# **ST. THOMAS LAW NEWS**

#### ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW NEWSLETTER



Criminal Law Society Lunch & Learn

#### 2017BARRISTER'S BALL

This year's Barrister's Ball held on Saturday, March 25, 2017, at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was a Venetian masquerade ball. The night began with a reception that included performers on stilts and a juggler.

In the ballroom, students and faculty were invited to take their seats, and the officers of the SBA presented the following awards. Professor Stephen Plass was presented the award for 1L Professor of the Year. Professor John Kang was presented with the Upper Level Professor of the Year. Robert Jack was presented with the Staff Member of the Year Award.

The Moot Court was recognized as the Honors Organization of the Year, and the Black Law Student Association (BLSA) was chosen as the Organization

#### ST. THOMAS LAW GATEWAY TO GREAT LEGAL CAREERS

**Rodrigo Palacio**, a 3L student, accepted a post-graduate Associate position with Piquet Law Firm in Miami (see p. 4).

**Eudinio "Eddy" Perez**, a 3L student, accepted a paid law clerk position with Pacin & Levine, P.A. in Miami (see p. 4).

**Jordan Rosales**, a 2016 graduate, accepted an Associate position with Conroy Simberg in Hollywood (see p. 4).

## WHAT'S GOING ON

April 1:	VITA Tax Preparation, Hanna Legal Information Center @ 10:00 a.m.
April 4:	Law Day Luncheon, Goldbloom Convocation Hall @ noon
April 4:	Passover Seder, CPD @7:45 p.m.
April 5:	3 <sup>rd</sup> District Court of Appeal, Moot Courtroom @ 9:00 a.m.
April 5:	Prayers and Reflection, Room 109A @ 12:30 p.m.

of the Year. The awards ceremony was followed by live entertainment and dancing.

#### DONOR SCHOLARSHIP AND LAW DAY LUNCHEON

The St. Thomas Law annual Donor Scholarship and Law Day Luncheon will be held next Tuesday, April 4, 2017, at 12:00 p.m. in the Evelyn and George Goldbloom Convocation Hall. We will be

honoring our named scholarship donors and their student recipients. Jeffrey A. Rynor, the President of the Dade County Bar Association, will be the speaker for this event. CALI-Book awards also will be given out during the luncheon.

## THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

The Third District Court of Appeal will hold an official session at St. Thomas Law on Wednesday, April 5, 2017, in the Moot Courtroom. Come hear a St. Thomas Law student from the Appellate Litigation Clinic argue a real case before the Court, in the first case on the calendar. Oral arguments will begin at 9:00 a.m. Appellate Briefs are on reserve in the Law Library. Case summaries also will be available in advance of the Court's visit.

## PUBLIC INTEREST LAW SOCIETY SILENT AUCTION

The Public Interest Law Society (PILS) is hosting its second annual silent auction from April 3 through 5, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds from the Auction go toward supporting our law students working in unpaid public interest internships during the summer. Their goal is to create a community where students can demonstrate their individual and communal support of public interest law by alleviating the costs incurred with an unpaid position. Last summer, **six (6)** students benefitted from the stipends, who in turn contributed their legal skills to local non-profits and agencies serving low-income and disenfranchised community members. Students worked for a variety of organizations including: Dade Legal Aid, Broward Public Defender's Office, Cuban American Bar Association (CABA) *Pro Bono* Project and Broward Legal Aid.

# ANNUAL PASSOVER SEDER

The Jewish Law Students Association, cordially invite you to its annual on-campus model Passover Seder this **Tuesday**, **April 4**, **at 7:45 p.m. in the Center for Professional Development** (where the career development and alumni relations offices are located). The campus Seder will be led by our campus Rabbi, Rabbi Mendy Weiss, and will include a catered three course meal along with dessert and the traditional Passover wine and Matza. The event is free of charge. If you plan to attend their model Passover Seder on April 4th (or you would like to make a donation to help with the food costs), please send me an e-mail at <u>stujlsa@gmail.com</u>.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL STU LAW 5K RUN/WALK

The St. Thomas Moot Court Board is pleased to invite the St. Thomas University community to its second annual 5K Run/Walk. Dust off your sneakers, and get ready for some fun, friendly competition and camaraderie. Join us in running and/or walking at St. Thomas University, on Saturday, April 8, 2017. The race begins at 8:00 a.m.

The run is open to everyone, but keep in mind it is **not** a stroller-friendly course. Water, coffee, and snacks will be provided post-race. The registration fee for student is \$15.00 and includes a 5KRun/Walk t-shirt. Any interested in participating in the race can register, by visiting <u>www.stu.edu/5krun</u> or by going to the Moot Court Board's table in the Cordero Breezeway.

