

January 16, 2007

JUDGE JOHN L. CARROLL, DEAN

IN THIS ISSUE

- Damali Booker 1L Minority Job Fair Project
- Informational Meeting for Cumberland's Study Abroad Programs
January 18, 2007
- Faculty Colloquium
Professor David Smolin
January 19, 2007
- ABA Law Student Tax Challenge Competition
Orlando, Florida
January 19 – 21, 2007
- Admissions Office – Information Session
January 20, 2007
- Volunteer Training – SaveFirst
January 22 and 23, 2007
- Student Bar Association Blood Drive
January 23, 2007
- Presentation by James Ukropina
January 23, 2007
- Called to the Bar Program
January 25, 2007
Moot Courtroom
- Cordell Hull Speakers Forum Program
January 25, 2007
Moot Courtroom
- Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association's Death Penalty Seminar
January 26 – 27, 2007
- Alabama Bar Deadline
- Cumberland Community Mediation Center Receives Grants
- Faculty Publications

DAMALI BOOKER 1L MINORITY JOB FAIR PROJECT

On Saturday, February 17, 2007, The Nashville Bar Association will hold its 2007 Damali Booker 1L Minority Job Fair Project. This minority job fair will be held in Nashville and will be for 1L summer clerk positions in Nashville. If you wish to participate, you will need to submit the following materials to the Nashville Bar Association by **January 17, 2007**:

- Student Registration Form
- Student Interview Rankings Form
- Law School Transcript
- Undergraduate Transcript
- Resume
- Writing Sample
- Cover Letter expressing connection to Nashville or interest in practicing law in Nashville

The Student Registration Form and Student Interview Rankings Form are available online at

<http://www.nashbar.org/2007%201LMinorityJobFair.htm>.

This website also contains all other information about the job fair, including all deadlines and the name of the person to whom you should send your application.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Students with an interest in Cumberland's study-abroad programs in Brazil and England should attend the second informational meeting concerning the programs on Thursday, **January 18**, room 120, 11:00 AM. Students currently registered for either of the programs should attend for additional

information concerning transportation and other matters which will aid their planning process. The program should not consume more than 45 minutes.

FACULTY COLLOQUIUM

Professor David Smolin will speak to the Cumberland faculty Friday, **January 19, 2007** at 11:00 AM in the Dean's Conference Room. Lunch will be served to those who RSVP to Rhenae Kennedy by the afternoon of Tuesday, January 16th.

The topic of Professor Smolin's presentation is "***Child Laundering as Exploitation: Applying Anti-Trafficking Norms to Intercountry Adoption under the Coming Hague Regime.***"

ABA LAW STUDENT TAX CHALLENGE COMPETITION

Two Cumberland students, **Kathryn Walker** and **Mark Hammond**, have advanced to the finals of the ABA Law Student Tax Challenge Competition to be held in Orlando, Florida January 19 – 21, 2007. The team is one of six teams to compete at the finals (of 30 teams that entered the competition). To advance, they wrote one of the best six memoranda on two advanced tax issues.

Congratulations to Kathryn and Mark!

ADMISSIONS OFFICE INFORMATION SESSION

On Saturday, **January 20, 2007** from 9:00 – 11:30 AM, the Admissions Office will host an Information Session for prospective students. By meeting students and professors, visitors will learn how Cumberland's exceptional faculty, collegial community, location in Birmingham, talented students and emphasis on advocacy training contribute to our students' success upon graduation.

Prospective students interested in attending the Information Session are asked to contact the Admissions Office for details by emailing law.admissions@samford.edu or by calling 726.2702 or 1.800.888.7213.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

SaveFirst, a nonprofit organization that provides free tax form preparation services to low-income individuals, will be holding its training sessions on **January 22** and **23** from 6:30 - 10:00 PM in the computer lab in the law library.

Students are strongly encouraged to volunteer. Please feel free to contact Professor DiRusso (room 239G or aadiruss@samford.edu) or Sarah Louise Smith, the Program Coordinator (ssmith@impactalabama.org) with any questions.

SBA BLOOD DRIVE

On Tuesday, **January 23, 2007**, the Student Bar Association will host a blood drive in the Great Room from 10 AM to 3 PM. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to participate. To make an appointment, please visit:

<https://www.givelife.org/index.cfm?Sponsor=CLS>

PRESENTATION BY JIM UKROPINA, NATIONALLY KNOWN CORPORATE ETHICS EXPERT

On Tuesday, **January 23, 2007**, Jim Ukropina, a nationally known corporate ethics expert will be speaking to Professor LaVone Warren's Business Organizations Class. The speech will be at 8:00 AM in Room 118 and is open to the public. Mr. Ukropina is the Executive Officer of Directions LLC, a strategic management and consulting firm and is also of counsel to the law firm of O'Melveny and Myers in Los Angeles where he specializes in corporate law. The topic of his speech will be *Corporate Scandals: Are They Inevitable? How to Deal With Them In Your Career*.

