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Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

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Alumni Profile:
Justice Michael Donnelly ’92

Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association Alumni of the Year recipient Justice Michael P. Donnelly ’92 considers the opportunity to work on criminal and civil justice reform initiatives to be the highlight of his first 2 1/2 years on the bench as an Ohio Supreme Court Justice. Justice Donnelly works with the Task Force on Conviction Integrity and Postconviction Review, which seeks ways to prevent and remedy wrongful convictions in the criminal justice system. He is also passionate about the need to gather relevant data to create meaningful sentencing reform and advocates for the creation of a statewide sentencing database at the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission.

“We have so many talented and dedicated individuals working in our criminal justice system,” explained Justice Donnelly. “Systemically, however, the criminal justice system can always be improved. The more processes we can implement to provide transparency in the system, the more people will have confidence that the system is performing as intended; always seeking truth and resolving disputes in ways that are consistent with the principles of fairness and justice.”

The opportunity to work with all stakeholders in the Ohio criminal justice system on systemic criminal and civil justice reform was one of the chief reasons Justice Donnelly ran for his seat on the Ohio Supreme Court in 2018, now serving as one of three CSU Cleveland-Marshall College of Law graduates on the seven-justice Court along with **Justice Melody Stewart ’88** and **Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O’Connor ’80**. He had served the previous 14 years as a Judge on the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. Justice Donnelly began his legal career as an assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor and has also worked in civil ligation, where he represented plaintiffs and injured workers in asbestos litigation, personal injury lawsuits, and workers’ compensation claims.

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Alumni Profile:
Chief Magistrate Gregory F. Clifford ’80

CSU Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association Alumni of the Year recipient Gregory F. Clifford ’80 has been drawn to leadership positions throughout his life. In his profession, he has spent the last 20 years as Chief Magistrate of the Cleveland Municipal Court. At the courthouse, Clifford manages a staff of magistrates and supportive staff persons who handle small claims, traffic, misdemeanor, and civil cases.

Recognizing his leadership capabilities, Clifford's colleagues have elected him to serve as President of three associations – the Norman S. Minor Bar Association, Ohio Association of Magistrates, and the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association. He considers being elected to serve in those presidencies to be the highlights of his career.

Greg has sought out leadership roles dating back to his time as a student at CSU Cleveland-Marshall. While in law school, he served as President of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and as a senator on the CSU Student Government Association (SBA).

“The camaraderie and leadership experiences that I had at C|M|LAW helped to give me a heightened sense of confidence in myself, and direction for the purpose of my life’s work to be in service to others,” said Clifford.

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Professors Green and Heyward to Receive Stapleton Award

Alan Miles Ruben and Judge Betty Willis Ruben Associate Professor of Law Matthew Green and **Clinical Professor of Law Carole Heyward** have been selected as the recipients of the 2020 and 2021 *Dean Wilson G. Stapleton Award for Faculty Excellence*.

The award is named for **Dean Wilson G. Stapleton '34**, the CSU C|M|LAW Hall of Fame member who served for 32 years as a faculty member and then as Dean of Cleveland-Marshall.

Chuka Anyafo '22

Announcement of Dean’s JEDI Awards and Racial Justice Work Group Reports

On June 11, 2020, **Dean Lee Fisher** issued a Call to Action to address racial and social justice, and antiracism.To ensure that we

Brandy Davis '22

Tayler Gill '22

Davona Mason '22

implement our Call to Action, Dean Fisher formed the Racial Justice Task Force consisting of four Racial Justice Work Groups. Each Work Group consists of students, faculty, staff, and alumni: *School Climate*, *Training and Education*, *Public Action*, and *Community Conversations*

Each Work Group, co-chaired by a student, a staff member, and a faculty member, recently completed a 2020-21 report posted on our website in Dean Fisher's Monday Morning Message *(link below)*.

We wish to thank and recognize the Work Groups for their extraordinary service and dedication, and especially, our outstanding student leadership for their work in advocating for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

The four student leaders, **Chuka Anyafo '22**, **Brandy Davis '22**, **Tayler Gill '22** and **Davona Mason '22**, are the first-ever recipients of the **Dean's JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) Award**, which they will receive at the virtual **Academic Awards Ceremony** May 14.

Thank you to all of our Work Group Co-Chairs:

School Climate Work Group Co-Chairs: **Tayler Gill '22, Sarah Beznoska, Assistant Dean for Student/Career Services, Professor April Cherry**

Training/ Education Work Group Co-Chairs: **Davona Mason '22, Laura Ray, Outreach & Instructional Services Librarian, Professor Matthew Green**

Public Action Work Group Co-Chairs: **Brandy Davis '22, Beth Farrell, Head of Library Access/Technical Services, Professor Ken Kowalski**

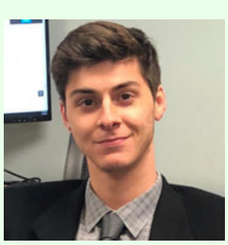
Community Conversations Work Group Co-Chairs: **Chuka Anyafo '22, Amy Miller, Director of Alumni & Donor Relations /Associate Director for Enrollment, Professor Pam Daiker-Middaugh**

Read Task Force Updates

Hire C|M|LAW

Graduate Profiles

Our class of 2021 graduates are actively engaged in their permanent job search, and you can help! To connect with any of our talented Class of 2021 graduates, please contact **Assistant Dean for Student and Career Services Sarah Beznoska**, at s.beznoska@csuohio.edu.



