next two weeks. But, if you need a card, you do not have to wait. You can get one online. For instructions on how to do so, contact the Head of Campus Health, Nellie Baez at nbaez@stu.edu.

If you did waive then you will receive a refund of the amount that was charged previously to your account. The refunds should be in your account, via direct deposit in mid October.

CLOTHING DRIVE

St. Thomas More Catholic Law Society in cooperation with P.I.L.S.A and F.A.W.L., is sponsoring a clothing drive. This event will take place October 3 through October 5, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Cordoza Breezeway.

Bring your gently used clothes and small electronics to the Saint Thomas More Catholic Law Society's table in the breezeway. All donations will go to the Society of Saint Vincent DePaul, a long-standing Catholic charity serving the poor and needy of South Florida. So, get organized and donate to a worthy cause!

PROFESSOR MOORE NAMED AS AN EDITOR OF CIVIL PROCEDURE AND FEDERAL COURTS BLOG

We are pleased to announce that St. Thomas Law Associate Professor Patricia Hatamyar Moore was recently named one of the four editors of the Civil Procedure and Federal Courts Blog. The blog can be found at the following link: <http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/civpro/>

Congratulations, Professor Moore.