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BLSA Alumni Newsletter - Fall 1988

Black Law Students Association, Fordham University School of Law

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Recommended Citation

Black Law Students Association, Fordham University School of Law, "BLSA Alumni Newsletter - Fall 1988" (1988). *Black Law Student Association*. 24.
<https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/blsa/24>

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FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
BLSA ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

FALL, 1988

1988-1989 BLSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Marcia Thurmond	Chairperson
John Johnson	Vice-Chairperson
Andrew J. Hinton	Treasurer
Janice K. Smith	Secretary
Rudolph Smith	Subregional Representative

This is the first of approximately four newsletters which will be distributed to Alumni each year. This newsletter is designed to keep our Alumni abreast of the interesting BLSA activities and projects planned for the academic year.

WORTHY OF NOTE

In the Spring of 1988, Fordham's BLSA adopted its Constitution. The Constitution defines Fordham BLSA's goals and objectives.

The Constitution emphasizes BLSA's commitment to increasing Black representation at Fordham Law School by the formation of a Recruitment Committee. This committee will work with Fordham's Administration in recruiting Black students. Additionally, the committee will implement its own programs and work in conjunction with other law schools in BLSA's Subregion to further this effort. The Chairperson of the Recruitment Committee for 1988-89 is Andrew Hinton.

In addition to the Recruitment Committee, other committees were established such as the Mentor/Mentee Committee. This committee pairs an upperclass student with a first-year student to assist the first-year in the law school transition. The Chairperson of the Mentor/Mentee Committee is Susan Presley. Other committees established by the Constitution and their Chairpersons include: the Community Affairs Committee -- Chairperson, Marcia Thurmond; Special Events Committee -- Chairperson, Janice Smith; and the Alumni Affairs Committee -- Chairperson, John Johnson. We welcome any suggestions and assistance you can give to these committees.

A new Executive Committee position was also established in the Constitution, that of Subregional Representative. The duties of this

position include representing Fordham at all BLSA subregional meetings and conferences. The subregion consists of the BLSA chapters from Fordham, New York University, Columbia, St. John's, Rutgers, Seton Hall, Cardozo, Brooklyn, CUNY, Touro, Pace, New York Law and Hofstra. This position allows Fordham's BLSA to participate in activities beyond the immediate Fordham community.

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

We are pleased to announce the following accomplishments of BLSA members during the past year:

Karen Edwards	Managing Editor - Environmental Law Report
Joseph Gregory	Associate Editor - International Law Journal
Andrew J. Hinton	Top 10% of 2d year class Law Review Member
John Johnson	Entertainment Law Journal Staff Member; Moot Court Board Member
Jeanine Launay	Associate Editor Kaufman Moot Court Competition
Yvette Mendez	Urban Law Journal Staff Member
Lucien Moolenaar	International Law Journal Staff Member; Moot Court Board Member
Susan Presley	Environmental Law Report Staff Member
Johnathan Sampson	Moot Court Board Staff Member
Janice K. Smith	Environmental Law Report Staff Member
Rudolph Smith	Environmental Law Report Staff Member
Marcia Thurmond	Chairperson-National BLSA's South African Task Force

INCOMING STUDENTS

This year's entering classes consist of 21 Black students; 15 of whom are active BLSA members.

ACTIVITIES

The following is a list of activities in which BLSA has participated thus far this semester:

1. Two-day Law Day held at the Vista Hotel;
2. One-day Minority Law Day held at New York University which is sponsored by the Puerto Rican Defense League;
3. NALP/BLSA Minority Job Fair was held on October 7, 1988 at Fordham. Two hundred and twenty-five employers participated as did minority students from law schools throughout the Northeast region;
4. BLSA sponsored a week-long food drive at Fordham for the victims of Hurricane Gilbert in Jamaica.
5. Minority Reception with Dean Feerick and Fordham's Faculty
6. In November, BLSA sponsored a Panel Discussion entitled "Black Attorneys on Trial:" The Chilling Effect of Threatened Sanctions Against Black Attorneys.

TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The following is a list of tentative events planned for the balance of the semester. We will be soliciting contributions from alumni to assist in funding these events. Anyone interested in participating in any of these programs is encouraged to contact Marcia Thurmond or John Johnson.

December:

1. Operation Santa Program
2. Kwanza Celebration.

CLOSING REMARKS

This newsletter is designed to open the lines of communication between alumni and our members. We welcome your comments, suggestions and

assistance. We are interested in receiving information concerning activities of our alumni as well as activities outside of Fordham you feel BLSA may wish to participate in.

We are looking forward to active alumni participation in all of our programs and events planned for this year. We need your support and encouragement to enable us to be a more effective organization!

Please feel free to contact either Marcia Thurmond, BLSA Chairperson or John Johnson, Chairperson--Alumni Affairs Committee, directly or through the Law School. They can be reached at:

John Johnson



Marcia Thurmond



We hope to see and hear from you soon!