

October 15, 2007

JUDGE JOHN L. CARROLL, DEAN

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FALL 2007 HALEY FEDERAL TRIAL COMPETITION

The Cumberland Trial Board congratulates the winners of the Fall 2007 Haley Federal Trial Competition:

Jenna Mullendore

Shannon Elliott

In addition, congratulations to finalists **Joel Blankenship** and **April Helms**. Thanks to all participants and judges for their hard work and dedication.

FACULTY NEWS

PROFESSOR STODDARD

Belle H. Stoddard, Assistant Professor and Director of Cumberland's Lawyering and Legal Reasoning Program, has been appointed to the Alabama Pattern Jury Instructions Committee -- Civil by the Alabama Supreme Court. She was appointed to the position being vacated by the retirement of our Law Librarian, **Becky Clapp**, who has ably served as the Reporter for the APJI committee for thirty years. Professor Stoddard will also serve as the Reporter.

The Alabama Pattern Jury Instructions Committee was originally formed in 1967 largely through the work of Judge Ingram Beasley and Justice Janie L. Shores who was a Cumberland Law Professor at the time. In 1973 the Alabama Supreme Court approved the use of pattern jury instructions. The APJI are the result of years of cumulative legal research by judges, practicing lawyers, and law professors.

In 2004 the committee embarked on a "Plain English" project to

Teaching Award

- Prosecution and Defense of Criminal Cases
CLE Program
October 19, 2007
Cahaba Grand Conference Center
- Flu Vaccine

draft the instructions so that jurors may more easily learn the applicable legal principles they must apply to the facts of a case. A description of the "Plain English" project is in the September 2007 edition of the Alabama Lawyer magazine. The Third Edition of the APJI -- Civil is planned for 2008.

PROFESSOR DEBOW

Professor Mike DeBow will participate in a conference on "The Debate over Judicial Elections and State Court Judicial Selection" sponsored by The Sandra Day O'Connor Project on the State of the Judiciary at the Georgetown University Law Center on October 17, 2007. Professor DeBow's panel is on "Judicial Elections and Speech During Campaigns."

PROFESSOR DENNING

Professor Brannon Denning presented "*Morse v. Frederick* and the Regulation of Student Cyberspeech" at a Willamette University College of Law faculty workshop on October 10, 2007. The paper, which was co-authored with Cumberland Law School student Molly Taylor ('08), will appear in the *Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly* in the Spring.

October 17-19, **Professor Denning** will participate in a conference at the Albany Law School on "Firearms, the Militia, and Safe Cities: Merging History, Constitutional Law, and Public Policy." He will present a paper, "Defending a Thin Second Amendment: Culture, the Constitution, and the Gun Control Debate," which—along with all the papers at the conference—will appear in a special issue of the *Albany Government Law Review* in the Spring.

CASSANDRA ADAMS TO BE GUEST SPEAKER AT AAPi

Cassandra Adams, Director, Cumberland Community Mediation Center & Public Interest Project, will be speaking at the Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc. [AAPi] on Wednesday, **October 17, 2007**. The AAPi, Region I, consists of 145 paralegals, who work in various Birmingham area law firms or corporate offices.

The topic is:

*Cumberland Community Mediation Center –
A Service to the Greater Birmingham Community*

HISPANIC INTEREST LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, **October 18** at 11:00 AM, HILSA welcomes as their guest speaker, **Vicenta Bonet Smith**, an immigration and naturalization lawyer who runs the Law Offices of Vicenta Bonet Smith P.C. Originally from Spain, Ms. Smith currently has her practice in Homewood.

Although her specialty is immigration, Ms. Smith frequently appears as a legal consultant on local radio and has been very successful in changing Alabama law regarding workers' comp benefits. Ms. Smith will be speaking to attendees on issues lawyers face when representing Hispanic clients in Alabama. Snacks will be provided, and the program will take place in room 120 of the law school.

CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY

**Cumberland Christian Legal Society
Hosts Guest Speakers:**

Susan McPherson

Former President of Birmingham CLS Chapter
Thursday, October 18
11:00 AM
Room 114

Judge Karon Bowdre

Federal District Judge
Tuesday, October 23
5:00 PM
Room 120

Stephen Casey

Balch & Bingham Attorney
Tuesday, October 30
5:00 PM
Room 115

Steve McKinney

Balch & Bingham Attorney
Tuesday, November 6
5:00 PM
Room 115

All Students and Faculty are Invited to Attend

LIBERTARIAN SOCIETY

The Libertarian Society will meet at 11:00 AM, Thursday, **October 18**, in room 123. This is a short get-oriented meeting to let interested students know how the Society works and to share information regarding upcoming speakers. Everyone is invited, regardless of political orientation. This is a discussion / philosophy group, not a vehicle for activism.

