

# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT



*Producing Lawyer Leaders*

JANUARY 2023

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# INSIDE STORY

## FORD FOUNDATION AWARDS \$250K GRANT TO SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER IN SUPPORT OF DISABILITY RIGHTS WORK



Despite the increased presence of students with disabilities in higher education, people with disabilities have not achieved workplace equality and remain underrepresented in the American workforce. To assist in efforts to achieve educational and workplace equality, Southern University Law Center (SULC) has received a \$250,000 grant from the Ford Foundation's U.S. Disability Rights Program. The grant will support SULC Professor Katherine Macfarlane's work with the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights as the Department gathers public input and considers possible updates to the historic Section 504 regulations.

The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights enforces several federal civil rights laws, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits disability discrimination by entities that receive federal funding. At the completion of her work with the Office for Civil Rights, Professor Macfarlane will work with SULC to develop course offerings and other measures to serve people with disabilities in Louisiana and beyond.

"Katherine Macfarlane is a dedicated disability rights advocate and longtime ally of students with disabilities. The Ford Foundation is proud to support her work collaborating with the Department Education where she will take on the important work of modernizing Section 504 regulations to better meet the needs of today's students and strengthening the next generation of disabled leaders," said Rebecca Cokley, Ford Foundation Program Officer for U.S. Disability Rights.

Professor Macfarlane's recent disability rights advocacy has focused on improving the educational experience of law students with disabilities, and on protecting high-risk people with disabilities in the workplace during the COVID-19 pandemic. Last year, she co-founded an affinity group for disabled law professors and allies, the first of its kind. She has also served as chair of the Association of American Law Schools' Disability Law Section. Her scholarship and advocacy draw upon her own experiences as a disabled student, lawyer, and law professor. Professor Macfarlane joined the Law Center in 2021.



# INSIDE STORY

## LAW CENTER FACULTY BRING CHEER TO LOCAL CHILDREN THROUGH THE BATON ROUGE BAR ASSOCIATION'S HOLIDAY STAR PROJECT



Fifteen SULC professors participated in the Baton Rouge Bar Association's (BRBA) Holiday Star project, providing gifts for 15 children. The BRBA obtains the wish lists of children from several nonprofit organizations in Baton Rouge. Thank you to professors Ruby Andrew, Charlie Cain, Monique Edwards, Michael Harris, Raymond Hicks, Virginia Listach, Phebe Poydras, Willmai Rivera-Pérez, Mark Roark, Michael Rusco, Gail Stephenson, and Alvin Washington, and associate vice chancellors Cynthia Reed, Greg Sergienko, and Prentice White for participating.



# JOINT VENTURES

## SULC PARTNERS WITH THE LAW OFFICE OF ELIZABETH GOREE AND THE BLACK FAMILY INITIATIVE TO HOST COMMUNITY TURKEY GIVEAWAY

The Law Center partnered with SULC alumna and attorney Elizabeth Goree and The Black Family Initiative to provide over 100 turkeys to local Baton Rouge families during the Thanksgiving holiday.





# STUDENT FEATURES

## BASHAR SALEH



Bashar Saleh was selected as a member of the inaugural class of the Association of American Law Schools' Pro Bono Honor Roll.

## OMAROSA NEWMAN, JULIE PUENTE, AND WILL PUENTE



SULC students Omarosa Manigault Newman, Julie Puente and Will Puente represented the Law Center at a mock trial competition in Cleveland. During the competition, Law Center student Omarosa Manigault Newman handled opening statements, Julie Puente conducted direct and cross examinations, and Will Puente handled closing arguments and rebuttals.

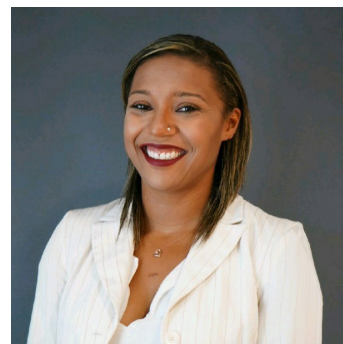
# STUDENT FEATURES

## EDRIUS STAGG AND ERYN WELLS



In the spring, Law Center student Edrius Stagg will join Reed Smith's office in Washington DC, and Eryn Wells will join the regional office in San Francisco, California.

