

November 12, 2007

JUDGE JOHN L. CARROLL, DEAN

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CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW WINNERS OF THE LONE STAR CLASSIC TRIAL COMPETITION

Congratulations to **Heath Brooks, Brian Duncan, Heather Piper, and Summer Wells**, the winners of the 2007 Lone Star Classic Mock Trial Competition that was hosted by St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas on November 8 - 10.

They were the fourth ranked team going into the semi-final round where they defeated number one ranked, Tulane, with a sweep of the judges 3-0 to advance to the final. In the final they faced number two ranked, South Texas, and again swept the judges 3-0 to win the Lone Star Classic. **Brian Duncan** won the competition award for Overall Best Advocate. The team was coached by **Jim Roberts '94**.

Other teams in the competition were Baylor, Buffalo-Niagara, Campbell, Catholic, Connecticut, Fordham, Georgia State, LSU, Michigan State, Pace, Texas Wesleyan, Villanova, and William & Mary.

Congratulations again to the team for their victory and for representing Cumberland well.



November 10, 2007

BUFFALO-NIAGARA MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

Congratulations to **Megan Head, Sean Mims, Anna Smith,** and **Chris Wooten** for advancing to and winning the quarter-final round of the Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition. The quarter-final rounds included sixteen of the forty teams from the competition. Although the team won their quarter-final round they did not advance to the semi-final round of four teams. The team was coached by **Mike Rasmussen '75**.

Other teams in the competition were Akron, Barry, Buffalo, Brooklyn, Campbell, Catholic, Chicago-Kent, Connecticut, Cooley, Creighton, Duquesne, Emory, Faulkner, Florida Coastal, Florida State, Fordham, Georgia, Georgia State, Illinois, Indiana, John Marshall, Michigan State, Northwestern, Nova, Pace, Pacific McGeorge, San Diego, South Texas, Southern Methodist, St. Johns, Syracuse, Temple, Thomas Jefferson, Washington, Widener-Delaware, Widener-Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

MAGIC CITY BAR ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to **Tiana Person-Garner** who was named the Magic City Bar Association Scholarship recipient from Cumberland School of Law.

FACULTY CANDIDATE VISITS TO CUMBERLAND

There will be two faculty candidates visiting the law school during this next week. The first candidate, **Stuart Lazar**, will be at the law school on **November 12**. Mr. Lazar is a graduate of the University of Michigan and a *cum laude* graduate of the University of Michigan School of Law. He received his LL.M. in taxation from the New York University School of Law. Mr. Lazar is currently a Visiting Associate Professor of Law at Tulane University School of Law.

The second candidate, **Michael Dickey**, will be at the law school on **November 13**. Mr. Dickey is a litigator with a commercial law practice in Florida. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California and his law degree from the University of Georgia where he graduated *magna cum laude*.

CLASS ON DISCOVERY MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

A class on discovery management software will be held Monday, **November 12** at 5:00 PM in the Murfee Courtroom. This class will be about the search and production of huge amounts of electronically stored information.

The presenter will be **Roe Frazer**, a member of the Cumberland Class of 1985. Mr. Frazer was a successful lawyer and then president of Caselogistix Inc., a discovery management software company. He will be demonstrating Caselogistix software and will also be talking about the software his new company is developing which uses very advanced search techniques.

The class, which is open to all interested students, will show you how the production of massive amounts of electronically stored information is managed in the real world.

CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY

Cumberland Christian Legal Society

Hosts Guest Speaker:

Stephen Casey

Balch & Bingham Attorney

Tuesday, November 13

5:00 PM

Room 115

(Free Chick-fil-A Provided)

All Students and Faculty are Invited to Attend

WILLS FOR HEROES II: BIRMINGHAM OPPORTUNITY

Many students expressed a desire to volunteer with ***Wills for Heroes*** (see <http://www.alabar.org/wfh/>), which provides free estate planning services to "first responders" - firefighters, police, and emergency personnel who put their lives on the line

to serve their communities. Now, five Birmingham clinic shift dates have been set. Mark your calendar:

November 13: 1:00 - 5:00
November 14: 8:30 - 12:00
November 14: 1:00 - 5:00
November 15: 8:30 - 12:00
November 15: 1:00 - 5:00

The Volunteer Lawyer Division of the Alabama State Bar is coordinating this - but they **NEED HELP!** They have asked for at least three student volunteers at each clinic shift, although they can use more. Volunteers need only commit to one shift. Volunteers should arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of the shift. To participate, call 1-800-354-6154 or email linda.lund@alabar.org (and let John Bowles know as well).