FLORIDA STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

The Florida Student Bar Association is having its first meeting of the year this Thursday, **October 18** at 11 AM in the Florida Room. Any students interested in practicing in Florida are invited to attend. There will be light refreshments, and admission to the Florida Bar and events for the semester will be discussed. For more information or if you have questions, please contact Michael Alfano at

mjalfano@samford.edu

GEORGIA STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

The Georgia Student Bar Association will meet this Thursday, **October 18** in the Dean's Conference Room at 11 AM. Election will be held for 2007 - 2008 offices. Events for the Fall and Spring will also be discussed. Dues are \$20.00 for existing members and \$25.00 for new members and checks must be made payable to the Georgia Student Bar Association. If you are interested in running for an officer's position or have any questions, email Brian at:

bjmalcom@samford.edu

PLAY BY THE RULES NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Alabama Center for Law & Civic Education will be hosting its first Play by the Rules National Conference on **October 21 - 23** at The Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. Fifty-five attendees will represent 33 states and three U.S. territories, and they will learn

about the Play by the Rules state-specific law program for middle school youth in Alabama and how this program can be adapted to their states or territories. Our special thanks to Senator Richard Shelby for securing U.S. Justice Department. Anyone interested in learning more about this program should contact Jan Bedford (Cowin) at:

jabedford@samford.edu

ALUMNI EVENT

The Alumni office is hosting a luncheon in Huntsville, Alabama on Tuesday, **October 23** at noon. If interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Mary T. Miller at:

mtmiller@samford.edu

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, **October 25** 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.

HARVEY S. JACKSON EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Two Cumberland Alumni have provided a generous gift to endow the ***Harvey S. Jackson Excellence in Teaching Award***. Two awards are given annually - one to a professor who teaches first year courses and one to a professor who teaches upper level courses. The winners are chosen by a joint faculty-student committee. The winners in 2007 were Professor Ed Martin (First Year Courses) and Professor Marcia McCormick (Upper Level Courses). The winners in 2006 were Professor Bo Cole (First Year Courses) and Professor Howard Walthall (Upper Level Courses). The winners in 2005 were Professor Brad Bishop (First Year Courses) and Professor Bill Ross (Upper Level Courses).

Any Cumberland student or faculty member may nominate a professor for the award by sending a letter or e-mail to the Dean which explains how the nominee meets the criteria for the award which are (1) mastery of the subject matter; (2) ability to convey information effectively to students; (3) demonstrated enthusiasm for teaching; (4) commitment to excellence in the classroom; (5) innovation in teaching techniques and (6) commitment to students.

***Please take time to nominate a Professor
for this important award.***

***Nominations are due by
the last day of class of the fall semester.***

PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE OF CRIMINAL CASES

Cumberland's Continuing Legal Education Office will host a program entitled "**Prosecution and Defense of Criminal Cases**" on Friday, **October 19, 2007** at the Cahaba Grand Conference Center in Birmingham, Alabama.

Each registrant will receive a copy of *The Law of Shoplifting: A Guide for Lawyers and Retail Merchants* by Professor T. Brad Bishop.

Students and full-time faculty may attend at no charge.

Students may purchase materials for \$10 (actual cost).

Speakers for the program include:

Program Chairman

T. Brad Bishop

Professor, Cumberland School of Law
Municipal Court Judge for the cities of
Hoover and Pelham, Alabama

Thomas J. Spina

Fawal and Spina

Municipal Court Judge for the city of Vestavia Hills, Alabama

Charlie D. Waldrep

Waldrep, Stewart & Kendrick, LLC
Prosecutor for the cities of Pelham, Fultondale
and Hoover, Alabama

John A. Lentine

Sheffield, Sheffield & Lentine, PC
Birmingham, Alabama

J. Mark White

White Arnold Andrews & Dowd, PC
Birmingham, Alabama

David N. Lichtenstein

Presiding Judge of Municipal and District Court of Appeals
For the 10th Judicial District
Birmingham, Alabama

Victor Kelley

President of the National Military Justice Group
Birmingham, Alabama

Cumberland now offers online registration and payment.

Go to:

<http://cumberland.samford.edu/cle>

and click on "Schedule of Events"

In addition to our live seminars,
the CLE department now offers online courses. Go to:

<http://cumberland.samford.edu/cle>

and click on "Online Courses"

For additional information, contact Cumberland CLE at (205)
726-2391 or 1-800-888-7454, or e-mail us at:

lawcle@samford.edu

FLU VACCINE

Student Health Services will administer flu vaccine for faculty and staff beginning Monday, October 15. The cost of the vaccine is \$25. Appointments are not necessary. Clinic hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Student Health Services at 726.2835.