A portion of all proceeds will benefit the Children's Home Society (CHS). Children's Home Society of Florida was established in Jacksonville on November 17, 1902, to help orphaned children find families. In its initial year, with a staff of two, the CHS found homes for 21 children operating with

a budget of merely \$400. Today, the Children's Home Society of Florida has earned a national reputation for being instrumental in creating legislation to protect children's rights.

## EAT-AND-EDUCATE EVENT

On March 28, 2017, a panel of attorneys from the Real Property, Probate & Trust Section (RPPTL) of the Florida Bar addressed a group of more than 40 students about careers in the RPPTL areas. The panel also spoke at length about how to network effectively to secure a job before graduation or shortly after. This panel was put together by Michael Yanopoulos (3L) and Sandy Boisrond, Esq.

## SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI(AE) PANEL LUNCH & LEARN

On March 22, 2017, St. Thomas Law students were treated to an informative and insightful presentation on networking and interview tips by St. Thomas Law alumni(ae): Ricky Patel '09, Aron Gibson '11, James Brenner '10, and Lauren Shoemake '11. The speakers emphasized that networking begins in law school, ways to expand your inner and outer circle of contacts, and pointers on how to stand out in an interview including the dreaded "What is your weakness" question. The sessions ended with a Q&A and meet and greet, between the alumni(ae) and students.





#### DRAGON BOAT RACE

The Asian American Law Student Association invites you to the join them for a thrilling watersport event in Key Biscayne at the Miami Dragon Boat Race Festival on Saturday, April 8, 2017, at 8:00 a.m. at the Miami Marine Stadium, Flex Park. Come out and enjoy a day-out with family, friends, and colleagues, while helping raise funds for breast cancer-affiliated women's services. Anyone interested in participating in the event must sign-up at AALSA@STU.OUTLOOK

# CRIMINAL LAW RECRUITMENT PANEL LUNCH & LEARN

On March 22, 2017, the Criminal Law Society and the Office for Career Development hosted a panel discussion on *Criminal Law Recruitment*. The panelists were STU Law alumna Tarlika Navarro (2010), Haddad & Navarro, LLC; Thomas B. McGee, Assistant State Attorney; and Kevin Hellmann, Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office. More than 100 students were in attendance.



#### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Erika Hernandez, a 1L student, was the recipient of Miami-Dade FAWL's Judge Gill Freeman Scholarship. She was presented her scholarship check at the Women Making History and

Scholarship Awards Event which was held on March 22, at the History Miami Museum.

**Rodrigo Palacio**, a 3L student, accepted a post-graduate Associate position with Piquet Law Firm in Miami, specializing in local and international real estate, corporate, tax, immigration, and litigation.

**Eudinio "Eddy" Perez**, a 3L student, accepted a paid law clerk position with Pacin & Levine, P.A. in Miami, specializing in personal injury protection.

# ALUMNI(AE) NEWS

**Jason Fagnano**, 2011 graduate, has accepted an Associate position with Domnick Cunningham & Whalen, an national civil litigation firm, specializing in catastrophic injury and insurance bad faith law.

**Oscar Quintero**, a 2016 graduate, accepted a second-year term as an Assistant Appellate Court Attorney for The Supreme Court of New York, Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department, located in Albany, New York.

**Jordan Rosales**, a 2016 graduate, accepted an Associate position with Conroy Simberg in Hollywood, specializing in insurance civil defense.

#### Faculty Announcements

Last week Professor **Marc-Tizoc González** participated in Career Day 2017 at Morningside K-8 Academy, where he spoke with sixth, seventh, and eighth graders about becoming a lawyer and law professor. Also, he joined an *amicus curiae* brief filed by attorneys with Covington & Burling LLP in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California on behalf of twentytwo legal scholars in support of the plaintiffs. Last month the City and County of San Francisco and County of Santa Clara sued the federal government to challenge the constitutionality of Executive Order No. 13,768, 82 Fed. Reg. 8799 (Jan. 25, 2017). *Amici* argue that the executive order violates the constitutionally protected principles of federalism and the separation of powers. In particular, they argue that: (1) Executive Order 13,768 usurps the spending power that Article I of the Constitution vests with the Congress, and (2) the executive order exceeds the constitutional limits of the spending power itself by retroactively imposing a coercive and unreasonable condition to comply with certain immigration laws and policies in order to be eligible for almost all federal funding.

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