

# CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

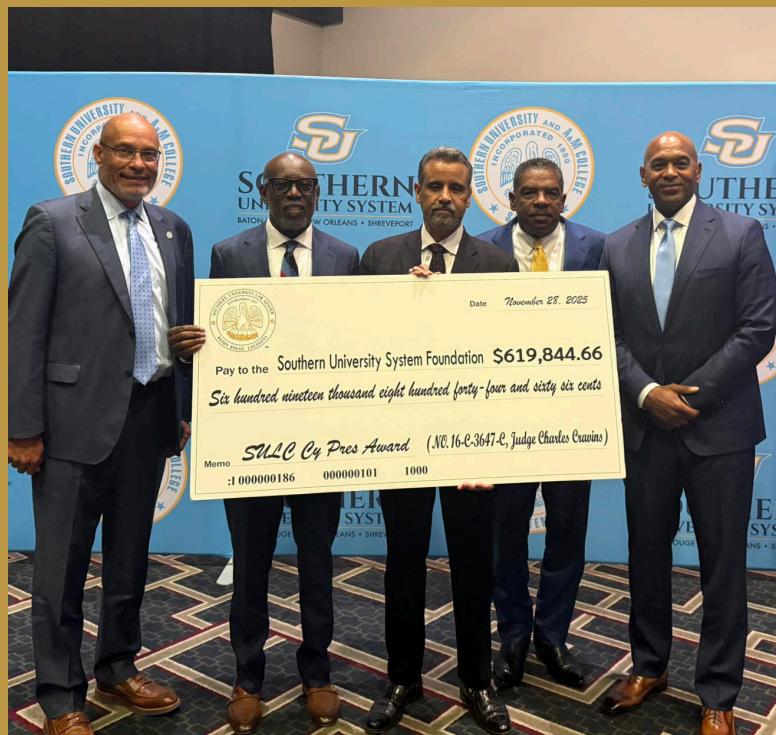


*Producing Lawyer Leaders*

**JANUARY 2026**

# INSIDE STORY

## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER RECEIVES TWO CY PRES AWARDS FROM ALUMNI SUPPORT



Southern University Law Center announced the receipt of two Cy Pres Awards made possible through the generosity of distinguished alumni.

The first award, contributed by Law Center alumnus Judge Charles Cravins, will support critical initiatives such as academic enrichment, mental health and wellness, alumni engagement, and student success.

The second award, presented by Attorney Bernard Charbonnet through Law Center alumna Judge Ethel Simms Julien, further strengthens our commitment to excellence and expands opportunities for our students and the broader community.



*Bannie A. Lewis*

# INSIDE STORY

## LEGAL PROFESSIONALS CONVENE AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER FOR END-OF-YEAR CLE

Southern University Law Center's Office of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives hosted its annual End of Year Continuing Legal Education. Attorneys and legal professionals gathered for insightful sessions on ethics, environmental regulations, and legislative updates.



## SULC TECH STUDENTS SECURE TRADEMARK REGISTRATION FOR LOCAL ARTIST LEAH MARCHAND

Students in the Southern University Law Center Technology and Entrepreneurship Clinic successfully secured a federal trademark registration for renowned local artist Leah Marchand, a longtime clinic client.

After connecting with the Clinic through an outreach program, Marchand worked closely with SULC Tech students who provided comprehensive legal support, including contract drafting and intellectual property protection. The team guided her through the trademark process, culminating in the registration of her name.

Through the USPTO Clinic Certification Program, SULC Tech students are authorized to prosecute trademark and patent applications, making the clinic one of only a few nationwide approved to handle both and the only program of its kind in Louisiana. Marchand's application was led by student attorneys Noah Hill and Alexa Isaac, Class of 2025.

The SULC Tech Clinic remains committed to expanding access to intellectual property protection and supporting creative professionals across the Baton Rouge community.

# INSIDE STORY

## SULC MARSHALL - BRENNAN PARTNERSHIP EXPANDS CIVIC LITERACY AND LEGAL PATHWAYS FOR BATON ROUGE STUDENTS

Southern University Law Center (SULC) continued its partnership with the National Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project, advancing its mission to educate community-conscious law students while addressing civic literacy among local high school students.

