



## St. Thomas Law News

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### Through the Eyes of a UN Intern

Written by **Sabryna Raymond** (3L)

Have you wondered what's it like to intern at the United Nations Headquarters in New York? I had a transformative personal and educational experience in the United Nations Externship in New York. I was assigned to the Order of Malta, Permanent Mission to the U.N. in New York. The Order of Malta, is a 1200-year-old sovereign humanitarian organization dedicated to providing support to the forgotten, vulnerable and marginalized members of society.



As an intern for the Order of Malta, I attended meetings on their behalf often witnessing speeches given by heads of state regarding issues affecting the world community. Attending the meetings of the Security Council was an opportunity to personally witness history in the making.

Before I began my internship at the U.N., I did not have an extensive knowledge about the global multilateral organization thus, I was somewhat concerned. However, Professor **Mark J. Wolff**, assured me that I would be surrounded by experienced and helpful experts. After the first few weeks of attending meetings and through conversations with the Ambassadors and members of delegations my fears were assuaged. Additionally, taking the U.N. Global Governance & Global Ethics online seminar provided much of the necessary knowledge and background.

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

**Lauren Cabrera** (2L) accepted a Paid Internship with Reiner & Reiner, P.A. in Miami, specializing in Labor & Employment, and Business Law.

**Natasha Mathurin** (3L) continued her Internship with the Office of Compliance and Ethics at Jackson Health System, one of the nation's largest public hospital systems.

**Ansell Fernandez**, a 2018 graduate, accepted a Tax Externship with the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation (PBGC), Office of the General Counsel in Washington, DC.

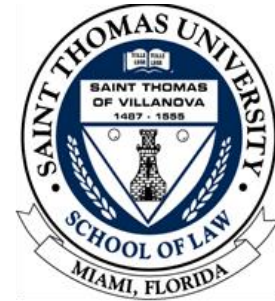
**Candice Izaquirre**, a 2018 graduate, accepted a post LL.M. graduate position as a Tax Associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers in New York, specializing in Mergers & Acquisitions. ❖



Socializing and making friends with other interns is also an important part of being an intern at the U.N. Because the U.N. is so multicultural, I had the great pleasure to meet amazing individuals from all over the world. My externship at the U.N., was a transformative experience, and I highly recommend it to those with an interest in international law and diplomacy. It is a unique opportunity for students to get a first-hand experience at the U.N. as both an observer and participant. ❖

## Campus Events

- March 23: VITA Tax Preparation, Law Library @ 10:00 a.m.
- March 23: Barrister's Ball, The Cruz Building @ 7:00 p.m.
- March 26: Immigration & Cuba: A Discussion of Current Issues & Policies, CPD-113 @ 12:00 p.m.
- March 28: Intellectual Property L&L, CPD-113 @ 12:00 p.m.
- April 2: Donor Scholarship / Law Day Luncheon, Goldbloom Convocation Hall @ 12:00 p.m.
- April 2: Carnival Corporation Compliance Team, Room 202 @ 3:15 p.m.



## The Tax Moot Court Team wins First Runner Up Brief Award at the 2019 National Tax Moot Court Competition

The St. Thomas University School of Law won the First Runner Up Brief Award at the 2019 National Tax Moot Court Competition sponsored by the Tax Section of the Florida Bar and the University of Florida. The Award was presented at the Tax Moot Court Competition Awards Ceremony Banquet on March 9, 2019. In its inaugural participation, tax students and competitors **Arlene J. Williams** (2L) and **Yung Truong** (3L) accepted the Award. The Tax Moot Court Team was coached by Adjunct Professor **Francoise Blanco** and Professor **Mark J. Wolff**. Ms. Williams and Ms. Truong were assisted by research assistants **Christian Batallas** (2L), **Jessie Betancourt** (2L), **Robert Martin** (2L), **Norberto Rodriguez** (2L), **Alejandro Velez** (2L), **Daniella Gonzalez** (2L), and **Brandon Chuck** (3L). ❖



## 2019 Broward County Hispanic Bar Association Law Student Scholarship

The Broward County Hispanic Bar Association is an organization of civic-minded professionals, including attorneys and members of the Broward County Judiciary as well as business leaders, educators and law students dedicated to promoting diversity while serving our beloved community.

