



## St. Thomas Law News

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### Professionalism in Law School!

As has been pointed out to all law students since Orientation, the day you walked into law school was the day on which you began to embark on the road to becoming a professional: a lawyer. Your behavior in law school is subject to close scrutiny by the various state bars in deciding whether you meet the character and fitness requirements for admission to the bar. Certainly, admission to the bar can, and should, motivate "professional" behavior.

But maybe more important in the short term is that you should exercise the discretion and judgment of a "professional" with regard to your colleagues and professors, and the Law School and University administration. Here are some tips I hope you will keep in mind.

The law library is designed for study and research. For many students, the law library, by choice (or necessity), is the one place they should be able to find a peaceful, quiet environment to study. The lobby of the library is available for conversations, and students wishing to study in groups that require conversation should book study rooms or study in empty classrooms. If you want to socialize then take advantage of the breezeway. It is designed to give you an area conducive to socializing. The stairwell of the library and the areas adjacent to the elevator do not in any way buffer sound. In fact, those areas amplify sound. So, please be mindful that "your" conversation is not likely something other students, who are trying to study, care to hear. All students should appreciate and practice courtesy and respect for their colleagues studying in the library.

Classroom behavior and decorum is also a component of being a professional student. Students

### St. Thomas Law: Gateway to Great Legal Careers

**Alexandra Azucy** (2L) accepted an offer to extend her Summer Internship into the Fall with Judge Milton Hirsch, Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, Circuit Criminal Division in Miami.

**Zachary Stokes** (2L) completed an Internship with The City of Miami Gardens Office of the City Attorney.

**Brandon Greene**, a 2018 graduate, accepted a post-graduate Assistant Public Defender position with the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office.

**Daniel Joseph**, a 2018 graduate, was accepted into the LL.M. in Taxation program at Georgetown Law. ❖

should arrive on time and prepared for class. It is inconsiderate to your colleagues and professors to arrive late, disrupt class, and then not be prepared when called upon. Studying the law is a dynamic process. It works best when the students and professor are prepared, knowledgeable, and engaged. Do your part to make the class experience meaningful and worthwhile for both you and your colleagues.

Please remember the limitations on smoking and food. Smoking is not allowed on campus, and food is not allowed in the classrooms or the law library.

One last bit of advice. We all encounter frustrations day to day in dealing with bureaucracies. The University and Law School both have a number of bureaucratic systems that (at times) may not function optimally for some particular student. If you encounter a problem, please remember to exercise a bit of discretion when dealing with the person who is addressing your problem. It may be a truism, but often he or she is just doing his or her job, and following procedure and policy he or she is required to follow.

We have tried to provide you with as much in-house assistance at the Law School as feasible. If you are unable to achieve a satisfactory result then bring the matter to John Hernandez, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. One of his primary roles is serving as your liaison in resolving problems. ❖

## Campus Events

- August 24: Professionalism Day
- August 28: U.S. Department of Justice L & L,  
Room 104 @ 12:00 p.m.
- August 30: U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission  
L & L, Room 104 @ 12:00 p.m.
- August 30: Organizational Fair, Cordero Breezeway  
@ 11:00 a.m.
- September 3: Labor Day Holiday (No School)
- September 5 & 6: Clinical Program Informational Session,  
Moot Courtroom @ 12:00 p.m.



## The Office of Career Development Welcomes Sherea Randle

Please join Office for Career Development in welcoming **Sherea L. Randle, Esq.**, who recently joined as the Public Sector Career Counselor. Sherea has more than five years' legal experience in government, specifically as an Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Attorney General, Children's Legal Services Bureau, General Civil Litigation Division, and as a Senior Attorney at the Florida Department of Children and Families, Children's Legal Services. Prior to entering law school, Sherea was the Director of Bands and a music teacher at Miami Carol City Senior High School.

Sherea will advise students and alumni(ae) on public sector careers, including government, non-profit, and legal services, and on job search strategies for out-of-state opportunities and international public interest law organizations. Sherea will offer guidance on alternative careers and is committed to

helping students and alumni(ae) find satisfaction in their life's work.

Please stop by the Office for Career Development to introduce yourself to Sherea. She also can be reached by e-mail at [srandle@stu.edu](mailto:srandle@stu.edu) or by phone at (305) 474-2433. ❖

## Admissions Office Video

On **Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>**, a film crew will be on campus videotaping for an Admissions video to include on the St. Thomas Law website. Video cameras may come into your classrooms to record. They also will be around campus, including the Breezeway and the faculty suites. They will be there for only a short period. We ask that you ignore the cameras when they come into the classroom. ❖

## Business Cards for Students

Law students will have the opportunity to purchase business cards five times throughout the academic calendar year (twice each in the fall and spring, and once in the summer). Orders will be placed as following: August 31<sup>st</sup>, October 5<sup>th</sup>, January 25<sup>th</sup>, March 8<sup>th</sup>, and June 7<sup>th</sup>; all orders must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date.

