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CSU|LAW Grad Judge Clifton Newman ’76, Presided Over Murdaugh Trial, to Speak at CSU|LAW

Judge Clifton Newman, who presided over the high-profile trial and sentencing of former South Carolina attorney (now convicted murderer) Alex Murdaugh, will speak at the Cleveland State University College of Law's Moot Court Room on **Tuesday, March 28 at noon**. Judge Newman, a judge on the South Carolina Circuit Court, is a 1976 graduate of CSU|LAW.

The event is no cost, open-to-the-public. No tickets or RSVP required, but there is limited seating in our Moot Court Room.

Throughout the Murdaugh trial which captivated the nation, Judge Newman earned national praises for his even-handed demeanor and his insightful comments during sentencing.

"Honest to God, what you saw on TV is who he is," said his friend, **Judge Brendan Sheehan (CSU|LAW '93), Administrative and Presiding Judge, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas**. "He's decisive, he's firm, he's caring, he's got compassion."

Judge Newman was born in rural South Carolina, the first person in his family to be born in a hospital. After graduating from a racially segregated South Carolina high school as valedictorian, he earned an undergraduate degree from Cleveland State University in 1973 before turning his attention to a law degree. At CSU, he met his wife **Patricia** (pictured above) and served as President of the Student Government Association.

Read More

P. Kelly Tompkins '81 Appointed to CSU Board of Trustees

P. Kelly Tompkins '81 has been appointed by Governor Mike DeWine to the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees for a term beginning February 24, 2023, and ending May 1, 2031.

Kelly is an inaugural member of our Hall of Fame, a Leader-in-Residence, and has served as Chair of our Board of Visitors since 2019. In 2018, Kelly made a generous gift to establish the **P. Kelly Tompkins Leadership and Law Program**, one of the first law school leadership programs in the country. He is a past recipient of the CSU George B. Davis Service Award and CSU Law Alumni Association Alumnus of the year, and he delivered the commencement address for the 2005 CSU|LAW graduating class. Kelly also chaired the Board of Visitors from 2001-2006 and, with fellow alums **Steve Percy '79** and **Jim Thomas '63,** led the effort to raise funds for the Fund for Excellence, the proceeds of which were used to raise the national profile of the law school.

Kelly is also a Senior Advisor at the Cleveland public relations firm Dix & Eaton. His impressive legal and corporate career has included Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer at Cleveland Cliffs, and Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer at RPM International. Kelly also served as the President of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association in 2005-2006.

Read More

Sarah Flannery ’02 Named CSU|LAW Board of Visitors Chair

Sarah Flannery ’02 has agreed to serve as the new Chair of our CSU|LAW Board of Visitors. The Board of Visitors, composed of leading attorneys, judges, business, and community leaders, advises our law school on state and local issues affecting the law school and legal education.

Sarah is a member of our Hall of Fame, served on the CSU Alumni Association’s Board of Directors from 2012-2018, and serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Cleveland State University Foundation Board. She co-chaired CSU’s signature fundraiser, Radiance, in 2021. Sarah is a partner at Thompson Hine and leads the firm’s immigration practice. She was a recipient of Crain’s Cleveland Business 40 under 40 Award and its Women of Note award.

A special thanks to **Sonia Winner ’90** for agreeing to continue to serve as Vice-Chair of the Board of Visitors for another year.

(Pictured below: Sonia Winner, Kelly Tompkins, Sarah Flannery, Dean Lee Fisher)

CSU|LAW
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

CSU|LAW Launches Online J.D. Program

Cleveland State University College of Law will launch a new Online Juris Doctor program this Fall, one of the few ABA-accredited Online J.D. programs in the country.

The program will build upon the strength of CSU|LAW's nationally ranked Part-Time program, the top-ranked public part-time program in Ohio. Students will partake in 10 semesters of courses and can complete their full accredited online degree in as little as three years and three months. Numerous specializations are available as part of the new program, including health law, business law, corporate compliance, criminal law, cybersecurity, and space law.

CSU's Online J.D. also includes six in-person residency weekends, where students gather on campus to work with faculty, alumni, and experienced legal professionals to develop critical professional skills in areas such as litigation, oral advocacy, and negotiation.

The online J.D. program is designed for affordability and access without having to relocate for both in-state and out-of-state students. Online coursework will take place both synchronously and asynchronously.

Learn More

Featured LL.M. Student: Forstina P. Gongbah

Liberia native **Forstina P. Gongbah** is expected to earn his LL.M. degree from CSU|LAW in May 2023. While in Liberia, he earned an LLB degree in law as Second Dux of his class. He also passed the Liberian Attorney-at-Law Exam as Third Dux.

