



**Samford University**  
Cumberland School of Law

# The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

**Henry C. Strickland III**

Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of February 12, 2018

IN THIS EDITION

This Week | Plan Ahead | Announcements

## This Week



The Birmingham Bar Foundation  
*presents*

**THE SEVENTH ANNUAL  
FELLOWS DINNER**

*Honoring the 2018 Fellows & Life Fellows*

Guest Speaker:

**Jimmy Rane,**  
Chairman, President and CEO of Great Southern Wood Holdings, Inc.

**Saturday, February 17, 2018**

The Club  
6:00 p.m. - Reception  
6:45 p.m. - Dinner & Program  
Attire: Black Tie

Tickets may be purchased at [bbfellows.swellgives.com](http://bbfellows.swellgives.com)  
*Proceeds benefit the Birmingham Bar Foundation's philanthropic and educational efforts.*

For more information contact the Birmingham Bar Foundation at  
(205) 251-2231 or [bbfound@bellsouth.net](mailto:bbfound@bellsouth.net).



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# This Week *(continued)*

THE CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW  
BLACK LAW STUDENTS  
ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

THE 24TH ANNUAL  
**THURGOOD MARSHALL  
SYMPOSIUM**

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER:  
**THE HON. CHERI L. BEASLEY**



ASSOCIATE JUSTICE,  
NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT

**FEBRUARY 15, 2018 AT 5:30PM**

**SAMFORD UNIVERSITY  
COONEY HALL  
REGIONS COMMUNITY RESOURCE  
ROOM, 4TH FLOOR**

OFFERING ONE HOUR OF CONVOCATION  
CREDIT & CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION  
(CLE) CREDIT.

CO-SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE  
OF DIVERSITY AND  
INTERCULTURAL INITIATIVES



## This Week *(continued)*



Cumberland Christian Legal Society

*Valentine's Day*  
*Bake Sale*

Wednesday February 14th  
10am – 3pm  
Located in Breezeway

 **Samford University**  
Cumberland School of Law

## Plan Ahead

### **Cordell Hull Speaker's Forum**

The Cumberland Republicans and the Cumberland Democrats are hosting a forum for the Alabama Attorney General candidates. The forum will be held

on **Wednesday, February 28, 2018 in the Moot Courtroom from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.** The format will be to provide each candidate the opportunity to answer the following question: “What are the biggest issues you think Alabama faces, and how will you address them?” Each candidate will have eight minutes to respond separately.

## Plan Ahead *(continued)*

Are you interested in career opportunities in  
**Public Interest?**

Cumberland will be hosting an  
Informational Session with

# **Equal Justice Works**

February 21, 2018

The Great Room

4:00 PM

Come learn more about:

Fellowships

Summer Internships

Leadership Training

For more information, contact  
Ashaunte Gaillard at [agaillard@samford.edu](mailto:agaillard@samford.edu)





# Announcements

## Time for NOMINATIONS

### Samford University's Cumberland School of Law

#### AWARD DESCRIPTIONS... *Who would you like to see recognized?*

► **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS** recognition is bestowed upon a graduate who has given exceptional service to the community, profession and the Law School throughout their career. Nominees are recommended through local alumni organizations, the National Alumni Association and the staff of the alumni office. The honoree has frequently achieved recognition and accolades from other groups and may have been recognized for service through election or appointment. Each recipient brings honor to the Cumberland School of Law through their achievements.

► **YOUNG ALUMNUS** recognition is bestowed on one who has received his/her J.D. within the past 15 years. This graduate is one who has given exceptional service to the community, profession and the Law School.

► **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR** recognizes an alumnus who has demonstrated exceptional loyalty and commitment to Cumberland School of Law through volunteer service to Cumberland. Staff of the Law School are encouraged to recommend alumni who have given considerable time and talent to the improvement of the Law School and its service to students and alumni.

► **FRIEND OF THE LAW SCHOOL** recognizes a person, who though *not a graduate* of Cumberland School of Law, has contributed time and resources to enhance the quality of the Law School and the educational experience of the students.

\*Please send nominations and supporting reasons for such to Anne Marovich, Director of Alumni Relations: [amarovic@samford.edu](mailto:amarovic@samford.edu)



**KEEP  
CALM  
and  
STUDY  
ABROAD**

### Applications for Cumberland's Study-Abroad Summer Program in Cambridge, England are being accepted.

Applicants in good academic standing are taken on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**Program dates are July 1-August 2, 2018.**

Detailed information and application forms are available at [samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/study-abroad](http://samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/study-abroad)

## Announcements *(continued)*

### Wills for Heroes Clinic

On Friday, Feb. 2, Vestavia Hills hosted the second Wills for Heroes clinic, an event designed to help provide first responders with wills, living wills and powers of attorney.

Curtis Peacock, local attorney and Vestavia Hills police officer, first brought Wills for Heroes to Vestavia in 2015 as a way to help first responders create wills, powers of attorney and living wills pro bono. Peacock learned of the idea — which originated in South Carolina — through attorney newsletters. After seeing many new hires in the police and fire departments, he said he wanted to host a local clinic too.