Through the program, SULC law students served as Marshall-Brennan Teaching Fellows, partnering with East Baton Rouge Parish high schools to provide rigorous instruction on the United States Constitution. The initiative helped combat civic illiteracy, strengthen students' writing, analytical, and advocacy skills, and expand educational and social opportunities for participating high school students. At the same time, law students gained meaningful mentorship experience and fulfilled an important commitment to community service.

A cornerstone of the program was its emphasis on appellate advocacy. High school participants competed in a regional moot court competition, with the top teams advancing to the National Marshall-Brennan Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C.

This year, Reagan Scott and Chalaycia Lee of Scotlandville Magnet High School were named regional finalists, earning a place in the national competition. Their achievement reflected both their dedication to constitutional studies and the strength of Scotlandville's magnet program in preparing students for careers in public service, law, and civic leadership.

The program continued to demonstrate its lasting impact, as many former Marshall-Brennan students pursued higher education and legal careers, with some returning to Southern University Law Center as law students and fellows, further strengthening the cycle of mentorship, service, and community engagement.



# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

## PHEBE POYDRAS



Professor and Director of Library Services Phebe Poydras represented the Law Center at the Leadership Institute of Academic Law Library Directors at Yale Law School in June.

# STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

## TOSHIBA ROBINSON



Toshiba Robinson was named the November 2025 MAX by AccessLex scholarship recipient.

## KALEENA ARNOLD



Kaleena Arnold landed a spring clerkship with the SUBR Office of Compliance.

## ELIZABETH PROFIT



Elizabeth Profit accepted an internship with the Lawyer Referral and Information Service at the Berkeley Office of California Lawyers for the Arts.

## KENEDI RUTHERFORD



Kenedi Rutherford accepted a position with the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

# ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

## FREDDIE PITCHER, JR.



Hon. Freddie Pitcher, Jr. will be honored as the 2025 Calogero Justice Award recipient at the Louisiana Bar Foundation's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala.

## RONISHA WOODY



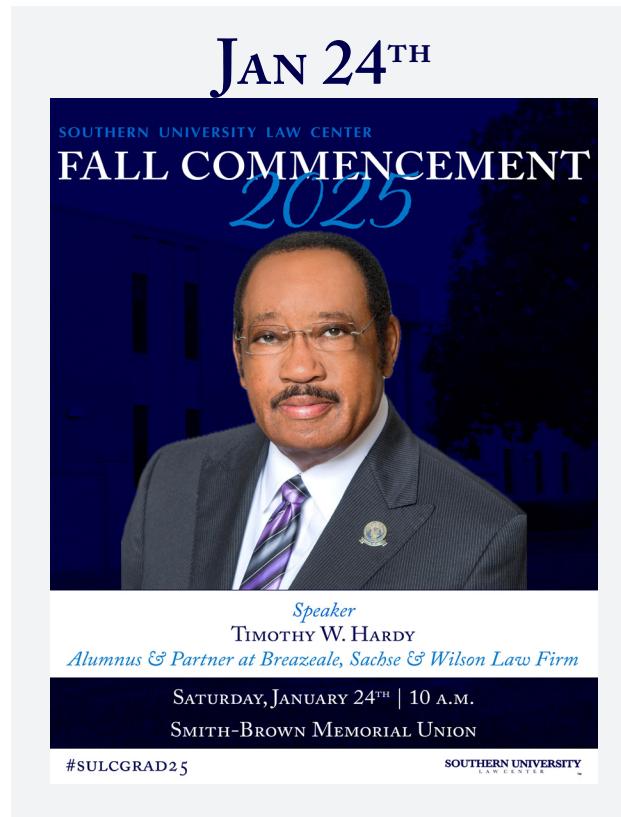
Ronisha Woody secured a role as assistant public defender at the Harris County Public Defender's Office.

## SHAUL ISREAL



Alumnus Shaul Isreal accepted a new role at Aurora University as an adjunct professor.

# CURRENT & FUTURE EVENTS



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The Southern University Law Center is a unit of the Southern University System

Orlando F. McMeans, Interim President of the Southern University System  
Alvin R. Washington, SULC Chancellor

*Produced by the SULC Office of Communications and External Affairs*