BENEFITS: Volunteering will give you practical exposure for developing real legal skills in estate planning and client counseling, all while making connections (and good impressions) with local attorneys in a working environment. The students involved will be paired with attorneys and will assist in creating wills and related documents using a streamlined, highly automated process ("Hot Docs"), and will act as witnesses on the documents, as well as assisting with client check-in.

For more information, please contact John Bowles, at jrbowle1@samford.edu, or Cassandra Adams in room 209.

NOTE: Membership in the Cumberland's Community Service Organization each academic year is contingent upon participation in at least one CSO sponsored Public Interest or Community Service project in that academic year.

CORDELL HULL FORUM

The Cordell Hull Speakers Forum and Cumberland's Trial Board will co-sponsor a program on Thursday, **November 15**, at 11:00 AM in the Moot Courtroom. Presenters for the event will be **John Lentine**, a criminal defense attorney, and **Joshua Bearden**, an Assistant Attorney General. The topic will be "Prosecution and Defense of Sexual Offenders." Our guest speakers will discuss their personal experiences from practicing in this area of law.

John Lentine is a partner of Sheffield, Sheffield and Lentine, P.C., in Birmingham, Alabama. John received his B.A. with honors from the University of West Florida and his J.D. from Cumberland Law School in 1987. He practices exclusively

criminal defense work on the trial and appellate levels throughout the State of Alabama and in a variety of Federal trial and appellate courts. He is a Past President of the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, the Greater Birmingham Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, and the Legal Aid Society of Birmingham. He is an adjunct faculty member at Cumberland School of Law where he teaches trial advocacy and the Birmingham School of Law where he teaches criminal law. He has been a Fellow in the American Board of Criminal Lawyers and is a Fellow in the American Academy of Criminal Defense Attorneys. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* specializing in Non-White Collar and White Collar Criminal Defense.

Joshua Bearden serves as an Alabama Assistant Attorney General in the Family Protection Unit. He graduated from Cumberland School of Law in 2003. He is responsible for the prosecution of violent sexual offenses, primarily the sexual abuse and exploitation of children. Mr. Bearden also serves as the Attorney General's special advisor on criminal sex offenders and the Community Notification Act. He regularly defends state officials and agencies from constitutional challenges to the sex offender laws and proposes legislative improvements directed at protecting Alabamians from the dangers posed by criminal offenders.

LAW SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The Law School Advisory Board annual fall meeting will be held on Friday, **November 16** here at the Law School. The Board will be meeting with Samford University President, Andrew Westmoreland.

WORKS IN PROGRESS PROGRAM

This Friday, **November 16** at 11:00 AM in the Dean's Conference Room, Nikolai Wenzel, Assistant Professor of Economics at Hillsdale College, will present "*Matching the Formal and the Informal: Constitutional Culture, Constitutional Parchment and Constitutional Failure.*"

A link to his profile is below:

http://www.hillsdale.edu/academics/display_profile.asp?cid=859134772

Lunch will be provided.

FACULTY NEWS

PROFESSOR BO COLE

Professor **Bo Cole** will depart Birmingham on November 16 for Brazil where he will meet with both our Master of Comparative Law graduates and prospective MCL students. He will make a presentation to a joint meeting of Federal and State judges in Bela Horizonte and will make a presentation to the Federal Tribunal, both trial and appellate judges, in Sao Paulo. Professor Cole will return to the United States on Saturday, November 24.

PROFESSOR BILL ROSS

Professor **Bill Ross** has published a column in the online journal JURIST, "*Mukasey Nomination Requires Robust Scrutiny on Senate Floor.*" JURIST can be accessed at www.jurist.law.pitt.edu. The November 8 issue of the *Christian Science Monitor* quoted him in an article about the Mukasey nomination.

JUDGE JOHN CARROLL

Judge **John Carroll** will moderate a panel discussion on November 15, at the 2007 Advanced E-Discovery Institute sponsored by Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC. The subject of the panel will be "*The Federal Rules Amendments a Year Later – The Practitioners' Perspective.*"

COURSE & FACULTY EVALUATIONS

The law school began conducting course and faculty evaluations this week (November 12). Like last semester, evaluations are online. These evaluations are critically important to the law school. We thus ask all students to complete evaluations for each of their courses.