Forstina's aspiration is to pass the Ohio Bar Exam and practice law in Ohio. He hopes to eventually return to Liberia to transfer the knowledge acquired studying at our law school and hopes to help strengthen the rule of law in Liberia.

"I am exceedingly and personally grateful to **Gerald Austin**, Adjunct Professor at The University of Akron Bliss Institute of Politics, and **Dean Lee Fisher** for their full support, financially and otherwise, to my academic sojourn here at CSU," said Forstina. "These two great men literally brought me from Liberia and sustained me in the United States. The opportunity afforded me to study at CSU will forever have my greatest gratitude and appreciation."

The LL.M. (Master of Laws) is a Postgraduate Law Degree for students with a J.D. or LL.B degree. At CSU|LAW, many of our LL.M. students are international students. Currently our LL.M. students come from nine different countries, speak several languages and add a wealth of diversity and uniqueness to the classroom experience. For some, they obtain the LL.M. to learn about the United States legal system so they can go back to their home countries and enrich their legal careers. For most, they obtain an LL.M. to sit for the Bar Exam and practice law in the United States. Most of our LL.M. students hope to take the Ohio Bar Exam and practice law in Cleveland.

Our LL.M. students are seeking full-time employment once they graduate. If you are interested in speaking to any of our LL.M. students, email llm.program@law.csuohio.edu.

Upcoming Public Lectures & CLE Events

ESLA & GBLR Sports & Entertainment Business Symposium

Friday, March 31 • 9:00 a.m.
CSU|LAW Moot Court Room

The *Global Business Law Review* and *Entertainment & Sports Law Association* host this joint symposium showcasing a group of successful entertainment and sport professionals who are at the forefront of the industry. Topics will range from discussion about legalization of Ohio's sport-betting laws to issues in sport immigration laws. The event will feature a keynote address led by New York Attorney **Dan Lust**. The key theme of the Symposium will be centered around global business issues in the realm of sport and entertainment law and how the local market plays a factor in that.

5.25 CLE hours

Learn More

Legal & Policy Issues in the New Orbital Economy

Sponsored by the Global Space Law Center
Wednesday, April 12 • 1:00 p.m.
Virtual

As private industry takes the lead in the use of Earth's orbits, entirely new sectors of the orbital economy are emerging. The coming years will see the development of private space stations, on-orbit repair and refueling, orbital tourism, and an increasing number of megaconstellations. These dramatic changes in the orbital economy raise several challenges with respect to public policy and the regulatory landscape.

This symposium will provide a neutral platform for stakeholders to identify and discuss issues related to the new orbital economy with an eye toward finding solutions that meet the requirements of international law, address public policy concerns, and provide regulatory clarity to the private sector and its investors.

The symposium will feature approximately 20 thought leaders from the industry, government, civil society, and academia who will participate in five 45-minute moderated panels designed to encourage a dynamic and creative conversation.

2 and 4 hour CLE options available

Learn More

Criminal Justice Forum: Policing Bodies

Monday, April 17 • 5:00 p.m.
CSU|LAW Moot Court Room

I. India Thusi will discuss her recently published book, *Policing Bodies*, which examines the policing of sex work in South Africa and provides a feminist examination of the regulation of sex work.

The regulation of sex work is a site for contesting female sexuality. The policing of sex workers reveals how racism, nationalism, policing, and gender complicate popular understandings about womanhood and the role of the police in controlling it. The book exposes the limitations of dominant feminist arguments regarding the legal treatment of sex work that rely on various modes of criminalization to achieve a feminist goal. The book argues that feminists should look beyond criminal law to promote a feminist vision and relies on an in-depth historically-informed ethnography to support its arguments.

Cosponsored by the CSU|LAW Women's Committee

1 free hour CLE Pending

Learn More

Cybersecurity & Privacy Protection Conference

Sponsored by the Center for Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection
Thursday, April 20 - Friday, April 21
CSU|LAW Moot Court Room

A truly cross-sector event now in its ninth year, CSU College of Law's Cybersecurity and Privacy Protection Conference is one of the leading educational and networking events in the Great Lakes Region, and features rich content of interest to legal and compliance professionals, information technology and security experts, and executives responsible for developing security and privacy policies.

10.0 OH CLE Credit Hours pending (9.0 General Credit Hours and 1.0 Attorney Professional Conduct Credit Hours)
10.0 IAPP CPE credits (CIPP/US, CIPP/E, CIPM, CIPT)

Learn More

Prof. Sterio Presented at UN on Human Rights Violations in Ukraine

Professor Milena Sterio presented at the United Nations in New York City, at a conference on the topic of “Gross Human Rights Violations due to the Aggression Against Ukraine.” Her remarks were on the topic of “The Rights of Prisoners of War under International Humanitarian Law.”