Andrew Domozick

Andrew Domozick is graduating this May and intends to practice civil law, with particular interest in employment law, personal injury, premises liability, and general business litigation.

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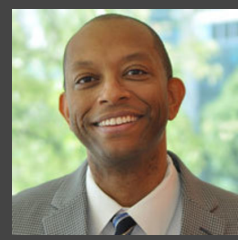
Upcoming Public Lectures & CLE Events



Faculty Spotlight Series

Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia and Sex Stereotyping: The Road Not Taken

Wednesday, May 19 | 12:00 p.m. | Virtual

Professor Matthew Green, *Alan Miles Ruben and Judge Betty Willis Ruben Professor of Law*

This presentation examines judicial treatment of sex stereotyping claims pre-*Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*, 140 S.Ct. 1731 (2020), particularly as it pertains to LGBTQ+ individuals. It further explains why, post-*Bostock*, preventing employers from relying on sex stereotypes to make employment decisions remains a viable and vital tool to challenge workplace discrimination on the basis of sex.

1 free hour CLE pending

Learn More

Center for Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection

Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection Annual Conference

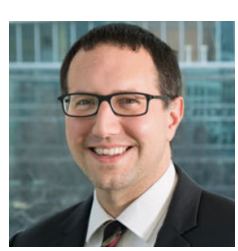
Thursday, May 20 & Friday, May 21 | 12:00 p.m. | Virtual

For the past six years Cleveland-Marshall's Center for Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection has hosted this cross-sector event featuring rich content relevant to lawyers, compliance professionals, technology experts, regulators and executives responsible for developing security and privacy policies.

This year's event features keynotes by **Ohio Lt. Gov. Jon Husted** and **Tony Sager**, *Senior VP and Chief Evangelist for CIS®* (The Center for Internet Security, Inc.)

9 hours CLE/IAPP CPE credit including 1 hour of ethics

Register



Prof. Mead Published Essay on Donor Disclosure Supreme Court Case

Professor Joseph Mead published an essay at *HistPhil*, a publication on the history of the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors, on donor disclosure requirements for fundraising charities in the pending Supreme Court case, *Americans for Prosperity Foundation v. California*. Mead was also quoted by *Bloomberg Tax* in an article about the case.

Read More

Prof. Forte Published Article in Law & Liberty

Professor David Forte published an article, "Originalism and its Discontents," in the online journal, *Law & Liberty*.

Read More

Dean Fisher Profiled in Cleveland Magazine

Dean Lee Fisher, along with his wife **Peggy Zone Fisher**, was featured in a *Cleveland Magazine* article about their recent receipt of the 2021 *Richard W. Pogue Award for Excellence in Community and Engagement*. Dean Fisher also wrote an article for *Cleveland Magazine*, "Cleveland State Helps Build Talent Dividend," highlighting the role of CSU in fostering educational attainment.

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CMLAA
CLEVELAND-MARSHALL LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2021 | 12:00 P.M.

ANNUAL RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

The CMLAA will host its 2021 Annual Recognition Luncheon (ARL) on **Thursday, May 27, 2021** at Noon as a virtual celebration! The 2021 ARL will honor the CMLAA's 2020 and 2021 Alumni of the Year.

2021 Alumni of the Year:
Honorable Michelle L. Paris '84, Judge, Bedford Municipal Court
Chief Magistrate Gregory F. Clifford '80, Cleveland Municipal Court

2020 Alumni of the Year:
Tim L. Collins '85, Principal, Thrasher Dinsmore Dolan
Justice Michael P. Donnelly '92, Ohio Supreme Court Justice

Interested in becoming a sponsor of the 2021 Annual Recognition Luncheon? Visit give.classy.org/2021-arl for additional information and to purchase a sponsorship, viewing ticket or to make a donation.

View a complete list of our current 2021 ARL sponsors at cmlaa-csuohio.org/arl.

Net proceeds benefit scholarship funds for Cleveland-Marshall law students.

For additional information, email CmlaaArl@gmail.com or call 216-687-2368

Live Interactive CLE Webinar

The Hopes and Hold-Ups of Immigration Law: A New Administration and the Effects of a Pandemic

Friday, May 21 | 12:00 p.m.

PANELISTS:

Erin P. Brown | *Partner, Brown Immigration Law*

Chelsea Mack | *Associate, Brown Immigration Law*

Akshita Patel | *Associate, Brown Immigration Law*

Panelists will provide an update on the US Immigration Process during the pandemic including: delays, court proceedings, consulates and visa issues and the presidential proclamation. The speakers will also discuss the changes on Immigration during the Biden administration including: DACA, border crisis, Supreme Court matters and Biden's Immigration plan.

1.0 free hours CLE pending

Register

CMLAA CLE On-Demand Webinars

On-demand webinars available virtually via Zoom recording.

Procedural Aspects of Landlord/Tenant Law
2.0 General Credit CLE Hours

Register

2020 Ethics Seminar with Kegler Brown
2.75 Professional Conduct CLE Hours Pending

Register

Personal Injury: PI in a Box
3.0 General Credit CLE Hours Pending

Register

Civil, Criminal and Traffic Rules Update: What You Need to Know in 2021
2.0 General Credit Hours and 1.0 Professional Conduct Credit Hour

Register

Give

Volunteer

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Have exciting news to share? Send us your news to include on our website, social media or in a future newsletter. Email AlumniNews@law.csuohio.edu.

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Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails.
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