



Samford University
Cumberland School of Law

The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

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Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of April 3, 2017

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Third-Year Student Announcement

TO ALL THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS

Cumberland has scheduled three identical meetings about the bar exam next week. The meetings will provide information on and an opportunity to ask questions about the bar exam, bar exam preparation, and related topics. Bar exam passage rates are down across the country. These meetings will help you understand the challenge, organize your effort, and prepare effectively so that you and your class—with hard work—will pass the bar exam this summer. **The meetings will be held at the following times and will last approximately an hour:**

Tuesday, April 11
at 11:00 AM in Room 118

Wednesday, April 12
at 1:30 PM in Room 118

Thursday, April 13
at 10:30 AM in Room 118

All third-year students are required to attend one of these meetings (though first and second year students are welcome to attend).

This Week's Events

April 6, 2017

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Friendship Room, Law Library



**"Title VII, Gender Nonconformity, and Sexual Orientation:
A Discussion"**

Students are invited to join members of the Alabama Chapter of the National Employment Lawyers Association when they meet to discuss the reasoning and implications of the recent Eleventh Circuit decision in *Evans v. Georgia Regional Hospital*, 2017 WL 943925 (11th Cir. 2017).

In that case the Circuit held that Title VII coverage does not extend to discrimination based on Sexual Orientation, although it does extend to discrimination based on Gender Nonconformity.

This decision has drawn much attention across the country and will directly impact how these cases are pled and litigated within the Eleventh Circuit.

Andrew Gerow Hodges Lecture
in Ethics and Leadership

Dr. James K.A. Smith

April 6

10 a.m. • Reid Chapel



Get Connected to Cumberland School of Law for all the latest updates.

The official Facebook page is "[Cumberland School of Law](#)" and the official Twitter account is "[CumberlandLaw](#)"



This Week's Events

Alumni Reunion Reception

Friday, April 7
6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
The Florentine



**AN OPEN HOUSE
FOR ALUMNI**
will be held on Saturday,
April 8 from
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Lunch served on Brewer Plaza for alumni, admitted students and their guests only.

Plan Ahead

Life as a JAG

- **Tuesday, April 11, 2017, 10:30 AM - 11:30 PM.** ROBH 114 Come listen to Capt. Beaulieu as he discusses his first two years in the JAG Corps. He will also be discussing the application process and answering any questions you may have. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/life-as-a-jag-tickets-33309154578>

The Office of Diversity and Intercultural Initiatives and the Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership are sponsoring a guided tour of the Civil Rights Institute.

The event is on **Tuesday, April 11, 2017, from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM** and includes dinner.

Register at <https://bcri2017su.eventbrite.com>
Meet at the Civil Rights Institute at **3:00 PM.**

Trial Journal and Law Review Information Lunch for 1Ls

- Cumberland 1L students are invited to an informational meeting **Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 11 AM** in the Great Room. BBQ from Johnny Ray's will be served! Students in the top 15% of the first-year class after this year will be eligible to write for Law Review membership this summer. 1Ls in the top 33.3% of the class will be invited to write for Trial Journal membership. No matter where you are in the class right now, a superior performance this semester can move you up farther than at any other time in law school! If you cannot attend the lunch, send your summer contact information using [this online form](#) as soon as possible. Feel free to email the [Trial Journal](#) or the [Law Review](#) with any questions.

DON'T FORGET

Monday, April 17
is Easter Holiday!

No classes meet.

Law School Announcements

The Spirit of Service Award is Cumberland's way of recognizing students, faculty, and staff who have completed 30+ hours of public interest/pro bono legal work and/or community service throughout the academic year. You are encouraged to apply and receive recognition for the valuable contributions you have made. Recipients are presented with a certificate of appreciation in recognition of their valuable contributions. Examples of qualifying work would include but is not limited to: Street Law; Celebrate Pro Bono Month; Project Homeless Connect; the 1L Service Project; work done through law school organizations; SBA; the Christian Legal Society; or work done through your favorite charitable organization or church. ***Note: You do not have to complete all 30 hours in one organization; hours can be distributed throughout different organizations.*** The application process for the award operates on the honor system - the hours you submit are the hours that will be recognized.

Applications are now being accepted and are due on **Wednesday, April 19, 2017**.

If there are any other questions or concerns regarding the Spirit of Service Award, please contact Ashaunte T. Gaillard at agaillard@samford.edu.