Peacock said he saw it as a way to "bring the police and fire departments together," and give a service to those whose daily job has great risk. "We want them to have something in place and give them an option to have that in place," Peacock said.

With the efforts of the Birmingham Bar Volunteer Lawyers program and Associate Dean Cassandra Adams with the Cumberland School of Law, Peacock estimated that the clinic has helped about 70 individuals in its two



Officer Richard Frazier, far right, listens as Cassandra Adams, center, and Curtis Peacock speak to him over documents at the Wills for Heroes clinic on Feb. 2.

sessions. Adams also helped bring in law students from Cumberland as volunteers and witnesses to the process.

Adams said the first responders put their lives at risk every day, so the volunteers are happy to spend one day working with them on "hugely important documents." "It's a privilege," she said.

Article provided by [Vestavia Voice](#)

### AJTA Welcomes New Members

The editorial board and membership of the *American Journal of Trial Advocacy* are pleased to announce that the following 2L students have been extended membership based on their successful completion of the journal's Third Semester Writing Program:

**D. Hunter Hamm**  
**Reynolds P. Pittman**  
**C. Allie Segrest**  
**Ian P. Shippey**

In addition to achieving an outstanding class rank, these students had to complete a rigorous writing assignment and pass a Bluebook exam while attending classes over the last three weeks. Please congratulate them on their accomplishment.

## Announcements *(continued)*

# 2018 Cumberland Senior Moot Court Competition

**Are you interested in honing your public speaking and analytical skills, gaining Moot Court experience, and bolstering your resume?**

**Then you should compete in the 2018 Senior Moot Court Competition!**

Employers love to see Moot Court experience on a resume because it is one of the most practical activities you can take part in during law school. Moot Court experience shows that you have the skills to analyze and anticipate a case's strengths and weaknesses. Moot Court encompasses advocacy at all stages of litigation; even trials have mini-Moot Court aspects about them, such as summary judgment hearings and motion in limine arguments.

### ABOUT THE COMPETITION

➤ The Senior Competition is an intraschool competition that is limited to 2L and 3L students, and allows you to hone your oral arguments skills. This competition does NOT have a writing component. ***You do not have to write an appellate brief!***

➤ The Senior Competition will feature a timely, interesting appellate case which students will argue in front of mock Supreme Court justices. Competitors will be provided with decisions from the lower courts and appellate briefs for both the petitioner and respondent. The case facts and relevant law exists in a closed universe. This means you do not have to do any additional research! Everything you need is contained within the provided materials.

➤ Please see the competition schedule below for the dates of the oral argument rounds. If you have a conflict with evening classes, we can try to work around your schedule. We can also try to work with your professors -- oral arguments will only be **10 minutes long**, so you may be able to briefly step out of class and return after your argument, if necessary. As the competition progresses, later rounds will typically require oral advocates to change sides or issues. However, you will be guaranteed to argue the same issue in both preliminary rounds (although you may change sides of the issue).

➤ The judges for the competition will include national team and board members, national team coaches, professors, attorneys, and judges from the Birmingham area. After every round, you will get individualized, direct feedback from the judges that will help make you a better advocate.

➤ This is an **individual competition**, so it is not necessary to have a partner. You will argue for the same side [i.e. petitioner or respondent] as someone else, but everyone is scored and advanced individually.

➤ We are hosting a mandatory informational meeting for competitors and will answer any questions you may have about the competition on **Sunday, February 18th**. Additional information about this meeting will be emailed to registered competitors.

➤ There is a \$20 fee for all competitors. The fee and sign-ups are due by **February 15th at 5:00 PM CDT**. Check or cash is accepted. Please make all checks out to "Cumberland School of Law." If paying in cash, please be sure to put it in a sealed envelope with your name legibly written on it. All payments should be dropped off to Mrs. Tracy Luke in office 201C. Mrs. Luke is available on campus from Monday-Thursday to receive payment.

### COMPETITION TIMELINE\*\*\*

**FEBRUARY 15:** Sign-up deadline, 5 p.m. (CDT)

**FEBRUARY 15:** Problem released (after sign-ups close)

**FEBRUARY 18:** Mandatory competition meeting & oral advocacy training session

**FEBRUARY 26:** Preliminaries

**FEBRUARY 27:** Preliminaries

**MARCH 5:** Semifinals

**MARCH 6:** Finals

### SIGN-UP LINK

*(copy and paste URL into browser):*

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cgCicceo2Ke5uRvoJJQnv90uh2s7MXGOYG4G7BsNqv8/edit>

If you have any questions, please email Emily Hopper at [ehopper@samford.edu](mailto:ehopper@samford.edu) or Courtney Stevens at [csteven2@samford.edu](mailto:csteven2@samford.edu).

*We look forward to having you compete in this year's competition!*