Students wishing to purchase business cards can do so by clicking on the following link: <https://go.stu.edu/Law/Careers/Student-Business-Card-Order-Form>, completing the form and submitting the required payment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Career Development. ❖

## Wilkie D. Ferguson Bar Association Scholarship

On July 21, 2018, **Shameequa Buxton** (3L) was awarded the Wilkie D. Ferguson Bar Association \$5,000 scholarship. The scholarship was presented at the Association's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala and Installation of Officers and Directors dinner at the Briza on the Bay in Miami. The Wilkie D. Ferguson Bar Association is the oldest and largest association of Black attorneys in Miami-Dade County, Florida. This year's event recognized prominent legal, community, and business leaders who best embody the 2018 gala theme: "A Celebration of Black Excellence." ❖

## 2018 National Association for Women Lawyers Annual Meeting

On July 18-19, 2018, **Zareen Zaidi** (2L) attended the National Association of Women Lawyers ("NAWL") Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon at the Grand Hyatt New York with a full scholarship. Zareen was the *only* law student awarded the Selma Moidel Smith Law Student Writing Competition Scholarship. For over a century, NAWL has been empowering women in the legal profession and has acted as the voice of women in the law. ❖

## 2018 Conference of County Court Judge of Florida

St. Thomas Law was an Exhibitor at the 2018 Conference of County Court Judges of Florida. This year, the Conference was held in Naples at the Naples Grande Beach Resort. The mission of the conference includes providing continuing judicial education and conducting forums in which the County Court Judges of Florida meet to discuss mutual problems and solutions; and acquiring and disseminating information to all County Court Judges for the improvement of their courts, practice, and procedure. ❖

## Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association Award Ceremony

The Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association (“GSCBWLA”) had its Annual Installation and Awards Ceremony at the Hyatt Regency in Coral Gables on June 28, 2018. St Thomas University School of Law student **Portia Bethea** (3L) was awarded the 2018 Fellowship for Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. (“LSGMI”). Gwen S. Cherry was a pioneer attorney at Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. when it was founded in 1966. To honor her, the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association has established a Law Student Fellowship in her name. The Fellowship will provide the opportunity for a rising young law student to continue Gwen S. Cherry’s Legacy of Equal Justice and, at the same time, make it possible for LSGMI to help more vulnerable individuals and families resolve critical legal problems. Law student fellows provide important assistance to LSGMI attorneys including interviewing clients and witnesses; drafting legal documents, discovery and briefs; and conducting research and investigations. Law student fellows have frequent opportunities to attend strategy sessions, hearings, mediations, depositions, and community events. ❖

## Student Achievements

**Ashley Larkin** (2L) accepted a Summer Internship with Judge William Altfield, Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, Domestic Violence Division in Miami.

**Na’imah J. Lafferty**, (3L) was selected to receive the 2018 Kozyak Minority Mentoring Foundation Summer Fellowship Scholarship and will work with Legal Services of Greater Miami, Low Income Taxpayer Clinic.

**Gisselle Ortiz** (2L) accepted a paid Summer Internship with the Macey Law Firm in Coral Gables, specializing in Criminal Defense (specifically Drug Trafficking). ❖

## Alumni(ae) News

**Cesar Baldelomar**, a 2018 graduate, was accepted into the LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights program at St. Thomas Law.

**Phoebe Francois**, a 1994 graduate, was appointed to the Broward County Court bench by Governor Scott. Judge Francois was previously a 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit General Magistrate (Family Law). Link: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/17thCircuit/posts/>

**Victor Gabuardi**, a 2018 graduate, was accepted into the LL.M. in Taxation program at the University of Florida.

**Meagan Sanchez**, a 2017 graduate, accepted an Associate position with the Law Office of Robert David Malove in Fort Lauderdale, specializing in Criminal Defense. ❖

## Faculty Announcements

Professor **Raúl Fernández-Calienes** has been placed on the Fulbright Specialist Roster by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. As a candidate on the Fulbright Specialist Roster, he now is eligible for a tenure of three years to be matched with projects designed by host institutions in more than 150 countries globally. The program sends U.S. faculty and professionals to serve as expert consultants on curriculum, faculty development, institutional planning, and related subjects at academic institutions abroad.

Professor **Lauren Gilbert**, will be speaking on the opening panel at the ACLU Florida 2018 Lawyers Conference on Friday, September 7, 2018, at the Delray Beach Marriott. The opening panel will

discuss 'America's Evolving Immigration Policy and its Impact on Asylum Seekers.' The conference is co-sponsored by Rosemary Wilder & Karen Costello-Wilder, Gelber Schachter & Greenberg, P.A., Beltz & Beltz, P.A., Carlton Fields, Joel S. Perwin, Marlow, Adler, Abrams, Newman & Lewis Attorneys at Law, and The Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association.

Adjunct Professor **Anthony Musto** was elected President of the Board of Directors of Florida Legal Services, Inc., a statewide program providing legal assistance to the poor in impact litigation. He also became a member of the Board of Directors of The Florida Bar Foundation, the mission of which is to provide greater access to justice in Florida through grant programs and initiatives. ❖



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