



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

# Chancellors' Reports

Submitted for the

October 2018

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Chancellor's Report:  
October 2018



SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY

LAW CENTER

SULC Chancellor's Report: September 2018

SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE

# Events

## Your Power, Your Vote Summit



The Southern University Law Center hosted the “Your Power, Your Vote” Summit. This was a community focused event, organized to bring together community leaders, elected officials, legal scholars, and academics to discuss the voting power of the Baton Rouge community.

## Art of Voir Dire Symposium

Southern University Law Center hosted an enlightening presentation on “How to Voir Dire a Jury” as a part of a series of events offered during Fall Fest Week. The most well known trial lawyers in the state of Louisiana,



Antonio “Tony” Clayton (‘91) and Preston Castille, Jr., addressed students on the importance of the jury selection process and how it plays a pivotal role on the outcome of any trial.

# Events

## The portrait of “Justice”



“Justice” to Forever Hang in the Halls of Southern University Law Center

By Jordan Pittman

October 2, 2018

The salmon pink walls of Southern University Law Center’s faculty lounge just received a splash of history. On Thursday, September 27, 2018, Professor Evelyn Wilson, author of “Laws, Customs and Rights: Charles Hatfield and His Family – A Louisiana History,” donated a signed and numbered limited edition print of the portrait, “Justice”, by the famous African-American painter Ted Ellis.

In 2016, Professor Wilson retired from her 28-year tenure as an SULC professor. However, her ability to make an educational impact on the future generations passing through SULC shall linger through this inspirational donation. Professor Wilson presented the artwork in commemoration of her late husband, Atty. Charles A. Shropshire Sr., who made history as the first African-American elected District Attorney for the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in Louisiana.

“My father always believed that the law should serve the people, and sought to seek a resolution that benefitted the community,” says Charles A. Shropshire II.

The donated artwork is valued at \$1,200, and depicts an African-American attorney as he stands before an African-American judge, court reporter and bailiff. The moment illustrated captures the attorney as he talks to a mixed jury, and the scales of justice radiate from the front of the judge’s bench. Perhaps, one of the most significant details of the painting is the image of Thurgood Marshall overlooking the entire court room.

Although Thurgood Marshall is well known throughout the world as the first African-American elected justice to the United States Supreme Court, he also holds a special place in the history of SULC. Justice Marshall served as the attorney who represented SULC founder, Charles J. Hatfield, in his efforts to establish the opportunities for African-American students that the Law Center now provides.

“We’re certainly appreciative,” says Chancellor John K. Pierre. “This is a classic [print], and . . . a very appropriate donation to be at the Law Center.”

# Partnerships & Collaborations

## Peggy Browning Fund Advocating for Workplace Justice



The Southern University Law Center hosted Peggy Browning Fund's Advocating for Workplace Justice Workshop. The event included panelists: Chancellor John Pierre, Jasmine Hassan, Kevin Mason-Smith, and Peggy Browning Fund staff attorney, Mary Yanik. The purpose of the workshop is to increase the students' understanding of the current issues workers face as well as promote the students' entry into the practice of public interest labor law.

# Faculty Spotlight

## Professor Jessica Sparks



Professor Jessica Sparks was granted the status of full-time professor in the Southern University Law Center Legal Clinic. Sparks will spearhead the Disaster Recovery Clinic. The Disaster Recovery Law Clinic provides legal help to those individuals suffering in the aftermath of the 2016 floods in Southeast Louisiana.

# Student Spotlight

## Students Participated in National Workers Compensation Moot Court Competition



Kelechukwu Anyanwu and Christina Junker, third-year law students, participated in the 2018 E. Earle Zehmer National Workers Compensation Moot Court Competition in Orlando, Florida. Mr. Kelechukwu received “Best Professional Advocate Performance.” The E. Earle Zehmer National Workers Compensation Moot Court Competition is held annually with an average of 26 teams from 10 states. The primary purpose of this competition is to enhance workers’ compensation as a major part of the educational curriculum of participating law schools.

# Remarkable Alumni



Alumnus **Levicy F. Crawford**, is a newly minted Major and is the Executive Officer to the Staff Judge Advocate at Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.



Class of 1980 alumnus, **Judge Felicia Toney Williams**, is now the first female African-American chief judge of the Second Circuit Court of Appeal.



Class of 1989 alumnus, **Claire Babineaux-Fontenot**, is the new Chief Executive Officer of Feeding America. She is a seasoned leader who has held leadership positions at Walmart, Adams and Reese LLP, and in government.