Every year the organization awards a recipient a scholarship of \$1,000 for them to put towards tuition, books, fees, or living expenses, which is matched by St. Thomas Law for a **total of \$2,000**. The scholarship recipient will be presented with the scholarship at the Broward Hispanic Bar Association's Annual Installation & Scholarship Gala to be held on June 1, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale.

Students interested in applying must submit an up-to-date resume, which includes GPA, work experience, and any school activities or clubs. Additionally, students must submit a one to two-page (maximum) essay as to why they believe they deserve this award. The Hispanic Bar will then select the finalists and request interviews with those individuals. After the interview process, a winner will be selected. **Applications must be submitted no later than May 1, 2019 to: [browardhispanicbarassoc@gmail.com](mailto:browardhispanicbarassoc@gmail.com).**❖

## **A Celebration of Women in the Legal Community Broward's Women Pioneers**

In honor of International Women's Day on March 8, 2019, the Broward County Bar Association and Broward County Women Lawyer's Association hosted a Celebration of Women in Broward's Legal Community. Honorees included: Betty Athanasakos, the first woman appointed as a municipal judge in Oakland Park and Wilton Manors, where she served from 1964-1972; The Honorable Miette K. Bernstein, the first woman elected to serve as a Circuit Judge in Broward County (1976); and the Honorable Melanie G. May of the Fourth District Court of Appeal, who has a trifecta of firsts—first woman judge to preside over Broward County's drug court, first woman board chair of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and first president of the Stephen R. Booher Inn of Court. St. Thomas Law was well represented, with Adjunct Professor The Honorable **Michelle Towbin-Singer** introducing the program, The Honorable **Tarlika Nunez-Navarro '10**, introducing Betty Athanasakos and **Laura Varela** (Career Counselor) and **Elysa Galloway** (3L) in attendance to applaud the honorees.❖

## **Voluntary Bar Association Expo**

On March 7, 2019, the Office for Career Development hosted a Voluntary Bar Association Expo in the Cordero Breezeway. A diverse group of 15 organizations, several of whom sent St. Thomas Law alums to represent, spent time chatting with students about the benefits of student and new lawyer memberships. It is never too early for students to network.❖

## **FTI Consulting Lunch and Learn**

On March 5, 2019, Mary Vegher, Esq. and Tracy Bordgnon, Esq. of FTI Consulting visited the law school to present a Lunch & Learn on careers in the field of document/contract review, e-discovery and compliance. The informal questions and answers setting was a big hit with the students, as were the swag.❖

## **Miami-Dade Bench and Bar Conference**

Career Counselors **Sherea Randle** and **Laura Varela** represented St. Thomas Law at the American Inns of Court (Spellman-Hoeveler Chapter) Bench and Bar Conference. Over 4,000 attorneys and judges spent the day attending sessions on a wide variety of legal, professional and educational topics. St. Thomas Law alum and now Judge **Lody Jean '04** moderated an inspiring session on Diversity & Inclusion with the Legends. It was an amazing inaugural event.❖

## Lunch and Learn with Pacin Levine P.A.

On February 28<sup>th</sup> **Marc Pacin** (STU Law '08) and Mark Levine, founding partners of Pacin Levine, P.A., hosted a Lunch & Learn on Post-Graduate Success including best practices and professionalism tips for landing your first attorney position. Over 30 attendees were treated to a catered lunch and thanks to the firm's generosity, a raffle! One lucky 1L and 2L each won \$100 gift card, and one very lucky 3L a 2 night hotel stay in Tampa during the bar exam. ❖

## Alumni(ae) News

**Daylin Farinas**, a 2016 graduate, recently accepted a new Attorney position with the Law Office of Alex Hanna, P.A. in Miami, specializing in Person Injury.

**Ansell Fernandez and Candice Izaguirre**, 2018 graduates, are in the LL.M. Taxation program at Georgetown Law and are candidates for May 2019 graduation.

**Richard Libutti**, a 2016 graduate, recently accepted a new position as Account Manager with Endeavor Exteriors Inc., in Denver, CO.

**Jacqueline Villalba**, a 2006 graduate, was recently elevated to Partner at Harper Meyer LLP in Miami, specializing in Immigration and Nationality Law.

**Shairoz (Haiderali) Virani**, a 2016 graduate, recently accepted a new position as Contract Manager with Verizon in Dallas TX. ❖



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