



L. CLIFFORD DAVIS LEGAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

VOL I - ISSUE 2 - JANUARY 2015

2014-2015 Board

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AT LARGE

President's Chat:



It was great seeing everyone at our Christmas gathering and at the "Santa Claus Goes to Jail" event. I am glad to see our legal community connecting with one another. (Pictures are attached to our newsletter and are posted on our website see lcdla-bar.com.) Thanks to everyone for helping me be your President. We still have work to do however.

I am excited to bring you the January issue of LCDLA's monthly newsletter that includes updates and information from around Tarrant County and the metroplex. Please keep us updated on information that we can post. Also please check out our new pro bono column-written by Leticia Patin. It hopefully will be a monthly section.

-- Also in order to help cover the costs of our website and to raise scholarship contributions we are accepting **website sponsorships**. Look out for further updates or contact Crystal Gayden.

- As we move forward into 2015, recent events should remind us all that we still have work to do to insure that the scales of justice are balanced. Let's stay vigilant. Aren't we supposed to be a post-racial society?

UPCOMING EVENTS *(see last page)*

- **Our next meeting is scheduled for 1/20/15 @ 6:00pm**

- **I hope everyone enjoys their holidays and I look forward to working with you in 2015.**

CURRENT EVENTS

- Ferguson "die ins" sweep into Ft. Worth - protesting excessive police force



Ft. Worth citizens protest in downtown FTW about the use of excessive force by police in Ferguson, New York & Cleveland

Retired Judge and LCDLA member **Mary Ellen Hicks** (*pictured below*) commented to the Star-Telegram about the protests saying "Statutory change will come from the federal government and from the community demanding change," Hicks said. "But nothing will change while the courthouse is nothing but white faces in black robes."



Retired Judge Maryellen Hicks

click to read

[\(Star-telegram-article\)](#)

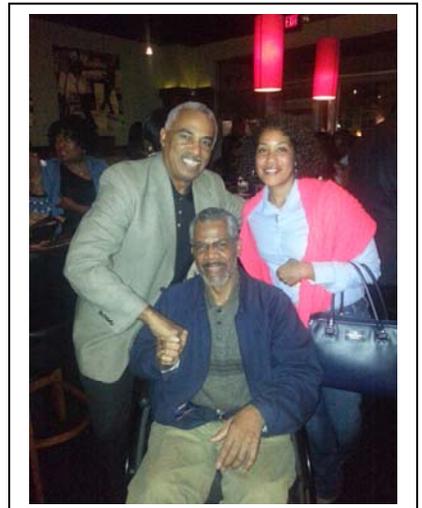
LCDLA EVENTS PHOTO GALLERY

“SANTA CLAUS GOES TO JAIL” PLAY

Bobbie Edmonds assisted by LCDLA, does it again with the great children's event "Santa Claus Goes to Jail" play, which exposes young children to the courthouse and its many participants. The children get exposed to all the participants in the legal process from the sheriff, the bailiff and the court reporter all the way up to the witnesses, the lawyers and the Judge. It is a great experience for our next generation. One former student who has recently become a teacher in the Ft. Worth ISD, commented that this event had a profound impact on her young life when she came to this event several years ago as a student. She loved it so much she is now thinking about law school. Great way to expose the kids to the criminal justice system in a friendly non-adversarial way. Big shout-outs to Bobbie Edmonds. **You go girl!!!** Keep up the great work. (For more pictures go to our website@ lcdla-bar.com)



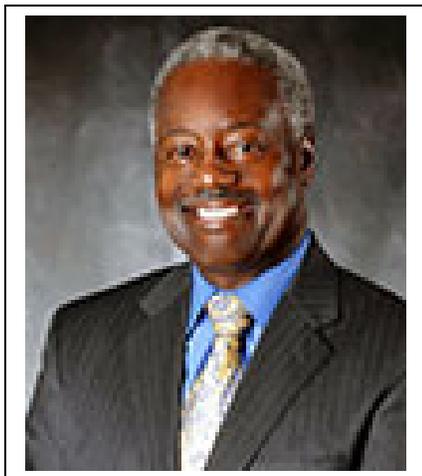
LCDLA 2014 CHRISTMAS PARTY



A View From Fort Worth's Law School

TEXAS A&M LAW SCHOOL FACULTY

Full Time Professors



FREDRIC WHITE

Prof. White was the former Dean of Texas Wesleyan Law School from 2008-2013. He currently serves as a Law Professor teaching Property, Estates & Trusts, Land Use Control & Local Government Law. If you have any questions he is always willing to assist and answer questions. He can be reached at fwhite@tamu.edu
College:
Law School: Columbia School of Law



MICHAEL GREEN

Professor Michael Green has been a member of the faculty since 2003. Professor Green is a labor and employment mediator and arbitrator. Among other boards he serves as hearing officer for the Dallas Area Rapid Transit Trial Board. He also was appointed in 2008 to be the co-chair of the American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section's Committee on Advocacy.

Mike is also an avid golfer, who is always available if you want to get him on the course.