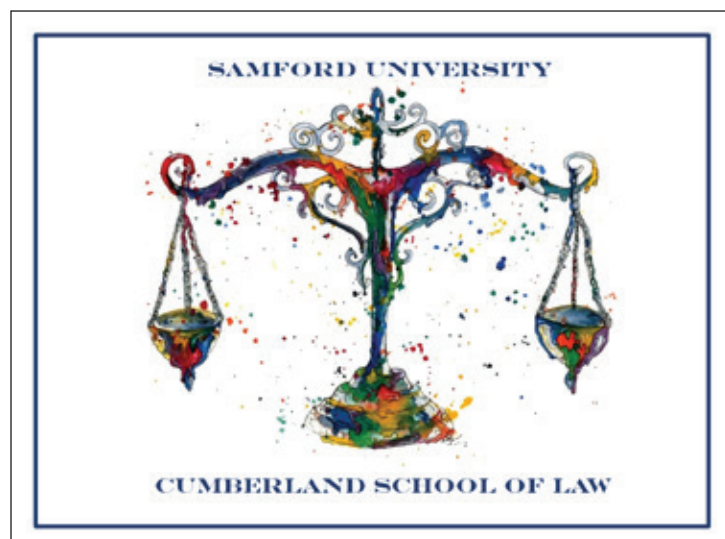
Robert Dawson '71 held an alumni reception for Cumberland School of Law alumni and guests last week in Washington, DC to recognize our five Congressmen and Congresswoman.

Top Left: T.J. Wilson, Lt. Col. Brian Adams, Rep. Roby, M. Young **Top Right:** Rep. Aderholt, Robt. Dawson, David Olive
Lower Bottom Left: Kelle Strickland, Dean Strickland (no relation); **Bottom Middle:** Rep. Jenkins; **Bottom Right:** Rep. Ross

Law School Announcements

The Cumberland Society of the Arts is selling 2017 graduation invitations, thank you cards & blank note cards. Please contact the CSOA at csoa@samford.edu for more design options and pricing!

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May Graduation Announcements

Graduation Ceremony:

Everyone is invited to attend spring graduation ceremonies to be held

May 12, 2017 at 6:30 PM

in the Wright Center on Samford's campus. Tickets are not needed.

Details for graduates may be found at <https://www.samford.edu/departments/registrar/graduation>.

Graduation Reception:

Please join Cumberland School of Law faculty, staff, family and friends for a reception honoring the May 2017 graduates on **Friday, May 12, 2017 from 4:15 - 5:30 PM** at Brewer Plaza, Cumberland School of Law.

Cumberland would like to formally congratulate **Jamilla Pritchett** and **Stephanie Gushlaw** on being appointed to the 2017-2018 Alabama State Bar Pro Bono Task Force. These students have been selected based on their volunteer activities and commitment to pro bono service.

Alumni News



➤ 2017 FRIEND

John D. Saxon, P.C.

- We are proud to formally recognize and honor John D. Saxon with the 2017 FRIEND award. This award recognizes someone who is not a graduate of Cumberland School of Law, yet who contributes time and talent to enhance the quality of the school and educational experience of our students. John has consistently and meaningfully dedicated his time and legal talent enhancing our programs.
- After serving our country as a Captain in the U.S.A.R., John started his legal career in 1977 at Sirote & Permutt, P.C. In 1978, he was named a White House Fellow and went to Washington D.C. where he was Special Assistant to V. President W. F. Mondale,

Alumni News

(2017 Friend Award Receptient, John D. Saxon, P.C., continued)

served as counsel to the subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, was counsel to the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics, associate counsel and staff director for the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Secret Military Assistance to Iran and the Nicaraguan Opposition, and special counsel, U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee. Thereafter in private practice, he built his reputation as a “Super Lawyer” in the field of employment law. While doing so, he completed formidable requirements to become a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

- For approximately twenty years, John has served as co-chairman of Cumberland’s Employment Law Continuing Legal Education planning committee, and assists our CLE department in scheduling speakers on timely topics. He also acts as co-moderator of the Employment Law program and serves as a CLE speaker on other occasions. In 2012 he lectured during the inaugural Jere F. White, Jr. Trial Advocacy Institute, addressing “closing arguments” from the plaintiff’s perspective. Furthermore, he is a regular guest speaker in our Trial Advocacy course. With this award, Cumberland School of Law expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude to John D. Saxon for his service.



➤ 2017 Distinguished Alumnus Honorable Julian Mann III '74

- The Distinguished Alumnus Award is given to a Cumberland graduate who has distinguished herself/himself in the practice of law, service to the community, and leadership in the profession.
- It is not the long list of professional and personal roles Judge Mann fills; it is not the number of professional legal associations in which he is a member, nor is it the long list of articles, papers and presentations he has authored. Instead, it is the sincerity with which he fills these roles, the time he spends doing significant and meaningful work with local and national professional organizations, and the depth of research he conducts before writing the papers, articles and presentations that truly distinguishes Judge Mann as a

Cumberland School of Law alumnus and public servant.