CALLED TO THE BAR

Substance abuse and alcoholism are at an all time high among lawyers and law students. The ***Called to the Bar*** program scheduled for Thursday, **January 25, 2007** at 11:00

AM in the Moot Courtroom will focus on State Bar Programs, which provide assistance in dealing with those sorts of problems. Jeanne Marie Leslie who is the Director of the Alabama Lawyer Assistance Program and David Woolridge who is a partner in the Sirote Law Firm will be the presenters.

CORDELL HULL SPEAKERS FORUM

Renowned attorney **Thomas A. Mesereau, Jr.** has accepted an invitation from the Cordell Hull Speakers Forum to speak at Cumberland on **January 25, 2007**, at 4:00 PM, in the Moot Courtroom. His speech will be followed by a reception in the Great Room.

Mr. Mesereau is a graduate of Harvard University, the London School of Economics and the University of California Hastings College of Law. He is recognized as one of the country's top criminal defense lawyers. He is most recently known for his successful defense of pop singer Michael Jackson. Following a five-month trial, Jackson was acquitted on all counts. The acquittal on June 13, 2005 followed a five-month trial, which garnered worldwide attention.

Following the Jackson acquittals, interview requests were endless. Mr. Mesereau appeared on the **Larry King Live** and **Jay Leno** shows to explain why Michael Jackson was acquitted. **Barbara Walters** named him one of her "*10 Most Fascinating People*", due to his victory in the Jackson case and because of his presence and pro bono work in the African-American community. **GQ Magazine** named him one of the "Top Men of the Year" because of his "determination" against numerous obstacles in the Jackson case.

Cordell Hull Chair, Tyrus Sturgis, says, "Mr. Mesereau has expressed that he is honored and excited about speaking to our student body. I told him that the feeling is mutual. Tom is phenomenal trial lawyer. I am sure that his message will be pertinent and powerful."

ACDLA DEATH PENALTY SEMINAR

The Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association in conjunction with the Cumberland School of Law and the University of Alabama School of Law is sponsoring a seminar

on Death Penalty Litigation at the Embassy Suites in Birmingham on **January 26 – 27, 2007**. The seminar, which features nationally recognized death penalty litigators, begins at 9:00 AM and ends at 5:00 PM both days. At 9:00 AM on Saturday, Rev. Dr. Joseph Lowery will give the keynote address.

Cumberland students are invited to attend the seminar free of charge.

ALABAMA BAR DEADLINE

All students need to check deadlines for submitting applications to sit for the July Bar in various states. As a reminder, the deadline for submitting applications to sit for the **Alabama Bar is February 1, 2007**. Please keep the following in mind as you submit your paperwork:

- If you did not submit a student registration, you will need to do so at the same time.
- All information furnished by you must be typed unless specifically requested otherwise on the application.
- Limited fingerprinting is available through Campus Safety. Please see me if you are interested in having fingerprinting done on campus.
- For your convenience, a checklist is shown below so that you may ensure you have everything you need prior to sending your application.
- Directions to the Alabama Department of Public Safety (for the purpose of obtaining the Driving Record Abstract) are available in the Student Services Office. Information for obtaining driving abstracts from all states is available at the following website:
<http://www.gustafsonlaw.com/DMV-Abstracts.htm>.
- Selective Service registration information required by all males is available online at
www.sss.gov/regver/verify.asp.
- Make a copy of all information prior to mailing your application.

If you have any questions regarding your application, please contact:

*Ms. Pam Nelson
Coordinator of Student Services
726.2222
pjnelson@samford.edu*

CHECKLIST FOR BAR APPLICATIONS

- Application – Must be typed
- Application Fee (\$10 - \$100; See Rule 1)
- Affidavit if over 390 days
- Dean's Certification – Available through Law Student Records
- Fingerprint Cards (2)
- Fingerprint Release
- \$25 cashier's check or money order payable to Alabama Bureau of Investigation (ABI)
- Authorization and Release Form
- Driving Abstract
- Addendums, if necessary

CUMBERLAND COMMUNITY MEDIATION CENTER RECEIVES GRANTS

Cassandra Adams, Director of the Cumberland Community Mediation Center (CCMC), is pleased to announce that the CCMC has been awarded a \$10,000 IOLTA grant from the Alabama Law Foundation and a \$4,000 grant from the Alabama Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution.

The grant monies are to be used to assist the CCMC in recruiting and training volunteer mediators, expanding mediation services provided to the Jefferson County Family Court, launching a mediation pilot with the St. Clair County District Court, and launching a mediation pilot with an Alabama school system.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

PROFESSOR JACK NELSON

Professor Jack Nelson recently published *Tort Law and Medical Malpractice Premiums*, in the peer-reviewed health care policy journal *Inquiry*. The citation is *Inquiry* 43:255-270 (Fall 2006) (with Meredith L. Kilgore and Michael A. Morrissey).

PROFESSOR ROBERT BOLIEK

Visiting Professor Robert Boliek has just published a number of his poems in the book, *Poems from the Big Table* (Churn Dash Press), an anthology by the "Big Table Poets," a group of local writers. Professor Boliek's poems have previously appeared in such literary magazines as *The New Orleans Review* and *The Formalist*, among others.

A reading from the book is scheduled at Crosshaven Books for **February 1, 2007** at 6:00 PM.