## JALYN WELLS, MARNITIA WALKER, AND DESTINY MONTEMAYOR



Law Center students, Jalyn Wells, Marnitia Walker, and Destiny Montemayor, have received the IAPP (International Association of Privacy Professionals) Westin Scholar Award.



# ALUMNI FEATURES

## WALTER BAILEY



The portrait of legal legend and Law Center alumnus, Walter Bailey, was unveiled at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN. Bailey is an icon and pillar of his community. He took on several high-profile cases, including representing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

during the sanitation workers' strike of 1968.

## KRISTEN PRIDE



Alumna Kristen Pride has started a new position as in-house counsel at Liberty Mutual.

## STEVEN MOORE



Law Center alumnus Steven Moore has been elected as a member of the Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center Board of Directors.

## JAINA GREEN



Alumna Jaina Green has joined McGlinchey Stafford's in the firm's New Orleans office.

## ANDREA LOWE



Tucker Ellis LLP has promoted Law Center alumna, Andrea Lowe, from attorney to counsel.

## ASHLEY BAKER



Law Center alumna Ashley Baker, Esq. has published her eighth book about the transportation industry.

# ALUMNI FEATURES

## YURI HAYSLETT



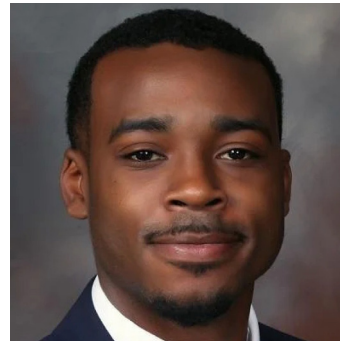
Law Center alumna Yuri Hayslett has started a new position as a Mergers and Acquisition Tax Intern at KPMG LLP.

## ROBIN-RENEE KEYS



Alumna Robin-Renee Keys has joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP as an associate.

## KORDELL CALDWELL & KAYLAN RICHARDSON



Law Center alumni Kordell Caldwell and Kaylan Richardson have joined Baker Donelson. Caldwell has joined as an associate in the advocacy department and Richardson is an associate in real estate law.



# CURRENT & FUTURE EVENTS

## JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>



SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023

9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH  
1148 N. COLUMBIA STREET, COVINGTON LA

THE EXPUNGEMENT EVENT IS FOR ST. TAMMANY, TANGIPAHOA, AND WASHINGTON PARISH RESIDENTS ONLY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE EMAIL [EXPUNGEMENT@SULC.EDU](mailto:EXPUNGEMENT@SULC.EDU)

### THE FOLLOWING IS NEEDED:

- DRIVER'S LICENSE
- CERTIFIED COPY OF MINUTES
- CERTIFIED COPY OF BILL OF INFORMATION
- BACKGROUND CHECK  
FROM LOUISIANA STATE POLICE HEADQUARTERS

ELIGIBILITY WILL BE DETERMINED  
AT A LATER DATE

- ### OFFERING THE FOLLOWING:
- COVID BOOSTERS
  - FLU
  - MONKEY POX



## JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>

# SAVE THE DATE

## *Fall Commencement*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>

10 A.M. CST

F.G. CLARK ACTIVITY CENTER

*FURTHER DETAILS TO COME*

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
LAW CENTER

## FEB | 24<sup>TH</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup>

The poster features a large, glowing treble clef graphic on the left side. The text on the right reads: "MUSIC CONTRACT NEGOTIATION COMPETITION", "FEBRUARY 24 - 25, 2023", "VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE", "PRIZES: 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE TEAM RECEIVES \$750, 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE TEAM RECEIVES \$500", and "REGISTER AT [WWW.SULC.EDU/MCNC](http://WWW.SULC.EDU/MCNC)". At the bottom, there are logos for Southern University Law Center, SIA, and the Office of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER  
P.O. Box 9294, BATON ROUGE, LA 70813  
(225)-771-2552 | [www.sulc.edu](http://www.sulc.edu)

The Southern University Law Center is a unit of the Southern University System

Dennis J. Shields, President of the Southern University System  
and Chancellor of Southern University and A&M College  
John K. Pierre, SULC Chancellor

*Produced by the SULC Office of External Affairs | Photography by April Buffington*