- Currently in his seventh term as Chief Administrative Law Judge for the State of North Carolina, Judge Mann is also Director of the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings. As such, he is responsible for appointing the Codifier of Rules for the State of North Carolina and the state’s ten administrative law judges. Prior to public service, Judge Mann built a private litigation practice with Gulley & Green (1974-78) and added a variety of business law and estate services after forming Green & Mann (1978-89).
- Most recently, Chief Justice Mark D. Martin of the Supreme Court of North Carolina appointed Judge Mann to the NC Commission on the Administration of Law and Justice. Nationally, Judge Mann is a Foundation Life Member of the National Association of the Administrative Law Judiciary, and currently active as a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and was the Judicial Division Liaison to the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services. Local and national awards he has received over the last 40 years of commitment to the profession are simply too numerous to list.
- Judge Mann has a passion for history and he thoroughly enjoys membership (including holding officer roles) in societies such as: Raleigh History Club, NC Supreme Court Historical Society, Robert Ruark Society of Chapel Hill, Craven Everett Inn of Court, The Mattamuskeet Foundation, and Hyde County Historical Society. Authoring a fictional novel, two chapters in treatises about alternative dispute resolution, and serving as an adjunct professor at NC State University exemplify his love of writing and teaching.
- Cumberland School of Law appreciates Judge Mann’s local, state and national commitment to the future of our profession and his consistent aid in helping us recruit students and engage alumni.

Alumni News



➤ 2017 Young Alumnus

R. Ashby Pate '07

- Lightfoot Franklin White LLC
- Not too many attorneys can claim a seat on a Supreme Court bench within the first few years of receiving a Juris Doctor degree. Ashby Pate did and then some. His experiences and notable achievements over the last 10 years since he graduated from Cumberland School of Law are unique and certainly demonstrate his commitment to the legal profession, his community, and the Law School.
- After touring with a band, entering law school, becoming editor in chief of the Cumberland Law Review, serving as a federal judicial clerk, obtaining an L.L.M. with

highest distinction, Ashby served as senior court counsel to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Palau. There, he helped design the island nation's first-ever jury trial system. Then, Ashby entered private practice with Lightfoot Franklin & White and cultivated a general commercial litigation practice. After practicing with Lightfoot for only three years, Ashby returned to Palau when he was appointed to serve as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Palau. He served in that capacity for a little over three years.

• In 2016 he returned to Birmingham and now focuses on international disputes, appellate practice, and commercial and medical litigation – and, shortly after his return, Ashby was appointed co-prosecutor in the judicial ethics trial of Chief Justice Roy Moore. Ashby is one of only 50 distinguished lawyers and judges in the state of Alabama currently serving on the American Law Institute where he contributes to many of the Restatement projects published by that body. Finally, Ashby regularly offers inspiration to students, lawyers, and judges as a public speaker. One of his recent speeches, entitled “*Be the Light*,” stresses the importance of human connection in the practice of law. Over the past year, the speech has garnered thousands of views on YouTube and Ashby has delivered it to judges and lawyer groups all across the state and the country. It is Ashby's human connection while serving in these unique positions that distinguishes him as a servant in this profession and in our community. We are proud to call him the Cumberland School of Law 2017 Young Alumnus.

Faculty Notes



• Visiting Professor of Law **Tracey Roberts** presented “Picking Winners and Losers: A Structural Examination of Tax Subsidies to the Energy Industry” on March 29, 2017 at Vanderbilt University Law School as part of their Faculty Workshop Series. She also presented “Plato's Laws and the Demands of the Socratic Dialogue” on April 1, 2017 at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities at Stanford University School of Law.

• Starnes Professor of Law **Woodrow Hartzog '03** presented his paper “An Education Theory of Fault for Autonomous Systems” (co-authored with Bill Smart and Cindy Grimm) at the We Robot 2017 conference at Yale Law School. More information on the conference can be found at <http://www.werobot2017.com/>.



Top Left: Tracey Roberts;

Bottom Left: Woodrow Hartzog;

Left: Professor Hartzog's presentation at the We Robot 2017 conference.

Faculty Notes

• Lucille Stewart Beeson Professor of Law **William G. Ross**' book, *World War I and the American Constitution*, was published by Cambridge University Press earlier this month. The book explains how the war generated significant and enduring constitutional changes by expanding the economic regulatory powers of the federal government, aggrandizing presidential powers, and laying the foundation of the modern administrative state. The book also demonstrates how the war provided a catalyst for the expansion of personal liberties, including freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the rights of women, racial minorities, and industrial workers.



Above: William G. Ross
Right: Ross' book, *World War I and the American Constitution*

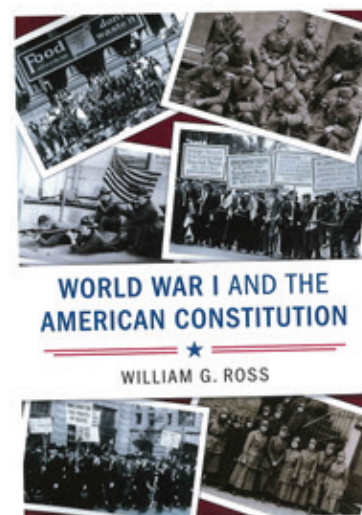


Photo of the Week



Washington, DC's beautiful cherry blossoms were in full bloom for Cumberland's alumni reception honoring our Congressmen and Congresswomen last week.

Want to see your photos featured?
Send them to [Erin Carroll](#)
for inclusion in upcoming editions
of the Dean's Newsletter