Read More

Prof. Kalir Published Op-Ed on Danger to Israeli Democracy

Professor Doron Kalir published an op-ed in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, “Effort to muzzle judiciary poses imminent threat to Israel’s democracy.”

Read More

Prof. Sterio Wrote on Prosecuting Gender Persecution

Professor Milena Sterio co-authored an article titled “Prosecuting Gender Persecution at the ICC — Definitions, Policies, and Practice” to be published by the Fordham Journal of International Law.

Read More

CSU LAW
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2023 Annual Recognition Luncheon

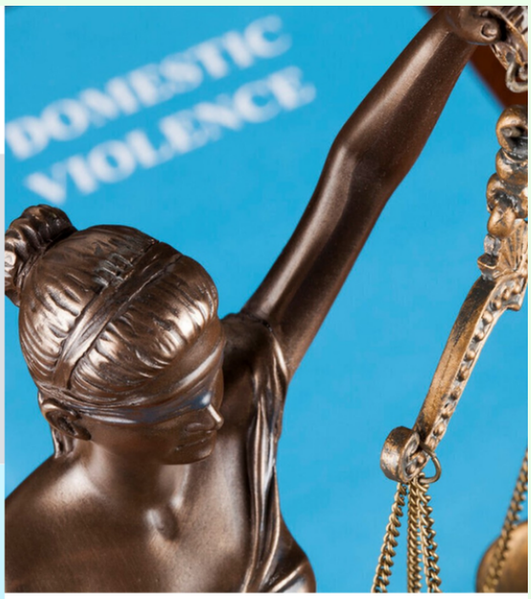
Thursday, May 25, 2023 | Noon
Hilton Cleveland Downtown

Join us at the 2023 Annual Recognition Luncheon as we proudly honor Alumni of the Year, **The Honorable Deborah M. Turner '97**, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and **Frank L. Gallucci, III '00**, Principal, Plevin & Gallucci Company, L.P.A. These two distinguished alumni are being honored for their commitments to the CSU|LAW Alumni Association, contributions to CSU College of Law and career accomplishments within our legal community.

Register

CSU|LAW
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2023 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SYMPOSIUM



Thursday, June 1, 2023
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

In Person at the
CSU College of Law
Moot Court Room
1801 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland
Walk-ins are welcome

6.5 CLE Credit Hours
(Full Day, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
Pending Approval

3.0 CLE Credit Hours
(Half Day, 8:30 a.m.-Noon or 1:00-4:30 p.m.)
Pending Approval

OR

Live Interactive Webinar
Virtually via Zoom

SUPPORT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS
Support the CSU Law Alumni Association and its Scholarship Fund by registering or by making a donation. Net proceeds benefit scholarship funds for CSU|LAW students.

TO REGISTER
VISIT >> https://give.classy.org/csulaacle6123
EMAIL >> cmlaacle@gmail.com
CALL >> 216-687-2368

CPT Credits
Pending Approval

REGISTRATION
Lunch will be provided for Full Day, In Person attendees.

>> General Attorney Admission
Full Day: $160.00
Half Day: $90.00

>> Non-Attorney Admission
$50.00

>> Student Admission
Free

REGISTER TODAY

2023 Domestic Violence Symposium

Thursday, June 1, 2023 | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
CSU College of Law-Moot Court Room OR Virtually via Zoom

6.5 CLE Credit Hours (Full Day, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
3.0 CLE Credit Hours (Half Day, 8:30 a.m.-Noon OR 1:00-4:30 p.m.)
Pending Approval

The CSULAA's 2023 Annual Meeting will follow this All Day CLE

Register

CSU|LAW Alumni Association CLE On-Demand Webinars

On-demand webinars available virtually via Zoom recording.

2022 Ethics Seminar with Kegler Brown
2.5 Professional Conduct CLE Hours

Register

The Hopes and Hold-Ups of Immigration Law: A New Administration and

the Effects of a Pandemic
1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

Landlord Tenant Law
2.0 General Credit CLE Hours

Register

The Home Construction Project
3.0 General Credit CLE Hours

Register

Small Business Law Update: New Legal Landmines for Small Businesses to Avoid
2.0 General Credit CLE Hours

Register

Record Sealing Update: An Overview of the Big Changes in Ohio's Expungement Law
1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

Revisiting the Calls for Equality in the Criminal Justice System and Ohio's Path Forward
2.0 Professional Conduct Credit CLE Hours

Register

Modern Issues in Divorce; Custody, Support and Finances
2.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

The Law After 9/11: Changes in Privacy, Prosecution and Procedure
1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

Register

Lawyers on Nonprofit Boards

1.0 Professional Conduct Credit CLE Hour

Register

Give

Volunteer

LEARN LAW. LIVE JUSTICE.

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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