

Cumberland Team Wins ABA Student Tax Challenge

Sims Rhyne and Wes Hill, second year students at Cumberland School of Law, won the annual American Bar Association (ABA) Student Tax Challenge January 20-21 in Boca Raton, Florida.

Ninety-five teams representing law schools across the country entered the national competition sponsored by the ABA Section of Taxation, with the final rounds held at its 2011 Midyear Meeting in Boca Raton. An alternative to traditional moot court competitions, the Student Tax Challenge asks two-person teams to solve cutting-edge and complex tax problems that might arise in everyday tax practice.

Professor Brannon Denning coached the Cumberland team. He was unable to go with the team to the competition and the team was accompanied by Bruce Ely of the Birmingham law firm of Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings.



WES HILL, SIMS RHYNE AND BRUCE ELY

"We are known for winning advocacy competitions and winning a tax competition shows the quality of our students and the depth of our program."

Dean John L. Carroll



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2011 Thurgood Marshall Symposium

Presented by Black Law Student Association

The Cumberland Law School Chapter of the Black Law Student Association (BLSA) presents the Annual Thurgood Marshall Symposium on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 12 noon in the Moot Courtroom.

Each year during Black History Month, through the Thurgood Marshall Symposium, Cumberland BLSA promotes awareness of legal issues plaguing minorities. This year's theme is:

*"When Money Talks, Criminals Walk:
How Socioeconomic Status Affects the Level of Fairness
Received in the Criminal Justice System."*

The panel of esteemed legal experts will discuss the impact of class, wealth, and education on the distribution of and access to justice in our criminal system.

The panel consists of: Judge Clyde Jones, Attorney Joyce Vance, Attorney Anthony Joseph, and Attorney Michael Rasmussen. Dean John Carroll will serve as Moderator.

Judge Clyde Jones '79, has served as a criminal defense attorney, Deputy District Attorney for the 10th and 5th Judicial Circuits and was re-elected in 2010 to continue his service as circuit court judge in the Criminal Division in Jefferson County. While a practicing defense attorney, Judge Jones won several serious felony and capital murder trials. In his career as a criminal defense attorney, Judge Jones has never lost a case and as Judge, none of his rulings have been overturned.

Attorney Joyce Vance is a U.S. States Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama. Prior to her unanimous appointment in August 2009, she served as chief of the Northern District's appellate division and interim U.S. attorney. Attorney Vance's path to U.S. attorney began almost 13 years ago when she worked on a case stemming from the burnings of three primarily African-American churches in Alabama's rural Greene County.

Attorney Anthony Joseph '80, is a member of Cumberland's Advisory Board and a shareholder with Maynard, Cooper & Gale, PC. His practice focuses on white-collar criminal defense and general civil litigation. He represents companies and individuals in connection with criminal and regulatory investigations.

Attorney Michael Rasmussen '75, served 27 years as Assistant United States Attorney, where he handled complex white collar and drug cases. He has taught trial skills at Cumberland, where he coached student trial teams to three national and several regional championships.

THURGOOD

MARSHALL

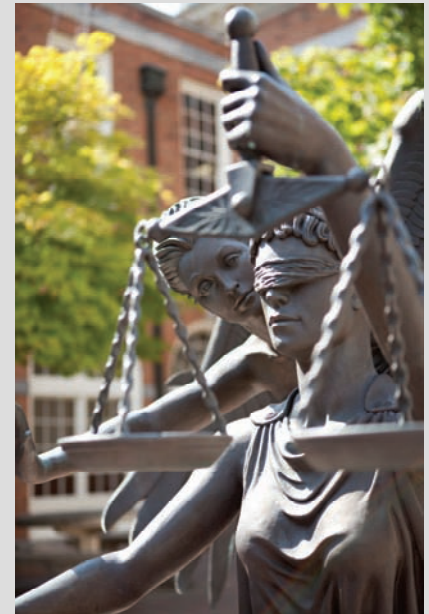
SYMPOSIUM

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 3

12:00 PM

MOOT COURTROOM



RECEPTION

IMMEDIATELY

FOLLOWING

IN THE GREAT ROOM

Tennessee Student Bar Association Hosting Guest Speaker

On Tuesday, February 1, the Tennessee Student Bar Association will host guest speakers Adele Anderson, executive director of the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners, along with a representative from the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP). The event is in room 120 at 1:30.

Lunch will be provided. This event is open to all students. If you are considering taking the Tennessee Bar or have questions about the Tennessee Bar or practicing in Tennessee, then this is a great opportunity to have those questions answered. We hope to see you there.

Chattanooga Alumni Luncheon

Join Dean John L. Carroll, '74 and

Chattanooga area alumni for a luncheon at

Public House Chattanooga

1110 Market, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Friday, February 4, 2011 • 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM • \$15 per person

Please RSVP by January 31 to lawalum@samford.edu

Students are invited at no cost, but need to RSVP to the Alumni Office.

Phi Alpha Delta Presents "Dress for Success"

All first-year students are invited to join Phi Alpha Delta on Wednesday, February 9 at 12noon in the Great Room for "DRESS FOR SUCCESS."

Representatives from Brooks Brothers will be at Cumberland to show first-year students how to dress in order to land that dream job.

First-year students begin on-campus interviewing in February, so this will be a great opportunity to learn how to dress appropriately for an interview, as well as what *not* to wear.

The Officers of PAD look forward to seeing you there!

Called to the Bar Program

The next program in the *Called to the Bar* series is scheduled:

FEBRUARY 2

NOON

MOOT COURTROOM

In this session, first year students will have an opportunity to hear from representatives from Law Review, American Journal of Trial Advocacy, Moot Court Board, Trial Board and Cordell Hull Speakers Forum.



