



St. Thomas Law News

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Spring Commencement Ceremony

The commencement ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 10, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness.

Students anticipating graduating and participating in the commencement ceremony, graduation registration begins **Monday, February 4**, through **Friday, February 8, 2019**, at the Law School Registrar's Office. Students eligible to apply are those who will have completed graduation requirements prior to the graduation ceremony in May or those students who will have 6 or fewer credits remain in the summer session to complete towards graduation. Students in the joint degree program that are graduating in May must register with **both** the law school and the university Registrar. The deadline to register with the University is **February 1, 2019**.

A graduation expo is scheduled for February 19 & February 20, 2019, in Evelyn & George Goldbloom Convocation Hall (main campus library), from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. At the graduation expo students will have the opportunity to have their photos taken by Werner Kahn Studios for the graduation program; and order class rings and announcements from Herff Jones.

Pictures of our graduates will be placed in the graduation program. We would like the program to include photographs of the entire graduating class. To help this process run smoothly, you must sign-up for a time slot by visiting <http://go.stu.edu/law/students/grad-photos> ❖

St. Thomas Law: Gateway to Great Legal Careers

Karina Hidalgo-Gato (3L) accepted a paid Internship with Hayman-Woodward, PLLC in Miami, specializing in Immigration Law.

Jikky Thankachan (2L) accepted a *highly competitive* paid Summer Associate position with the United States Government Accountability Office in Washington D.C.

Daniel Grammes, a 2018 graduate, accepted an Associate Attorney position with Lipcon, Margulies, Alsina & Winkeman, P.A., in Miami, specializing in Admiralty Law.

Cody Malosiecki, a 2018 graduate, accepted an Associate Attorney position with Pacin Levine, P.A. in Miami, specializing in Personal Injury Protection. ❖

Campus Events

- January 29: JAG Navy L&L, Room CPD-113 @ 12:00 p.m.
- January 30: Breezeway Chatter, Cordero Breezeway @ 12:00 p.m.
- January 31: Journals/Honors Student Organizations L &L, Room 219 @ 12:00 p.m.
- January 31: Clinical Program Application Deadline.
- February 4-8: Graduation Registration



2019 Barristers' Ball

The Student Bar Association (SBA) will start selling tickets for its annual Barristers' Ball, on January 22, in the Cordero Breezeway. The barristers' ball will be held at the Cruz Building in Miami, Florida, on Saturday, March 23, 2019.

The Barristers' Ball is a night when students, faculty, administration, members of the community, and alumni(ae) come together to recognize the achievements of the current year, and to look forward to the promising accomplishments of the coming year. ❖

Business Cards for Law Students

Any law student wanting to purchase business cards this semester will have two opportunities to do so, January 25 and March 8, 2019. All orders must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date. Students wishing to purchase business cards must do so by going to <https://go.stu.edu/Law/Careers/Student-Business-Card-Form>, completing the form and submitting the required payment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Career Development. ❖

The Florida Bar 2019 Affiliate Outreach Conference



On January 11-13, 2019, St. Thomas Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, Student Governors attended the Florida Bar Affiliate Outreach Conference in St. Augustine. The Florida Bar's main initiative this year was Mental Health & Wellness outreach. Law schools were encouraged to host an event on this topic. Therefore, last semester, St. Thomas Law hosted a Mental Health & Wellness event where professionals and students addressed issues faced by students and practicing legal professionals and the best way to cope and heal. The panel included Clinical Psychologist Carolina Barbeito and Licensed Professional Counselor Dashita Morris. St. Thomas Law was awarded the best Health & Wellness event.

Pictured standing left to right: Daniel Garcia (1L), Jonathan Kernizan (2L), Donte Grant (3L) sitting: Keegan Cunningham (1L), Leslie Vega (2L), Jikky Thankachan (2L). ❖

Justice Peggy A. Quince's Retirement Celebration

On January 12th, a retirement celebration was held in honor of retired Florida Supreme Court Justice Peggy Ann Quince at the Innisbrook Resort & Spa, in Palm Harbor, Florida. Justice Quince had been a Justice of the Court since 1999, and was the first African-American woman to sit on the state's highest Court and the third female Justice. St. Thomas Law was a proud sponsor of this event. It was attended by many St. Thomas alumni(ae), Dean **Tamara Lawson**, Professors **Carol Castleberry**, and **Tia Gibbs**. ❖

Miami Lakes Bar Association's 2019 Installation Celebration

On January 11, 2019, the Miami Lakes Bar Association held its 2019 Installation Celebration at the Shula Hotel's Grand Ball Room in Miami Lakes. St. Thomas Law alumna Janelys Holland '16 was sworn in as President of MLBA. The event was well attended with many St. Thomas Law alumni(ae). St. Thomas University School of Law was a proud sponsor of this event. ❖

International Seafarers Ministry

In December, St. Thomas Law students **Andrew Bratslavsky** (2L), **Morgan Levine** (2L), **Christian Merida** (2L), and **Jim Zumpano** (2L) gave of their time and money to assist the International Seafarers Ministry in Miami by packing Christmas bags for the international seafarers (over 1500 presents were distributed). In addition, thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Maritime Law Society, St. Thomas More Catholic Law Society, and the Tort Law Society five phone charging stations were purchased and placed in the Seafarers Ministry hospitality center where crew members use free Wi-Fi to connect with their families around the world. The charging stations have a good variety of connections that service almost every phone type. The stations charge the phones quickly giving the seafarers more time to enjoy their calls. ❖

Alumni(ae) News

CJ Baldelomar, a 2018 graduate, co-founded Learning for Life Solutions, LLC in Miami; is currently, enrolled in the LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights at St. Thomas Law.

Roberto Gonzalez, a 2014 graduate, founding partner of PereGonza Law Group in Doral was recently re-elected as Recording Secretary of the Republican Executive Committee of Miami Dade County.

Keyondra Parrish, a 2016 graduate, an Assistant Public Defender position with the Office of the Public Defender, in West Palm Beach.

Evan Phoenix, a 2016 LL.M. in Tax graduate, accepted a Law Clerk position with Bet Tzedek Legal Services in Los Angeles, specializing in Tax Compliance to Small Business Owners.

Yohania Santana, a 2017 graduate, accepted a Staff attorney position with Dade Legal Aid, in the Domestic Violence Unit. ❖

Faculty Announcements

Professor **Lauren Gilbert** will be the Keynote Speaker at the Latin American and Latinx Studies Symposium at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL on April 5, 2019. Undergraduate students from all over the country will share their research on themes related to current, domestic, and foreign issues in Latin America and the Latinx population in the United States. ❖



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