Instructions: To complete evaluations, simply access the law school website from any internet connection, click "Faculty/Course Evaluations" in the box in the upper right portion of the screen, and follow the instructions. SBA representatives are visiting all classes beginning November 12 to facilitate online evaluations in class. Students who bring their laptops to class and who have wireless internet capacity may complete evaluations at that time. Students are free, however, to complete evaluations outside class on any computer. **The**

evaluations site will be open from November 12 until 11:59 p.m. on November 28.

To encourage participation and to reward classes that have a high level of participation, every class that achieves a 75% response rate by November 27 will be invited to a pizza party to be held the last day of classes (Wednesday, November 28) from 11:30 - 1:00 in the Great Room.

We are conducting evaluations online because the online process is immensely more efficient, saving significant time and money. Online evaluations also are more accessible for students who now can complete evaluations anywhere during the evaluation period, even if they miss the class's evaluation day and even if they require more than the 10 minutes of class time allotted for in-class completion. The online responses are entirely confidential, as there is no way to identify the author of any submitted evaluation. The system requires students to log-in only to assure that each student completes only one evaluation per course.

Your completion of these evaluations each semester is critically important to the law school. Not only do faculty use the evaluations to improve their classes and teaching, but the school uses both the narrative responses and summaries of the numerical data to identify teaching strengths and identify problems that require action. We strongly urge you, therefore, to take a few minutes to complete evaluations for each of your courses.

So complete your evaluations early and encourage your classmates so we can all meet for pizza the last day of classes.

FALL 2007 EXAM PROCEDURES & DEADLINES

Fall 2007 exam procedures will be essentially the same as last semester. The complete Fall 2007 Exam Policies & Procedures (including information about alternate exam times and use of laptops) is posted on the law school website ("Exam Information" under the "Academics" menu). You may access the information via the following link:

http://cumberland.samford.edu/cumberland_registrar.asp?ID=471

Some highlights and critical deadlines, however, are set forth here.

Alternate Exam Times

As before, students do not have a "right" to take an exam at an

alternate exam time, but professors have discretion to allow them to do so at one of two scheduled alternate exam times, provided the required procedures are followed:

- The student must receive permission from his/her professor by **November 27**, and
- The professor must submit the necessary materials to the Office of the Associate Dean by **November 28**

The available alternate exam times are:

- Thursday, December 6 from 2:00 – 5:00 PM
- Thursday, December 13 from 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Using Laptop Computers on Exams

Students must **download the NEW VERSION of Extegrity**, take a practice test, and practice submitting the practice test wirelessly. Students then may report to the designated computer exam room on the appropriate date. Exams taken on computer **must be submitted via the wireless network**.

Exam Day Arrival

Students should report to their exam rooms **15 minutes before the scheduled start time** and follow the directions written on the board.

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.***

TRUCK ACCIDENT LITIGATION CLE SEMINAR

Cumberland's Continuing Legal Education Office will host a program entitled "**Truck Accident Litigation**" on Friday, **November 16** at the Cahaba Grand Conference in Birmingham, Alabama.

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

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

Program Chairman

Scott A. Powell

Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton, L.L.P.
Birmingham, Alabama

Program Moderators

D. Leon Ashford

John W. Haley

Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton, L.L.P.
Birmingham, Alabama

Speakers for the program include:

David H. Marsh

Marsh, Rickard & Bryan, P.C.
Birmingham, Alabama

Thomas L. Oliver, II

Carr, Allison, Pugh, Howard, Oliver & Sisson, P.C.
Birmingham, Alabama

Kathy Smith

RN, CRRN, CCM, CDMS, CLCP, CLNC, LNCC, CNLCP
Rehabilitation Consultant
Southern Care Management Services, Inc.
Birmingham, Alabama

Robert E. Lusk, Jr.
Associate General Counsel
Alabama State Bar
Montgomery, Alabama

Whitney G. Morgan
Founder and President
Motor Carrier Safety Consulting, Inc.
Birmingham, Alabama

Michael J. McCort, P.E.
Ponderosa Associates, Ltd.
Lafayette, Colorado

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