Cumberland

School of Law

UPCOMING EVENTS

To View a Listing

Click [HERE](#)

Law Review Symposium

On Friday, February 11, the Cumberland Law Review proudly hosts its Spring Symposium:

B-I-N-G-O:

***Not Just Your Grandmother's Friday Night Social –
How Bingo Became More Than Just a Game In Alabama***

Speakers from across the State will provide an inside-look at the social, political, legal and moral issues that have made Bingo a white-hot topic in recent news. Professors, prosecutors, politicians and practitioners will share their first-hand perspectives at this truly unique event.

February 11, 2011 • 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Cumberland School of Law, Moot Court Room, Room 101

Breakfast (at 8:30 AM) and Lunch will be served, and admission is free.

Lake City & Gainesville Alumni Luncheon

Join Vice Dean James N. Lewis, Jr., Anne Marovich, Director of Alumni Relations, and Lake City & Gainesville area alumni for a luncheon at

Great Outdoors Restaurant • 65 North Main Street • High Springs, FL 32643

Friday, February 11, 2011 • 12:00 noon - 1:00 PM

\$20 per person

Please RSVP by February 7th to lawalum@samford.edu

Students are invited at no cost, but need to RSVP to the Alumni Office.



Save the Date!

Reunion Weekend 2011 honoring the

Classes of '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01, '06

is fast approaching!

View the Reunion Weekend Brochure and Register today by visiting

<http://cumberland.samford.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend-2011>

Student Witnesses Needed for National Trial Competition

The weekend of February 18-20, 2011, Cumberland School of Law, the Trial Advocacy Board, and the American College of Trial Lawyers are hosting the regional rounds of the National Trial Competition. We will have 26 teams competing in our Region, and that entails 45 total trials.

This is no small event! As the host school, not only must we recruit 225 attorneys and judges to evaluate the performance of the teams, but we must also provide 180 witnesses for the trials.

That is the purpose of this email: We invite *you* to be a witness.

What would you have to do?

- Sign up to be a witness for just *one* of the five rounds (see below).
- You will be given your deposition from the case file and any exhibits that would be included with your testimony. You need to learn this material.
- You must arrive 30 minutes prior to your trial time. All trials will take place at the Jefferson County Civil Courthouse downtown.
- You will meet briefly with the attorneys (competitors) for your trial just before the round begins.
- After you testify, you are free to go. However, most of the students already volunteering plan to stay to meet with the judges and attorneys.

Here is the Statement of the Case:

The State has charged Robert Duffie with two counts of first-degree murder for the deaths of Krista Chacona and Wendy Smith and one count of robbery. The State intends to prove that Robert Duffie, an employee of the Everything's a Dollar Corporation, killed his two co-workers and stole the day's proceeds from the store safe. Duffie contends that this is a case of mistaken identification and that the true culprit is Krista Chacona's ex-boyfriend.

Witnesses Needed:

- Defendant: Robert Duffie, *must be a male*
- Police Officer: Terry Glenn, male or female
- Landlord/Slumlord: Chris Jensen, male or female
- Person in store/parking lot at time of incident: Stacy Sheppard, male or female

Times of the Trials:

- Friday, 2/18, 6:00 PM
- Saturday, 2/19, 9:00 AM
- Saturday, 2/19, 2:30 PM
- Sunday, 2/20, 9:00 AM
- Sunday, 2/20, 2:30 PM

How Do You Sign Up?

Sign-up sheets have been posted on the bulletin board in suite 201. Find the sheet for the witness you are interested in, sign-up, and specify your preferred round(s). *These witnesses will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis.*

Thank you for volunteering to do this. This is not only a showcase event for our school, it is also a great opportunity for the individual Cumberland students involved to learn and to meet with some of the best legal practitioners in the state.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Tracy Luke (tnluke@samford.edu) or any member of the Trial Advocacy Board.

**Matters of Life and Death:
Alternatives to the
Death Penalty**



Matters of Life and Death: Alternatives to the Death Penalty

Canterbury United Methodist Church & Society Team and Justice & Mercy for All (JAM) are sponsoring a conference/seminar entitled, "Matters of Life and Death: Alternatives to the Death Penalty." It will be held at Canterbury UMC February 18-19, 2011. Students may attend without paying the registration fee but will need to register in advance.

This is a gathering for people who want to: Learn about the death penalty in Alabama, consider faith-based responses, hear from victims' families who oppose the death penalty, explore restorative justices as an alternative, and share ideas for further thought and action.

Guest speakers include: Billy Neal Moore, Art Laffin, Bonnita Spikes and Reverend Dr. Wilton Bunch. For more information, please contact Dr. Robert L. Baldwin at 205.879.4234.

Mandatory Professionalism Training Courses for New Admittees March 18, 2011 • Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham, Alabama

The Alabama State Bar MCLE Rule 9 requires all newly admitted members of the bar to complete a six (6) hour course in professionalism within twelve (12) months of admission.

The Alabama State Bar has requested that Cumberland School of Law administer the official training for the year 2011. Cumberland and CLE Alabama have administered this program for the State Bar in alternating years. Cumberland will offer the course four times during 2011; the other three dates will be announced in the next few weeks. If you think you may be excluded from this requirement, please contact the Alabama State Bar.

Please call the CLE office at (205) 726-2391 if you have any questions.

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1847

WHERE GOOD PEOPLE BECOME EXCEPTIONAL LAWYERS