College: Univ. Southern Calif
Law School: Loyola Univ.
mzgreen@law.tamu.edu



NEAL NEWMAN

Professor Newman joined the school as an associate professor in 2004. Professor Newman is a certified public accountant, certified in the state of Michigan, where he practiced as a public accountant prior to entering law school. Before entering academia, Professor Newman was an associate at the law firm of Alston & Bird, in Atlanta, Ga., where he represented publicly held companies in mergers, acquisitions, and other corporate transactional matters. Professor Newman was an All-American track athlete at the University of Michigan where he held the Big-Ten Indoor record for twelve years in the 800-meter run and competed in the 1992 Olympic trials. Rumor has it he can't run that fast any longer and that his sons are catching up to him.

College: Univ. of Michigan
Law School: Howard Law School
nnewman@tamu.edu



SAHIR F. AZIZ

College: U.T. at Arlington
Law School: Univ. of Texas

saziz@tamu.edu

Prof Aziz teaches: National Security, Civil Rights Litigation, National Security & Race in a Post-9/11 America, Torts, Islamic and Middle East Law.

Professor Aziz was an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center Prior to entering academia. Prof. Aziz clerked for the Honorable Andre M. Davis on the United States District Court for the District of Maryland. Professor Aziz has been featured on CNN, CSPAN, Russia Today and Al Jazeera America for her views and commentaries on national security, civil rights, and rule of law in Egypt. Prof Aziz is of Egyptian heritage.

ADMINISTRATION



DEAN ROSALIND JEFFERS
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

College:

Law School: Howard Law School

817-212-4020

rjeffers@law.tamu.edu



TERRANCE COOK

Director of Admissions & Scholarships

Phone: 817-212-4040

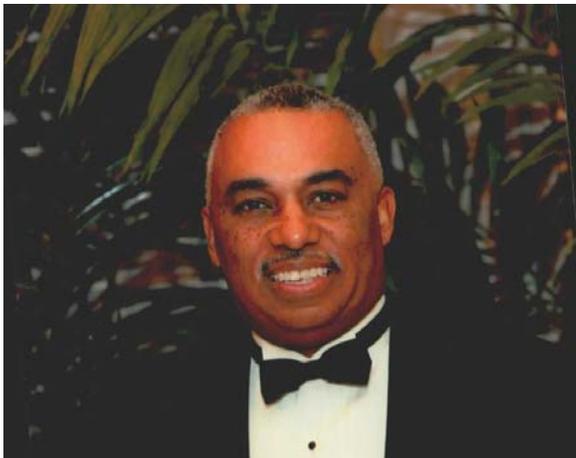
tcook@law.tamu.edu

[Link](#)

College:

Law School:

ADJUNCT FACULTY



DOUGLAS C. GREENE

Prof. Greene is one of the top lawyers in the metroplex, handling high profile civil and criminal cases in Texas and throughout the United States. He teaches trial advocacy and coaches law school mock trial competition teams in Nationwide competitions. He also is a frequent national lecturer on trial tactics and strategy.

College: Hampton University

Law School: Howard Law School



NIKKI CHRISMAN-GREEN

Prof. Chriesman-Green, is a dynamic attorney with a wealth of experience in Human resources, Benefit Litigation, and ERISA Appeals. She has over 15 years of experience drafting and interpreting employee benefits plans including health and welfare, executive compensation, and disability. She manages her own law firm part-time where she handles family law cases, unfair debt collection/consumer practices and business formation for non-profit entities. She teaches and coaches moot court competition teams.

College: Texas Wesleyan Univ

Law School : Texas Wesleyan School of Law.

LCDLA Monthly Lawyer Profile

In order to make our membership more aware of each other and to get to know each other we will be featuring lawyers each month highlighting new lawyers as well as profiling practicing Attorneys

NEW LAWYER SPOTLIGHT



ELAN LONGSTREET

Elan Longstreet is a recent graduate of Texas A&M School of Law. She ranked number three in her class and graduated *summa cum laude* from the law school. In addition, Ms. Longstreet was an active member of Law Review, BLSA, Phi Delta Phi, and P.L.A.Y.

During law school Ms. Longstreet had the opportunity to complete a two-semester internship at the Second Court of Appeals. There, she gained invaluable experience in appellate law by researching issues on appeal and assisting the justices with drafting opinions of the court. Prior to law school, Ms. Longstreet worked in corporate America for ten years as a Technology and Software Training Manager. Ms. Longstreet plans to combine her prior work experience with the knowledge and skills she obtained from law school to open her own general practice, Longstreet Law Offices, PLLC. Ms. Longstreet appreciates all referrals, and is especially interested in building a working relationship with other solo practitioners who need appellate services for their clients. Ms. Longstreet can be reached at eguerin@longstreetlawoffices.com or (817) 458-8246. More information about her practice can be found at www.LongStreetLawOffices.com. She has opened offices in Ft. Worth and in Dallas.

NEW LAWYER IN TOWN SPOTLIGHT



MATTHEW JACKSON

Matthew Jackson is a recent graduate of Texas A&M School of Law. Prior to law school, Mr. Jackson worked in the mental health field for 8 years where he provided therapy to the families of juveniles on probation and managed an adult mental health clinic. Currently Mr. Jackson is an attorney with Waters, Kraus, & Paul where his focus is on representing plaintiffs involved in civil law, personal injury, and product liability litigation. Mr. Jackson can be reached at www.waterskraus.com

ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT



GWINDA BURNS

Ms. Burns is a Fort Worth native. She received her B.S. degree from Texas Christian University in 1982 and a J.D. degree from Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 1986 where she was a member of Law Review and Moot Court. She was a briefing attorney for Justice David Keltner at the 2nd Court of Appeals from 1986- 1987. She joined the Denton County District Attorney's office as the Chief of the Appellate Division in 1987 where she remained until 1991. Ms. Burns opened the Law Offices of GWINDA L. BURNS in 1991. During her 20 plus years of appellate and trial experience, she has engaged in countless appeals and represented clients at the 2nd Court of Appeals, Court of Criminal Appeals in Austin, 5th Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. Burns formerly served as a Public Defender for the Tarrant County DIRECT Court for over 10 years. She handled business and personal tax warrants for the Tarrant County Tax Assessor. Ms. Burns is married to Attorney Jesse Gaines. They have two sons, Lee and Lyn. She can be reached at gjb_law@yahoo.com

ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT



NATHERRAL (NATE) WASHINGTON

Nate, has his own firm in Fort Worth, where he practices personal injury law with his wife Katrina at the "W" firm. Nate previously worked at the Tarrant County D.A's office where he learned his substantial trial skills. Nate was recently honored as one of Ft. Worth's top personal injury Attorney's by Ft. Worth City Magazine. We will save Katrina for a separate issue. LOL

Nate can be reached at www.thewfirm.com

LAWYER HUMOR

- [Chris Rock - advice on how to properly handle a police stop](#)

- [oldschool-christmas-classic-song](#)

- [Lawyer transcript Quotes](#)

1) Q: What happened then?

A: He told me, he says, "I have to kill you because you can identify me."

Q: Did he kill you?

2) Q: I show you Exhibit 3 and ask you if you recognize that picture?

A: That's me.

Q: Were you present when that picture was taken?

3) Was it you or your brother that was killed in the war?

MONTHLY SHOUT-OUTS

- To Andrea Kelly on her recent surgery recovery. Glad to have you back up and around. Stay in touch.

- To Bobbie Edmonds on getting her second 5th Circuit oral argument in a police excessive force case. "You go girl!" - Good luck!

- To Stan Hatcher, Esq. on his newly inked (rumored to be) seven figure contract with Houston airport. Stan, lunch is on you!

- To US Attorney Sarah Saldana who recently was confirmed to head ICE nationwide - Congratulations.

- Are there any black AUSA's left in Ft. Worth?

-Congratulations to our newly licensed attorneys: Brian Innes, Carlos Flowers, Elan Longstreet, Elizabeth Liz Wiggins, Joshua Graham, Marcus Johnson, Shakita Johnson, Camesha Little & Zachary Ferguson

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. [ATTORNEY](#)

(Job Posting 82527535)

United States Postal Service - Dallas, TX

Job Posting Period -12/10/14-1/5/15

2. [ATTORNEY \(HONOR PROGRAM\)](#)

Job Posting 82729657

U.S. Post Office

Salary - \$72,000-\$153,400

Open period = 12/12/2014 - 01/12/2015

3. Assistant U.S. Attorney- Dallas, Texas

Open period - **12/18/14 to - 1/1/15**

www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/389446400

[COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)

- 1/20/15 - LCDLA General meeting/CLE

- FYI- for free conference call set up - www.freeconferencecall.com

Food for Thought



Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is a nonprofit organization that provides free civil legal services to low income residents in 114 Texas counties. Its principal office is located in Fort Worth. Visit the LANWT website at <http://www.lanwt.org> for more information

Giving Back

by Leticia Patin

Now that the holiday season is upon us, let us not lose the spirit of gratitude or the spirit of giving. As attorneys, we are privileged to be able to practice law. Yes, we worked hard with our own minds and bodies; however, we have to acknowledge that we walked in the footsteps of folks who paved a road that made our journey less cumbersome. And even now, we should accept that as a community, like the Hezekiah Walker song proclaims, we need each other to survive.

Accordingly, let us challenge ourselves to give back in the year 2015. Add making a financial contribution to Legal Aid of Northwest Texas (LANWT)* or donating your time and talent to one of LANWT's programs as one of your New Year's Resolutions. I promise it will be a lot easier than losing that extra holiday weight!

I would like to challenge LCDLA members. At the end of 2015, I would like to report that twenty-five (25) of our members donated either \$25.00 to LANWT or gave 1 hour of their time to a LANWT legal clinic or an event that offered free legal services to our community. Contact me at letetia@patinlawgroup.com to find out how we can make this happen.